

## **Full Board of Control Meeting**

February 19, 2025 10:30 AM  
KHSAA Office, Lexington

### **Present Board Members:**

Greg Howard, Russell Thompson, Matt Wilhoite, Jim Demler, Damon Kelley, Marty Mills, Gavin Washington, Michael Phillips, David Zuberer, Randy McCallon, Claudette Herald, Mandi Hudson, Noel Crum, Coy Samons, Donna Moir, and Chuck Mullins.

### **Absent Board Members:**

Brian Courtney and Brandy Carver.

### **Present Others:**

David Couch (KDE), Marty Park (KDE), Jason Frakes (Courier-Journal), and Jared Peck (Herald-Leader).

### **Present KHSAA Staff:**

Julian Tackett, Joe Angolia, Darren Bilberry, Scott Bottoms, Sarah Bridenbaugh, Rob Catron, Butch Cope, Jenny Elder, Kara Howard, Abby Jackson, Connor Link, Sara McClain, and Chad Collins.

**Board of Control convened at 8:00 AM and moved into the Work Session. The work session concluded and the full Board reconvened following a lengthy work session and brief lunch break.**

**Greg Howard led the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Coy Samons gave the Reflection.**

Mr. Samons talked about the influence and importance of sports throughout his life as a player, coach and school superintendent.

**Public Comment if Requested in Advance**

### **Work Session Items**

#### **Legal Session for Updates on Specific Items Per KRS 61.810(c)**

The Commissioner and General Counsel requested the Board go into Closed Session per KRS 61.810 (c) to review legal matters.

A motion is required to go into closed session under the KRS 61.810(c) provision.

**Motion Passed (16-0):** Moved to go into closed session per KRS 61.810(c). Passed with a motion by Mandi Hudson and a second by Damon Kelley. Greg Howard Yes, Russell Thompson Yes, Matt Wilhoite Yes, Jim Demler Yes, Damon Kelley Yes, Marty Mills Yes, Gavin Washington Yes, Michael Phillips Yes, David Zuberer Yes, Randy McCallon Yes, Claudette Herald Yes, Mandi Hudson Yes, Noel Crum Yes, Coy Samons Yes, Donna Moir Yes, and Chuck Mullins Yes.

There was no action proposed or taken in the closed session.

**Motion Passed (16-0):** Moved to come out of closed session per KRS 61.810(c). Passed with a motion by Randy McCallon and a second by Claudette Herald. Greg Howard Yes, Russell Thompson Yes, Matt Wilhoite Yes, Jim Demler Yes, Damon Kelley Yes, Marty Mills Yes, Gavin Washington Yes, Michael Phillips Yes, David Zuberer Yes, Randy McCallon Yes, Claudette Herald

Yes, Mandi Hudson Yes, Noel Crum Yes, Coy Samons Yes, Donna Moir Yes, and Chuck Mullins Yes.

## **Operations Reports**

Staff presented various reports around operations since the January Board meeting.

### **Report of Election, Board of Control Designated NonPublic Representative, 1-8**

#### **Sports and Sport-Activities Reports from Staff**

Primary sports contacts presented updates on their various tournaments held after the January meeting per the agenda attachments.

#### **Non-Championship Reports from Staff**

Staff submitted written reports summarizing activity not directly related to championships per the agenda attachments.

#### **Transfer and Appeals Eligibility Report**

The staff shared current appeals status reports and timelines with the Board members while adhering to all state and local privacy laws.

#### **Status of Bylaw 11 Financial Aid Reports**

The Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner Bridenbaugh reported on recent submissions and status of the annual reports around financial aid limitations and Bylaw 11.

#### **Update on Bowling Green Independent Schools**

As part of its June 23, 2022 agreed order in a past matter, staff reviewed progress as well as other issues that may have arisen.

