

## Eligibility Frequently Asked Questions

Below are answers to questions that have been asked of the KSHSAA in the past few weeks. Each transfer situation is unique and school administrators must communicate with each other prior to submitting information to the KSHSAA. Parents should address questions to their school administrators prior to contacting the KSHSAA.

### **RULE 18 – TRANSFER**

The purpose of the Transfer Rule is to protect students from being displaced by those who change schools for interscholastic activity reasons. It is devised to eliminate “school shopping” after a student has initially chosen the school of his/her choice. A student is immediately eligible transfer wise at the member school they attend classes the first day of their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year and 7<sup>th</sup> grade year.

1. My student attends a public school that has decided to only have remote/hybrid learning during the first 9 weeks of the school year. I prefer to have my student have in person learning. There is no bona fide move on the part of the family unit. If I have them change to a neighboring school will they be eligible for participation in KSHSAA sponsored activities?

No. Rule 18 indicates a student is not eligible if they choose to attend another school without a bona fide move on the part of the family unit (the individuals a student is currently living with) into a permanent residence in the vicinity of the new school. The student is not eligible for one calendar year for varsity competition in sports they were rostered in the previous year. It is possible if both schools agree the student could be eligible for sub-varsity competition during the first year.

2. The school my student currently attends is not providing the instruction method I would like for my child. I plan to home school them for this semester. Will they be eligible for varsity competition upon return to their school second semester?

No. A student who transfers from a non-member school is not eligible for varsity competition for one calendar year. The school may request a T-E/P which would permit sub-varsity competition provided the school accepted five credits of unit weight from the home school. The student would need to be enrolled and attending (in person or remote learning as approved by KSDE) five classes at the member school. Note: A “home school” is considered a non-member school.

### **Private Lessons/Conditioning/Practices**

3. If a student can't make it to in person practice/workouts can they do the workout remotely or virtually and it count as one of the practices needed before competing?

No. Remote or videoed practices do not count toward the number of practices required to participate in a competition. The coach must be there to monitor athletes and determine if they are in need of assistance or first aid.

4. Can I continue to work out with a personal trainer or participate in group training sessions?

Yes. Student/athletes may continue to work with a personal trainer as long as there is not sport specific instruction. They may participate in group conditioning activities, provided there is not sport specific instruction. Local health department guidelines should be followed.

5. Can a student/athlete have a private lesson?

Yes. A student may have a private lesson at any time. A private lesson is defined as one instructor giving instruction to one student. The key is individual instruction, not part of a group setting. A student may receive instruction from their parent at any time. There may be two support persons there, but they are not receiving instruction – they are helping shag balls, be a setter or blocker, play defense, be a catcher for a pitcher.

6. Can a group of kids get together at a non-school facility and play?

Yes. Provided this gathering is not organized by a school coach or club coach. No instruction can be given during these gatherings of kids to play.

**Activity Specific Questions**

7. My school has decided not to have cross country this year. Can I go run for the neighboring schools' cross country team?

No. You may not attend one school and compete on another schools' team unless the two schools are in a cooperative agreement.

8. My school has decided they are no longer going to offer a cross country program this fall. Can I compete in road races or other events?

Yes. If your school no longer has a cross country team or you no longer have membership on the school cross country team, you can compete in non-school sponsored races. Student/athletes may not accept cash or merchandise prizes as a result of their athletic abilities. (Rule 20 and Rule 21) School employed cross country coaches may not coach athletes during the school year outside the season of sport. So, school employed coaches couldn't coach these non-school teams.

9. My school has decided they are no longer going to offer a volleyball program this fall. Can I play with my club team or another non-school team?

Yes. However, the non-school/club team is limited to no more than 4 members of the same school squad from the previous season. (Fall 2019) A school squad is defined as Varsity, JV, 9<sup>th</sup> grade, C-team, A-team, B-team, etc. Any amount of time played (one serve for example) constitutes team membership. School employed volleyball coaches may not coach athletes during the school year outside the season of sport. So, school employed coaches couldn't coach these non-school teams.

10. My school has decided they are no longer going to offer a boys soccer program this fall. Can I play with my club team or another non-school team?

Yes. However, the non-school/club team is limited to no more than 6 members of the same school squad from the previous season. (Fall 2019) A school squad is defined as Varsity, JV, 9<sup>th</sup>

grade, C-team, A-team, B-team, etc. Any amount of time played (one minute for example) constitutes team membership. School employed soccer coaches may not coach athletes during the school year outside the season of sport. So, school employed coaches couldn't coach these non-school teams.

**11. My school has decided they are no longer going to offer a girls golf program this fall. Can I compete in other golf competitions?**

Yes. If your school no longer has a girls golf team or you no longer have membership on the school girls golf team, you can compete in non-school sponsored golf competitions. Student/athletes may not accept cash or merchandise prizes as a result of their athletic abilities. (Rule 20 and Rule 21) School employed golf coaches may not coach athletes during the school year outside the season of sport. So, school employed coaches couldn't coach these non-school teams.

**12. My school has decided they are no longer going to offer a girls tennis program this fall. Can I compete in other tennis meets?**

Yes. If your school no longer has a girls tennis team or you no longer have membership on the school girls tennis team, you can compete in non-school sponsored tennis meets. Student/athletes may not accept cash or merchandise prizes as a result of their athletic abilities. (Rule 20 and Rule 21) School employed tennis coaches may not coach athletes during the school year outside the season of sport. So, school employed coaches couldn't coach these non-school teams.

**13. My school has decided not to offer a football program this year. Can I compete in a 7 on 7 league?**

Yes. However, 7 on 7 leagues can not be organized by schools or school coaches. Use of school facilities would be up to individual school districts and insurance coverage should be provided. School employed football coaches may not coach these leagues. So, school employed coaches couldn't coach these non-school teams. Use of school football equipment would need to be approved by the local school administration. No more than 6 players from the same school squad the previous season may be on the same team. A school squad is defined as Varsity, JV, 9<sup>th</sup> grade, C-team, A-team, B-team, etc. Any amount of time played (one play or kickoff for example) constitutes team membership.

**14. Can members of my Spirit squads (cheer/dance) join an outside club team?**

Yes, this decision is left to the local school district to allow or not. Spirit is not named in KSHSAA Handbook Rule 22 (Outside Competition), it is an all year non-athletic activity and has no specific season of activity.

**15. What is the difference between a "suspended" season and a "cancelled" season?**

A suspended season is one in which the member school has decided that it is not an appropriate time for practice or competition due to current health concerns. The school plans to re-evaluate their decision and many resume practice and competition during the traditional fall season. A

cancelled season is one in which the decision of the school is to no longer participate in practice or competition for the remainder of the traditional fall season outlined in the KSHSAA calendar.

#### 16. What can we do now?

All participants, coaches, administrators, and fans should practice good health hygiene. Adults must model this behavior for students.

- Anyone feeling sick should stay home and contact this healthcare provider.
- Maintain social distancing (6') when possible.
- Face coverings should be worn at all times by all personnel, including students, except when students are directly participating in the activity. Wearing a mask should never be discouraged unless it poses a safety risk.
- Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.
- Frequent hand washing.
- Use hand sanitizer with a minimum 60% alcohol.
- Keep your hands away from your face.

Students can continue to practice skills on their own and do workouts concentrated on improving skills in their homes, driveways, garages, etc.