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BOWLING SHOWING CONSIDERABLE GROWTH IN YEAR ONE

Bowling might be in its infancy as a KHSAA-sanctioned sport but its growth has been measured by much more than baby steps.

In its first year as a KHSAA championship sanctioned sport, 80 schools are fielding squads this year. This total is up from 54 schools when it was offered as a non-sanctioned club sport. Bowling, classified as a winter sport with a season that began the week of Nov. 28, will crown its first state champions at the Ebonite/KHSAA State Bowling Championships on the weekend of March 23-24 at Executive Bowl in Louisville.

It did not take the sport long to record its first individual record as Fern Creek's JoJo Miller bowled the first 300 in a KHSAA-sanctioned match on Thursday against Bullitt Central at AMF Derby Lanes in Louisville.

"Once we conducted our triennial survey of schools and saw the interest for bowling we knew many schools would really take the ball and run with it," said KHSAA Commissioner Julian Tackett. "Frankly, if someone had asked me if we would have 80 schools participating in year one I would have thought that might be a little too optimistic but it shows just how much our schools and student-athletes are craving participation and healthy competition."