## **Acceptance of the Operations Reports**

**Motion Passed (16-0):** Accepted the reports and directed necessary action. Passed with a motion by Gavin Washington and a second by Chuck Mullins. Greg Howard Yes, Russell Thompson Yes, Matt Wilhoite Yes, Jim Demler Yes, Damon Kelley Yes, Marty Mills Yes, Gavin Washington Yes, Michael Phillips Yes, David Zuberer Yes, Randy McCallon Yes, Claudette Herald Yes, Mandi Hudson Yes, Noel Crum Yes, Coy Samons Yes, Donna Moir Yes, and Chuck Mullins Yes.

## **Officials Division Reports**

#### **Officials Licensing Comparison and Arbiter Sports Update**

The Commissioner and Staff presented a written report on the background checks for officials per the agenda attachments.

#### **Disqualification Report and Comparison**

Staff presented the customary reports on the disqualifications and suspensions of players and coaches in contests per the agenda attachments.

#### **Lacrosse Officiating Assigning Issues and Update**

Staff presented the customary reports on the disqualifications and suspensions of players and coaches in contests per the agenda attachments.

## **Acceptance of Officials Division Reports**

**Motion Passed (16-0):** Accepted the Officials Division Reports and directed necessary action. Passed with a motion by Russell Thompson and a second by Noel Crum. Greg Howard Yes, Russell Thompson Yes, Matt Wilhoite Yes, Jim Demler Yes, Damon Kelley Yes, Marty Mills Yes,

Gavin Washington Yes, Michael Phillips Yes, David Zuberer Yes, Randy McCallon Yes, Claudette Herald Yes, Mandi Hudson Yes, Noel Crum Yes, Coy Samons Yes, Donna Moir Yes, and Chuck Mullins Yes.

## **Finance, Business and Operations**

### **Status of Current Legislative Session**

Staff reviewed the bills potentially impacting the association during the 2025 Short Session.

### **TPG Sponsorship Review**

Sara Hacker of TPG provided an updated corporate sponsorship report.

### **Member School Draft Enrollment Data**

The Board was presented with the current year enrollment data which will guide the 2025-26 membership dues and be part of the ongoing alignment work in the classified sports of track/cross country and football.

### **Hall of Fame Selection Status**

The Commissioner and staff reviewed the Class of 2025 Hall of Fame Inductees.

## **Approval of the Finance, Business and Operations Reports**

**Motion Passed (16-0):** Accepted the Finance, Business and Operations Reports and directed necessary action. Passed with a motion by Claudette Herald and a second by Marty Mills. Greg Howard Yes, Russell Thompson Yes, Matt Wilhoite Yes, Jim Demler Yes, Damon Kelley Yes, Marty Mills Yes, Gavin Washington Yes, Michael Phillips Yes, David Zuberer Yes, Randy McCallon Yes, Claudette Herald Yes, Mandi Hudson Yes, Noel Crum Yes, Coy Samons Yes, Donna Moir Yes, and Chuck Mullins Yes.

## **Championship and Competition Rules Reports**

### **Member School Issues-Mergers and Splits**

Carter County (28) Coyotes (East and West Carter)

Christian County (26) Tigers (Hopkinsville and Christian County)

### **Consider Placement of New Schools and Alignment Impact**

No new member school was impacted by a brief staff review.

### **Three-Team Seeded District Procedures**

Staff reviewed discussion and plans to amend the tournament rules in the team sports to permit the local districts to adopt seeding plans in three-team districts with the statewide plan implemented if they are unable to agree or if the local tie-breaker does not break the tie.

### **Baseball Double First Base**

Staff discussed a possible state association adoption with the NFHS playing rules utilize the double first base for safety considerations. Further discussion is planned for after the baseball season.

