FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: LHSAA Executive Director/ Eddie Bonine
Subject: Select Schools 2020 Basketball Championships
Date: March 2, 2020

The present post season formats for the 2020 Select Girls’ Basketball Championships and the upcoming Select Boys’ Basketball Championships was proposed by, voted on and passed by the LHSAA member Select Schools. Attached to this release you will find two separate informational communications sent from this office to those member schools affected by the approved format. Also attached for your review, you will find the list of Select Schools who voted and passed the present format this office is administering.

Regards,

Eddie Bonine
Executive Director
LHSAA
Select Girls' and Boys' Principals, Athletic Directors and Head Basketball Coaches:

Please read the following MEMO from LHSAA Assistant Executive Director, Karen Hoyt regarding select schools basketball end of season reminders and championship requirements.

Karen M. Hoyt
Assistant Executive Director
Louisiana High School Athletic Association
12720 Old Hammond Hwy
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70816
Office (225) 300-4215
Main (225)296-5882
Email: Khoyt@lhsaa.org
Select Girls’ and Boys’ Principals, Athletic Directors and Head Basketball Coaches:

As we enter the last week of girls’ basketball season with boys’ basketball season ending next week, there are a few things that I wanted to review with you. Below you will find a list of important basketball season reminders and deadlines. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the entire Basketball Section (Section 11) of the 2019-20 LHSAA Handbook for important information concerning basketball post-season play.

1. The LHSAA no longer has a fax line so all information must be submitted by email.

2. End of Regular Season/District Representatives Named
   - Girls’: 2/15/20 - We will post unofficial power rankings 2/11 and 2/14.
   - Boys’: 2/22/20 - We will post unofficial power rankings 2/11, 2/18 and 2/21.

3. Principals have until noon on Friday prior to the deadline date listed in the Basketball Important Dates section to let our office know if your school does not wish to be seeded on the bracket (By-law 6.13.4 of the 2019-20 LHSAA Official Handbook). Please email me (khoyt@lhsaa.org) immediately if you do not want to be placed on the bracket.

4. Basketball school District Chairperson and/or Head Coaches need to refer to Section 11.4 – District Play and 11.5 Reporting Teams for Playoff Competition of the 2019-20 LHSAA Official Handbook.

5. If you have played an Out of State team, you are required to report those games schedules.

6. Unofficial Dispute Period: (By-law 11.4.1 of the 2019-20 Official LHSAA Handbook) All Disputes must be emailed to khoyt@lhsaa.org by 11:00am. Once the brackets have been posted, they become final.
   - Girls’ - Unofficial Dispute Period - 9:00am-11:00am on 2/17 – Brackets will be released once all disputes are settled
   - Boys’ - Unofficial Dispute Period - 9:00am-11:00am on 2/24 – Brackets will be released once all disputes are settled

7. HOME team shall be responsible for inputting any/all playoff game information (i.e. Date/Time/Location, etc.) onto brackets as this information will be used by the LHSAA to schedule officials.

**11.11 CHAMPIONSHIPS -SELECT**

11.11.1 The semi-final and final rounds of the playoff system shall be a single elimination game at the home of the higher seeded team as determined under Rule 11.5, Power Ranking, in this section.

11.11.2 The Officials' Association utilized will be assigned by the LHSAA Director of Officials.

11.11.3 Game time shall be set by mutual agreement. If an agreement cannot be reached, the starting time shall be 7:00 p.m.
11.11.4 The home team shall be responsible for the following:
1. Organizing and managing the championship game
2. Managing game finances
3. Reporting each game's results to the LHSAA and media

11.11.5 The home team is responsible for providing and for the expense for the following (if applicable):
1. Tickets: Home teams shall be required to distribute and sell numbered tickets for the state championship game.
2. Ticket Sellers and Takers
3. Door Guards
4. Security
5. Official Scorekeepers
6. Official Timer
7. Scoreboard Operator
8. Custodial Personnel
9. Other Personnel, as needed
10. Rental of Facility, if needed
11. Other items, as needed

11.11.6 Home team retains rights to 100% of concession sales and souvenir programs.

11.11.7 Admission prices for home and away games shall be set by mutual agreement of the participating schools. Admission price shall be a minimum of $5.00. Game receipts shall be verified and counted by officials of both schools at the conclusion of the game unless prior arrangements have been agreed upon.

