

Changes To KSHSAA Rule Governing Coaches Contact With Athletes

At its September 17, 2008 meeting, the Board of Directors of the Kansas State High School Activities Association voted (42 in favor 26 opposed) to make significant changes to rules governing contact by volleyball, football and basketball coaches (grades 7 – 12) with their athletes during the summer months. To some degree, these changes also impact coaches in other sports governed by the KSHSAA (*See items 1 & 2 below*).

The following is a synopsis of the changes which become effective in May 2009:

- 1. The time period during which school coaches may conduct their camp for their athletes has changed in all sports**, not just football, volleyball and basketball. All school coaches conducting summer camps for their athletes must now complete their camps on Saturday of (SCW) Standard Calendar Week #2. This year, that date falls on Saturday, July 18, 2009.
2. Other than concluding team summer camps two weeks earlier, nothing has changed for coaches in sports other than volleyball, football and basketball.
3. Volleyball, football and basketball coaches now have an eight week period at the beginning of the summer to coach their athletes. Beginning with the Saturday before Memorial Day (May 23, 2009) and concluding Saturday of SCW #2 (July 18, 2009) volleyball, football and basketball coaches may coach their athletes without restriction like coaches in other sports. Coaches may accompany their team to college camps, conduct their own camp at their school and serve on the staff of a college camp without regard to a 10% limitation. Coaches may coach their athletes individually, in groups or in open gym settings, or in competitions such as summer leagues, 7 on 7 leagues etc.
4. Beginning Sunday of SCW #3 (July 19, 2009) and ending Saturday of SCW #4 (August 1, 2009), volleyball, football and basketball coaches are limited to only providing instruction in small groups; (3 players in basketball, 4 in volleyball, 5 in eight man football, and 6 in eleven man football) on a voluntary basis. Players must request instruction from the coach. Coaches may not require athletes to participate.
5. Beginning Sunday of SCW #5 (August 2, 2009) through Sunday of SCW #7 (August 16, 2009) volleyball, football and basketball coaches may only participate with their athletes in weight lifting and non-sport specific conditioning. During this two week period, no other coaching or instruction is permitted by volleyball, football and basketball coaches.
6. The first day of fall sports practices remains unchanged, Monday of SCW #7 (August 17, 2009)
- 7. All parties are reminded, contact between coaches and athletes in all sports during the summer months is optional. It may not be required for membership on a school team, placement on JV vs. varsity, nor may it be required as criteria toward earning an athletic letter. Sanctions such as extra conditioning may not be imposed on students for failing to participate in summer activities.**