## **Approval of the Championship and Competition Rules Reports**

**Motion Passed (16-0):** Accepted the Championship and Competition Rules Reports and directed necessary action. Passed with a motion by Greg Howard and a second by Chuck Mullins. Greg Howard Yes, Russell Thompson Yes, Matt Wilhoite Yes, Jim Demler Yes, Damon Kelley Yes,

Marty Mills Yes, Gavin Washington Yes, Michael Phillips Yes, David Zuberer Yes, Randy McCallon Yes, Claudette Herald Yes, Mandi Hudson Yes, Noel Crum Yes, Coy Samons Yes, Donna Moir Yes, and Chuck Mullins Yes.

## **Handbook Issues Including Bylaws**

### **Bylaw 6 - Interim Clarifications Through Regulation**

Changes as prepared and noted during this year's regulation adoption that do not change the applicability or exceptions within Bylaw 6 were discussed.

Addressed within the regulation adoption process in the discussion:

1. Clarifying domestic and non-domestic status for Bylaws 6 and 7 to assist members and align with federal definitions.
2. Shifting of the burden of proof to the sending school for objection to exception being met, and in particular around Section 3, the provisions concerning athletic advantage.
3. Timeline for submission of material and discussion of default ruling will continue to be discussed with the Board.
4. Evidence required for specific exemptions being reduced, relying on the certification of the schools, and only seeking certain bits of documentation if there is disagreement between the schools on the fact.

**Motion Passed (16-0):** Accepted the reports and directed necessary action along with follow-up and information to the Board as needed. Passed with a motion by Noel Crum and a second by Jim Demler. Greg Howard Yes, Russell Thompson Yes, Matt Wilhoite Yes, Jim Demler Yes, Damon Kelley Yes, Marty Mills Yes, Gavin Washington Yes, Michael Phillips Yes, David Zuberer Yes, Randy McCallon Yes, Claudette Herald Yes, Mandi Hudson Yes, Noel Crum Yes, Coy Samons Yes, Donna Moir Yes, and Chuck Mullins Yes.

### **Bylaw 6 - Continual Development of Annual Meeting Proposal**

Changes as prepared and noted during this year's regulation adoption that change the applicability or exceptions within Bylaw 6 were discussed and requested to approve as a first reading for final presentation in May.

Addressed within the discussion:

5. Shift to online system and timelines were review with 2025-26 as the planned implementation.
6. Options for expanded consideration of mid-season transfers including penalty revisions to more appropriately deal with cases where competitive equity could be a major issue.

At issue for further discussion:

1. Revision to the rule to address potential alteration of penalty periods based on timing in the school year and season.
2. Revision to the rule to address mid-season transfer students which seem to be the point of contention each year among schools.
3. Consideration of revision to the rule to start any period of ineligibility with transfer after participation in grade 10, which is a common theme among many states who are adjusting their rules, but NOT consideration of a no-penalty free transfer for each student
4. Possible changes in the Due Process Procedure (in conjunction with the legislature) to make all efforts to expedite the appeals process (if possible within KRS Chapter 13B)

**Motion Passed (16-0):** Accepted the report and approved as preliminary first reading of a fall membership proposal to be voted on at the September meeting, with continued consideration of the adoption of the proposal in May. Passed with a motion by Damon Kelley and a second by Russell Thompson. Greg Howard Yes, Russell Thompson Yes, Matt Wilhoite Yes, Jim Demler Yes, Damon Kelley Yes, Marty Mills Yes, Gavin Washington Yes, Michael Phillips Yes, David Zuberer Yes, Randy McCallon Yes, Claudette Herald Yes, Mandi Hudson Yes, Noel Crum Yes, Coy Samons Yes, Donna Moir Yes, and Chuck Mullins Yes.

#### **Bylaw 7 - Interim Clarifications Through Regulation**

Changes as prepared and noted during this year's regulation adoption that do not change the applicability or exceptions within Bylaw 7 were discussed.

The following was addressed:

1. Clarifying domestic and non-domestic status for Bylaws 6 and 7 to assist members and align with federal definitions.
2. Separation and clarification between Bylaws 6 and 7 for students who change status after being granted an exception.

