

2019 Kentucky Youth Assembly (KYA) PROGRAM CHANGES

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You can review last year's KYA changes at kymca.org/changes2018

You can review changes for KUNA 2020 at kymca.org/changes

I. CONFERENCE CHANGES

1. Beginning in 2019, in order to better accommodate conference size and maintain program quality, KYA will now have 4 high school conferences and 3 middle school conferences. Conference dates are listed at www.kyymca.org/kya. An announcement of how officers will be reorganized will be made by February 28th via email to any student (along with their advisor) receiving a new officer position.
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II. CHANGES AFFECTING BOTH KYA AND KUNA *(added 6/19/19)*

1. **Advisors** - Registration will now include options to add multiple advisors and other adults. All advisors and adults, regardless of number from each school, will be charged for attending the conference, which includes sleeping, eating, and materials cost. This change will both ensure safety measures as well as keep uncollected funds from preventing student attendance at conferences. There is still an adult max of 1 adult per every 10 students.
 2. **Candidates** - A space will be provided on the Candidate Declaration Form where Candidates are now required to submit their campaign slogans in addition to their platforms.
 3. **Coffee** - Dependent upon the hotel, there will now be either a sign and/or Y-Staff Member/Volunteer stationed by the coffee line to prevent students from waiting in line for coffee during scheduled programming and during quick transitions between scheduled programming. For example, during the transition from committees to General Assembly. This will prevent students from missing important program pieces.
 4. **Fun Night** - To ensure the KY YMCA is providing the safest programming space possible Mandatory Fun will no longer include a dance. We are looking into potential replacement options (ie. silent disco, extreme karaoke, etc.) to accommodate those students. Other Fun spaces (ie. Ga-Ga, Chill, Movie, etc.) will remain the same.
 5. **Local Schools** - Advisors from local area schools whose students are not all arriving together will now need to arrive by 12:00 PM EST and station themselves in the schools previously assigned luggage space. This will allow students to have a place and point of contact to report to on arrival, further ensuring accountability and student safety.
 6. **Mini-Schedules** - KUNA and KYA conferences will no longer utilize mini-schedules. Mini-schedules are not able to fully represent the agenda of these conferences. It is important that students and adults are utilizing their resolution/bill books for the complete agenda as well as many other resources that are included.
 7. **Visitors** - Adults who are unregistered and visiting conferences were not included in the original numbers count that was provided to hotels and vendors providing materials. Therefore, visitors will not be provided with sleeping rooms, meals, or materials (ie. resolution/bill books) while at the conference. Visitors are welcome to attend the conference during regular visiting hours and are encouraged to observe the different programming elements that students are experiencing.
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III. AWARDS

1. **Advisors Hall of Fame** – The Advisor Hall of Fame nomination form will be open year round and can be found by [clicking here](#).

2. **Servant Leader Award** – At KYA 2019 we will be implementing a Servant Leadership award that will be given out to one of our High School Presiding Officers. This award will be introduced to all high school POs at their spring PO retreat and hopes to inspire the officers to be strong servant leaders throughout their officer year. At each HS KYA the POs will vote amongst themselves for their peer who they believe showed the strongest servant leadership within their officer team and with their peers at the conference. This will be announced on the final day of programming.
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IV. BILL NETWORKING

1. This year the Education Fair will be replaced with a Bill Networking Session. During this time, delegates and bill sponsors will participate in 15-minutes of networking at the beginning of their committee session to learn more about the committee's bills. Co-Chairs at HS (and with volunteer/staff support at MS) will present a script detailing the proper "networking" process. In place of a trifold or poster board, each bill sponsor will be allowed to have one 8½ x 11 sheet of paper to support their networking that can show important details, images, graphics, etc., which cannot be handed out to others. *(Note: bill sponsors still cannot pass out anything to other delegates on their bill.)*
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V. CANDIDATES

1. **Campaigning** – To encourage candidates to network and campaign more directly with other delegates, they or their campaign teams will no longer be able to campaign in front of their candidate tri-folds or in the main hallway.
 2. **Last Look** – Candidates will no longer be giving a "last look" during the mixer before mandatory fun. Instead, they will be encouraged to more effectively network and campaign with delegates throughout the rest of the conference. All other candidates speeches will remain the same.
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VI. CHAIRS & DOORKEEPERS

1. **Bluegrass Program Pro-Tempores (MS ONLY)** – At middle school conferences, the highest ranked chairs from the first day will become Pro Tempores in the Bluegrass Capitol Chambers on the second day and preside there all day. The other highly ranked chairs will preside at Hotel Chambers with their respective tag only.
2. **Chair Numbers per Delegation** – Beginning in 2019, KYA delegations, of any size, are able to appoint up to 3 students to fulfill the role of committee chair. Committee chairs will co-chair committees on day one of the conference, and those who perform well will receive a Pro-Tempore chairing role for day two.
3. **Doorkeeper Expectations** – To ensure that committees and chambers are being run effectively, doorkeepers will now receive a separate training (no longer paired with the Chair Training). Doorkeepers who make it to the second day will be announced at the end of first night General Assembly along with Pro-Tempores. They must attend a quick meeting after their names are called to go over next day assignments.