11.11.8 The visiting team's principal or athletic director must make a request with the home team's principal or athletic director at the time the two schools mutually agree on the date in date and time to be guaranteed at least 30 percent of the gym's seating capacity for a playoff game. (Note: By-laws 11.9.7 and 11.9.9 in the 2019-2020 Official LHSAA Handbook are not applicable for any/all Select Semifinal and/or Final Basketball Championship games.)

11.11.9 The following deductions are used when disbursing revenue received from gross ticket receipts, to include tickets sold in advance and at gate:
1. Payment of five percent (5%) of gross ticket receipts to LHSAA before deductions
2. Payment to contest officials, including official timer and official scorekeeper.
3. Payment for uniformed security at the game.
4. Travel payment to visiting team, $1.00 a mile. (One-way, map mileage).
5. All remaining revenue after the above payments shall be shared equally by both schools.

11.11.10 If the game receipts are not sufficient to pay for the expenses cited, the following payments shall be made, and the visiting team shall retain the revenue that remains:
1. Payment of five percent (5%) of gross ticket receipts to LHSAA before any other payments.
2. Payment to contest officials, including official timer and official scorekeeper.

11.11.11 During the week of the championship game, the home team is allowed to practice on its home court if the championship game is to be played there. If playing in a neutral site, a participating team shall not practice on the game court during the entire week. Violation of the practice restrictions will result in the game being forfeited by the offending school.
11.11.12 The LHSAA shall:
1. Provide an official game ball from the current LHSAA ball Sponsor
2. Provide state championship trophies for first and second place teams
3. Provide most valuable player award
4. Retain the right to allow title Sponsor to assist in the presentation of awards.
5. Retain the right to hang Sponsor signage at the facility
6. Reserve the exclusive right to sell championship game t-shirts, caps, and other souvenir items and shall retain 100% of the sales of souvenir items sold at the championship.

11.12 SELECT STATE TOURNAMENT
11.12.1 Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, select girls’ basketball teams in all Divisions shall compete for state championship honors during the 39th week of the NFHS calendar and boys’ basketball teams in all Divisions shall compete for state championship honors during the 36th week of the NFHS calendar. All select boys’ and girls’ basketball playoff brackets will consist of a 16 team format.

Tickets and Admission:
- The LHSAA will need to know the location, time, and ticket price. Failure to report accurate attendance figures results in a penalty per bylaw 5.11.15.14.
- Home schools shall be responsible for completing and submitting the Basketball Playoff Financial Report for all playoff rounds which is located on the playoff brackets.
- 2019-2020 LSHCA/LHSAA Coaching cards shall be honored at all semifinal and finals championships games/sites. (By-law 3.12.1)

Officials:
The home school will be responsible for the accommodations of the three-person officiating crew assigned to state championship games. Accommodations are as follows:
- Game fees per bylaw 8.8.4.3 and travel fees per bylaw 8.9.2 and 8.9.3 (paid pregame).
- Separate and secure dressing facility for use before, during, and after the game per bylaw 8.4.11.
- Water (at a minimum) per bylaw 8.4.12.
- Assigned staff for security before, during, and after the game per bylaw 8.4.3 and bylaw 11.11.9.3.

Sports Medicine Requirements:
The home school will be responsible for the following:
- An Emergency Action Plan in place that is printed and posted.
- An on-site AED (Automated External Defibrillator)
- Appropriate on-site health care professionals (i.e. athletic trainers, physicians, etc.)