**Motion Passed (16-0):** Accepted the reports and directed necessary action along with follow-up and information to the Board as needed. Passed with a motion by Claudette Herald and a second by Coy Samons. Greg Howard Yes, Russell Thompson Yes, Matt Wilhoite Yes, Jim Demler Yes, Damon Kelley Yes, Marty Mills Yes, Gavin Washington Yes, Michael Phillips Yes, David Zuberer Yes, Randy McCallon Yes, Claudette Herald Yes, Mandi Hudson Yes, Noel Crum Yes, Coy Samons Yes, Donna Moir Yes, and Chuck Mullins Yes.

#### **Bylaw 7 - Continue Development of Annual Meeting Proposal**

Changes as prepared and noted during this year's regulation adoption that change the applicability or exceptions within Bylaw 7 were discussed and requested to approve as a first reading for final presentation in May.

The following issues are of concern around Bylaw 7 which may require action by the delegates:

1. Specific restrictions around multiple year F-1 students.
2. Specific additional restrictions on non-familial moves of non-domestic students.
3. Clarifications of the F-1 Student process and second and multiple year school options to comply with Homeland Security regulations.
1. Clarification of eligibility rulings when districts are unwilling to seek VISA status due to local district policy.

**Motion Passed (16-0):** Accepted the report and approved as preliminary first reading of a fall membership proposal to be voted on at the September meeting, with final adoption of the proposal in May. Passed with a motion by Jim Demler and a second by Michael Phillips. Greg Howard Yes, Russell Thompson Yes, Matt Wilhoite Yes, Jim Demler Yes, Damon Kelley Yes, Marty Mills Yes, Gavin Washington Yes, Michael Phillips Yes, David Zuberer Yes, Randy McCallon Yes, Claudette Herald Yes, Mandi Hudson Yes, Noel Crum Yes, Coy Samons Yes, Donna Moir Yes, and Chuck Mullins Yes.

#### **Bylaw 10 Awards - Update - Through Regulation**

Changes as prepared and noted during this year's regulation adoption that do not change the applicability or exceptions within Bylaw 10 were discussed. The proposals revolved around changes in the collegiate NIL model and NCAA rules changes as well as statutory changes.

As previously submitted to the Board, clarifications on allowances for NIL by students who have legally signed a collegiate deal to ensure that money received is NOT pay for play, but rather is truly for name, image or likeness, not ability.  
Action is anticipated in the General Assembly further refining the collegiate model which will help clarify the high school model.

**Motion Passed (16-0):** Accepted the reports and directed necessary action along with follow-up and information to the Board as needed. Passed with a motion by Randy McCallon and a second by Chuck Mullins. Greg Howard Yes, Russell Thompson Yes, Matt Wilhoite Yes, Jim Demler Yes, Damon Kelley Yes, Marty Mills Yes, Gavin Washington Yes, Michael Phillips Yes, David Zuberer Yes, Randy McCallon Yes, Claudette Herald Yes, Mandi Hudson Yes, Noel Crum Yes, Coy Samons Yes, Donna Moir Yes, and Chuck Mullins Yes.

## **Finance, Business and Operations**

### **Finance Report and Budget Reviews**

The Commissioner and staff reviewed various financial situations around the current year budget.

**Motion Passed (16-0):** Accepted the reports and authorized continued operations until the May meeting. Passed with a motion by Noel Crum and a second by Coy Samons. Greg Howard Yes, Russell Thompson Yes, Matt Wilhoite Yes, Jim Demler Yes, Damon Kelley Yes, Marty Mills Yes, Gavin Washington Yes, Michael Phillips Yes, David Zuberer Yes, Randy McCallon Yes, Claudette Herald Yes, Mandi Hudson Yes, Noel Crum Yes, Coy Samons Yes, Donna Moir Yes, and Chuck Mullins Yes.