VII. CHILD SAFETY

- 1. Capitol Visitors** – To ensure KYA programming is as safe as possible, visitor check-in for the Capitol will now be in House Chambers with a designated staff member for each conference. Capitol Security will direct each visitor where to go after they sign in at security desk in the Capitol. All visitors who plan to go to the Annex must sign in with a designated KYYMCA staff member immediately after passing through Annex security.
 - 2. Student to Adult Ratio** – In order to provide as many spots for students at each conference while still maintaining a safe environment, student to adult ratios for each delegation may not exceed 1:10. Any visitors who attend KYA must follow our [current visitor policy](#).
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VIII. DEBATE

- 1. Bill Formatting** – Beginning in the 2019 KYA season, all bills that are not formatted properly will not be eligible for debate at the Capitol or Annex on the second day and could be excluded from receiving awards. Bills that are not presented at the Capitol or Annex will be presented at the hotel on the second day. To reference proper formatting, please visit our [Bill Drafting Guide](#).
 - 2. Bill Ranking** – In order to provide a more fair ranking system that reflects the existing awards system, delegations are no longer able to rank their own bill(s) in committees. Delegates can still vote on their delegation's bill(s) in second day chambers.
 - 3. Bill Topics** – Moving forward, the top 5 most common bill topics of previous year's middle school and high school conferences will be posted on the KYYMCA website that delegations can reference when selecting their bill topic(s) for future years. This will be added to the website ahead of the 2019 KYA season.
 - 4. Passed Bills** – Bills that reached their program area's highest level (signed into law at high school and passed by both chambers at middle school) will be posted on the KYYMCA website after each KYA season beginning after the 2019 season.
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IX. MISCELLANEOUS

- 1. Arrival & Luggage Storage** – Once a delegation's advisor has a key to at least one sleeping room, that delegation must move all luggage out of their assigned luggage room and into that sleeping room in order to ensure that program areas are ready for use at the appropriate times. At no time can luggage be stored or left in the hallways. All luggage MUST be labeled with a unique indicator (luggage tag, colored ribbon) in the event luggage is misplaced. The KYYMCA is not responsible for misplaced luggage.
- 2. General Assembly Seating (HS ONLY)** – Beginning in 2019, in order to more accurately simulate state government workings, Opening Session seating and first night General Assembly seating will be done by delegate role (i.e., all of the Representatives will sit together, all of the Senators will sit together, etc.) at high school conferences. Each group will be sworn in separately during Opening Session. *(Note: seating at Closing Session will be done by school, as it has been in the past, so that schools can be together during awards.)*

3. Lost & Found – The KYYMCA will now have a live Google Form for students and adults to complete throughout the conference season when they have lost an item. Any found items will be returned to the Y-Desk and will be regularly organized by Y-Staff. All items not claimed by the end of the season will be taken to the Y-Office in Frankfort for sorting and storage. If an item is left in a hotel room, that item will be put in the hotel's lost and found.

4. Y-Store Hours – The Y-Store will now have official hours of operation. These hours are listed below and will also be listed in the bill book. The Y-Store is not guaranteed to be open outside of these hours. Please note that pizza sales will still end promptly at 8pm each night.

- Day 1 (HS & MS): 5:45-9pm
- Day 2 (HS): 6-7:15pm, 8-10pm
- Day 2 (MS): 5:30-7:15pm, 8-9:30pm
- Day 3 (HS & MS): 7:30-8:30am, after closing session sends

X. REGISTRATION & PAYMENT

- 1. Conference Registration Deadlines** – Beginning in 2019, KYA will return to staggered registration deadlines in order to give each delegation as much time as possible to submit items before their conference. Each registration deadline will be exactly four weeks before your conference's start date (or the Monday after if the deadline falls on a weekend) and can be found at www.kyymca.org/kya by March 1st.
- 2. On-Time Payment** – Schools must now begin the payment process immediately upon arriving to the Registration Summary/Invoice screen of registration. In order to maintain the on-time discount a school must reach out to starla@kyymca.org with a purchase order, check number, payment or reasonable communication from their bookkeeper explaining why payment cannot be processed at that time. This information or payment must be received PRIOR to two weeks before the start of the conference to maintain the on-time discount and to qualify for Premiere Delegation status. Communicating that payment is in the mail without a check or purchase order number to verify will no longer be accepted.
- 3. Room Changes** – All on-site room changes for KYA must be submitted to KYYMCA staff prior to 6pm on the first day of the conference. Any room changes submitted after 6pm on the first day of the conference will not be accepted unless it is a child safety concern or an emergency. Delegations that drop rooms after 6pm are still responsible for paying for that room in full.

XI. SECOND NIGHT EVENTS

- 1. Dance Safety** – In an effort to ensure a safer environment during mandatory fun time, more lights will be turned on during the dance and the music selection will be edited to include more appropriate music.
- 2. Mixer** – Beginning in 2019, the mixer will be dissolved and will now become a Mandatory Delegation Caucus. During this time, KYYMCA staff will review rules and expectations of mandatory fun time and make any necessary announcements. Candidates will no longer be giving a "last look". Instead, they will be encouraged to more effectively network and campaign with delegates throughout the rest of the conference.