Brightening the Future For KY Middle School Football



Division 1,2,3 Classification Format for 2026 Playoff

- Based off of KDE Ethnic Grade Reporting System. Currently we use the 2023-2024 report for the 2026 season
- Grades 6th and 7th only one division.
- D1 enrollment is 256 and up.
- D2 enrollment cut off will be 161-255
- D3 enrollment cut off will be up to 160.

Earning Points

- Teams earn points for wins against opponents. Points are distributed as follows:
- D1 = 30 points
- D2 = 20 points
- D3 = 10 points

Earning Additional Points

- Division 3 teams, that play Division 1 teams can earn 5 bonus points for playing if they lose (getting 30 points if they win)
- Teams that submit game score reports for their games can earn an additional 1 bonus point for each game score report turned in (up to 10 max bonus points) that will be added to their total points.

Points System Example

Middle School Athletic Conference

West Hardin Schedule

Team	Division	
Meade Co.	D1	30 pts
Bluegrass	D1	30 pts
East Hardin	D1	30 pts
JT Alton	D1	30 pts
Ohio Co (OUT of Conf.)	**D1**	**30 pts**
Radcliff	D2	20 pts
Frankfort	D3	10 pts
	Possible	**180 pts**

Meade County Plays West Hardin and Wins:

Meade Co	**30 pts**
West Hardin	0 pts

Meade Plays Frankfort and Wins

Frankfort	**0 pts**
Meade Co	10 pts

EXMP: 180 points divided by 8 games played will result in a total points of : 22.5 average.

EXMP: 60 points divided by 8 games played would result in a total of: 7.4 average.

Submitted Validated Schedule

- Each team must submit a 2026 schedule by 8/31/25. A template schedule form will be sent to membership.
- The school must submit the validated team schedule on the Win/Lose form promptly at the conclusion of the season or BEFORE/BY Saturday, October 3rd 2025 at 4:00pm. Failure to comply with the deadline is cause for loss of qualification and/or seed.

Playoff Bracketing

- Conference winners will have a 2 point adder to their points average for being a conference champion
- Teams that turn in their game score reports will earn one (1) bonus point towards their team point total per game score report turned in per grade level.
- A points system will be used to determine the seeding for teams in the playoff. And those who will receive a bye should it be necessary.
- Should two conference winners have the same point average at the end of the season then for seeding head to head will be first tie breaker, second will be common opponents and finally coin toss.

Playoff Bracketing

- We will arrange games to be played by geographical location, so you may play a team that you played during the regular season again. Logistically, travel is a problem for many teams. So if a team beat you last time, make sure it doesn't happen again. 7^{th} grade playoff games will be set to avoid having 7^{th} and 8^{th} grade teams playing in different locations during the playoffs. If a school has both teams playing that day then the 7^{th} grade game will take place at the location of the higher seed 8^{th} grade team whether home or away, 7^{th} grade opponent will travel to that location.

Playoff Bracketing

- Home teams will be determined by team with the higher points average.
- 2026 is an Even year so all Even Regions will be home during the semi finals and finals. Region 1 will play Region 4 in the semi-finals and Region 2 will play Region 3 in the semi-finals.
- Tentatively the 2026 playoff bracketing meeting will be on October 3rd & October 4th at a location TBD.

Qualifying

- All teams must submit a validated roster, teams that combine for play must have validation from one AD or principal for all roster names. Example: Lexington Catholic, Bell County, New Harlan. These teams have Elementary schools not Middle Schools. Best solution is that the HS Principal or AD will validate.
- Minimum 4 teams in a conference to qualify for conference champion adder to points. Anything less than 4 and you are placed by points average without the 2 point adder.

Qualifying

- There are many conferences that have a two division set up , there will be a conference champion for each division with 4 teams or more in this situation.
- 3 team conferences may have a champion but for KYMSFA Playoffs there is no automatic seeding to the playoffs and no 2 point adder. You will be seeded by points average.

Qualifying

- Teams must play a minimum of 7 games in D1, D2 and D3 games to qualify and a minimum of 5 games in 7^{th} grade & 6^{th} grade to be eligible to qualify for the playoffs.

Qualifying

- First Round play in games will take place on Oct 10th .
- First Round games will be Tuesday Oct 13th, Thursday Oct 15th & Saturday Oct 17th.
- Second Round games Tuesday Oct 20th, Thursday Oct 22nd & Saturday Oct 24th.
- Regional Finals will be October 31st .
- Semi Finals will be November 7th .
- Championships will be November 14th

Qualifying

- The KYMSFA 2026 Rules and Guidelines must be followed and all materials provided must be followed to be eligible for post season play
- The objective is to allow as many members to participate as possible in post season play, however we still must hold some kind of requirement to make the playoffs. Coaches are as always the ones to make the call as to the worthiness of a team to participate in the playoffs. Maximum number of teams per division per region is currently 16 teams.