### **Approval of Minutes, January 16, 2025 Board of Control Meeting**

**Motion Passed (16-0):** Approved the minutes from the January 2025 meeting and directed publication. Passed with a motion by Greg Howard and a second by Chuck Mullins. Greg Howard Yes, Russell Thompson Yes, Matt Wilhoite Yes, Jim Demler Yes, Damon Kelley Yes, Marty Mills Yes, Gavin Washington Yes, Michael Phillips Yes, David Zuberer Yes, Randy McCallon Yes, Claudette Herald Yes, Mandi Hudson Yes, Noel Crum Yes, Coy Samons Yes, Donna Moir Yes, and Chuck Mullins Yes.

## **Championship and Competition Rules Information**

### **Authorization of Adjustment of Tennis State Site Plan**

With facility construction at the University of Kentucky and Fayette County Parks, it may be necessary to alter the playing schedule and dates for the state individual tennis tournament.

**Motion Passed (16-0):** Accepted the report and authorized the Commissioner to approve and enter into contract for necessary revisions. Passed with a motion by Claudette Herald and a second by Mandi Hudson. Greg Howard Yes, Russell Thompson Yes, Matt Wilhoite Yes, Jim Demler Yes, Damon Kelley Yes, Marty Mills Yes, Gavin Washington Yes, Michael Phillips Yes, David Zuberer Yes, Randy McCallon Yes, Claudette Herald Yes, Mandi Hudson Yes, Noel Crum Yes, Coy Samons Yes, Donna Moir Yes, and Chuck Mullins Yes.

### **State Baseball Contract Site Adjustments**

While it is not anticipated that there will need to be a change in the site selection, it is necessary to authorize the Commissioner to approve site changes in the event that the University of Kentucky is not available.

**Motion Passed (16-0):** Accepted the report and authorized the Commissioner to approve and enter into contract for necessary revisions. Passed with a motion by Randy McCallon and a second by Marty Mills. Greg Howard Yes, Russell Thompson Yes, Matt Wilhoite Yes, Jim Demler Yes, Damon Kelley Yes, Marty Mills Yes, Gavin Washington Yes, Michael Phillips Yes, David Zuberer Yes, Randy McCallon Yes, Claudette Herald Yes, Mandi Hudson Yes, Noel Crum Yes, Coy Samons Yes, Donna Moir Yes, and Chuck Mullins Yes.

**State Swim and Dive Meet Weather Issues**

Due to weather adjustments, it may become necessary to adjust the format or site schedule for state swimming and diving.

**Motion Passed (16-0):** Accepted the report and authorized the Commissioner to approve and enter into contracts for necessary revisions, including emergency weather related competition adjustments. Passed with a motion by Jim Demler and a second by Mandi Hudson. Greg Howard Yes, Russell Thompson Yes, Matt Wilhoite Yes, Jim Demler Yes, Damon Kelley Yes, Marty Mills Yes, Gavin Washington Yes, Michael Phillips Yes, David Zuberer Yes, Randy McCallon Yes, Claudette Herald Yes, Mandi Hudson Yes, Noel Crum Yes, Coy Samons Yes, Donna Moir Yes, and Chuck Mullins Yes.

**For the Good of the Order**

**Motion Passed (16-0):** Moved to adjourn the meeting. Passed with a motion by Donna Moir and a second by Randy McCallon. Greg Howard Yes, Russell Thompson Yes, Matt Wilhoite Yes, Jim Demler Yes, Damon Kelley Yes, Marty Mills Yes, Gavin Washington Yes, Michael Phillips Yes, David Zuberer Yes, Randy McCallon Yes, Claudette Herald Yes, Mandi Hudson Yes, Noel Crum Yes, Coy Samons Yes, Donna Moir Yes, and Chuck Mullins Yes.

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Matt Wilhoite, President

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Date

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Julian Tackett, Commissioner

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Date