LHSAA Vendors and Contracts:
- Photographer: Roma Pics is the exclusive sponsor for LHSAA Championship events including exclusivity in sale of photographs at LHSAA championship events. The sale of any photographs by any other photography at any LHSAA State Championship Semi-Final and/or Final Basketball game is strictly prohibited per bylaw 6.15.3 and 11.11.12.6. Roma Pics reserves the right to setup and shoot the first official championship picture with trophy.
- Merchandise Vendor: PepWear is the exclusive provider of event merchandise for LHSAA Championship events. The sale of any other merchandise at the LHSAA State Championship Semi-Final and/or Final Basketball game, on-site or online, is strictly prohibited per bylaw 6.15.3 and 11.11.12.6.
- Signage: All signage OUTFRONT Media Sports deems conflicting with current partners or sponsors must be covered. No signage shall be added to host site without the LHSAA/OUTFRONT Media Sports approval per bylaw 18.17.8.4.
Awards and Presentations:
- All trophies, medals, game ball and MVP awards will be available for the girls' home team to pick up at the LHSAA office Monday, March 2nd. These trophies, game ball and medals are provided by the LHSAA per bylaw 11.11.12. (1, 2, 3).
- All trophies, medals, game ball and MVP awards will be available for the boys' home team to pick up at the LHSAA office Monday, March 9th. These trophies, game ball and medals are provided by the LHSAA per bylaw 11.11.12. (1, 2, 3).
- All Academic Awards will be presented to student athletes during halftime of the last game on the following dates:
  Girls will be awarded Saturday, March 7th / Boys will be awarded Saturday, March 14th

Programs:
- The home team will be allowed to sell programs. If the home team chooses to sell programs at the Championship Semi-Final and Final games, they will be required to include content provided by the LHSAA/OUTFRONT Media Sports with the exception of Rosters and games stats. Advertisement sales are not allowed. Program proof must be submitted and approved by the LHSAA before publication per bylaw 11.11.12.6.

Media (Live TV Broadcast and Radio Rules):
- Every media member must be approved and credentialed by the LHSAA in order to gain entry into the event.
- Only CST, COX Yurview, VSN, NFHS Network and the LHSAA will be exclusively responsible for providing live television and live streaming services. No other television or streaming services will be permitted.
  - No live streaming (TV, Web, and Social Media etc.) will be permitted to any other media outlets other than those listed above.
    - Any person/persons, not affiliated with the outlets above, caught live streaming will be fined $5,000.
  - The stations listed above are the approved and official TV outlets for the state championships and require a minimum of three seats in the press box.
    - Working Media will need to select the Most Outstanding Players for each team. These forms must be handed out to media and picked up and brought to PA announcer before the trophy presentation.
- Radio broadcast are only permitted to those stations who have been approved and submitted payment to the LHSAA Director of Communication and Media Relations, Kate Adams.
  - Radio Broadcasts will be required to use LHSAA provided sponsor copy. Copy will be provided.
  - All approved radio stations must submit payment no later than Friday, February 27th, no exceptions.
  - Once approved, payment must be submitted 5 business days prior to the state championship, no exceptions.
  - One radio station for each divisional state championship will be considered the "designated radio station" for that championship event.
    - That designated radio station will require a minimum of two seats in the press box.
Media (General Policies & Procedures):

- All media accommodations must be provided by the host team.
- Media parking will need to be provided.
  - One parking space per media outlet.
- Media entrance and gate will need to be designated at the championship site.
- Staff required to check in all media members media entrance/gate and hand out press packets.
  - No one should be admitted that is not on the list and that does not have an approved media pass.
- There will need to be a press packet provided to all media members that includes parking, Wi-Fi, rosters and stats- before the championship event or upon entry of the championship event.
- Press Box Seating/ Requirements and Media Workroom:
  - The press box will need a secure Wi-Fi connection specifically used for media members.
    - The Wi-Fi username and passcode should be included in a media packet provided for ALL media.
  - The official TV crew for the championship will need to have three press box seats reserved.
  - The designated radio station will need two press box seats reserved.
  - The designated print newspaper outlet will need to have one reserved press box seat.
    - Please contact LHSAA Director of Communications and Media Relations, Kate Adams, for designated seating in press box for those entities listed above.
  - Due to limited space in the press box, there needs to be additional reserved areas for media members.
- A media work room will need to be provided.
  - Media members should have access to stats that should be handed out throughout the game.
  - Media should have proper workspace with electrical outlets, extension cords, tables and chairs.
- Media Coverage before, during and after the championship game
  - During the game, media may not stand in the live playing area.
  - The official TV station for the championship and the LHSAA have the rights to the first interviews conducted before, during and after the championship game.
    - ONLY the official TV Network (CST, Cox Yurview, NFHS, VSN and LHSAA) may live broadcast the game.
  - No interviews are to be conducted by any other media before or during the game.
- Postgame interviews may be conducted on the court AFTER the official TV provider/LHSAA have concluded their interviews.
  - A press area for interviews with coach and key players for both the state runner-up and state champion is suggested.
Public Address:

- Public Address Announcements & Videoboard – We will provide all PA copy and where applicable, we will provide videoboard content.
- Onsite staff will need to make sure the PA Announcer has the Most Outstanding Player information (TV crew will select the MOP) and that player will be announced and awarded their trophy before the state runner-up and state champion winners are announced.
- Onsite staff will need to make sure the PA Announcer has the Most Outstanding Player information (TV crew will select the MOP) and that player will be announced and awarded their trophy before the state runner-up and state champion winners are announced.
- Onsite staff will be provided LHSAA PA reads that must be read by PA announcer during the semifinal and final games.

In closing, if you received this communication, the most recent posted power ratings reflect your potential to be a host school for the basketball select state championships. It is our hope you are and/or will be prepared to take on the expectations and obligations required to host an LHSAA State Championship event. Congratulations on the success of your basketball program and good luck with the remainder of your season.

Karen M. Hoyt
Assistant Executive Director
Louisiana High School Athletic Association
12720 Old Hammond Hwy
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70816
Office (225) 300-4215
Main (225)296-5882
Email: khoyt@lhsaa.org
Good afternoon,

Please read this MEMO from Mr. Bonine, LHSAA Executive Director concerning 2020 Select Boys' and Girls' State Basketball Championships.
MEMORANDUM

To: LHSAA Member School Principal / Select Designation

LHSAA Member School Athletic Director / Select Designation

LHSCA Director / Eric Held

LHSOA Director / Lee Sanders

Subject: 2020 Select Boys and Girls State Basketball Championships

Date: February 13, 2020

Please accept this memorandum as a follow-up to the recent February 11, 2020 communication sent from LHSAA Assistant Executive Director of Basketball Operations, Mrs. Karen Hoyt, addressing and clarifying the processes in place for this year’s select schools state boys’ and girls’ basketball championships. An alarming number of the “projected/potential” highest seeds have notified our office suggesting they may not adhere to the by-laws member principals approved during the 2019 Annual Convention regarding post season locations and inquiring what the consequence(s) would be if they chose to play elsewhere. All semifinal and final rounds shall be played at the home of the higher seeded team. The following LHSAA Bylaw 5.2.6, as well as others, shall be applied if a member school /and or schools chose not to adhere to what the voting principals approved:

"A school failing to furnish necessary reports and/or information or failing to comply with other rules of the Association, after due notice, shall be penalized to a degree in
keeping with the situation, including suspension from the LHSAA, until such time as it complies with the rule(s) and pays fines that may be imposed”.

This said, if and/or when a school and/or schools choose to intentionally violate the LHSAA Bylaw(s) prescribing the location of the select boys’ and girls’ state basketball championships, this /these event(s) will be deemed non-sanctioned by this Association and any/all LHSOA game officials will not be assigned. Also, this office will suspend the membership of the school(s) immediately, assess fines accordingly, as prescribed in LHSAA Section 5 - Penalty Code and shall bring this member(s) before the LHSAA Executive Committee during the next scheduled meeting for hearing and ratification of my administrative action.

In closing, I am in disbelief by the brash arrogance of some members of this association who feel as though the rules should not and do not apply to them, and if and/or when the rules are enforced are the quickest to litigate! This office has and shall continue to enforce any/all Constitutional items and/or Bylaws put into place as written, voted on and approved by our member principals. Best of luck in the post season!

Best Regards,

Eddie Bonine
Executive Director
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<th>Voting Item 39 Rule 11.10 Basketball Division Championship Games</th>
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