

Women's Basketball Banned in Kentucky

Between 1932 and 1974, women's basketball was discontinued at high school and collegiate levels in Kentucky. Although the sport was popular with males and females, school basketball teams for females did not exist again until Baker's Bill, named after Senator Nicholas Baker, also known as the Basketball Bill, was passed in 1974. Baker's Bill cited that all schools that have a basketball team for boys must also have one for girls.



Women's basketball has always been popular in Kentucky.

- Berea College organized its first women's basketball team in 1895.
- The University of Kentucky organized its first women's basketball team in 1902, a year earlier than its men's team.
- In 1923, Ed Diddle, Coach of Western Kentucky University's men's and women's teams, defeats UK's women's team, coached by law school student A.B. "Happy" Chandler, to win the state championship.

Oral history interviews with former coaches and players can be found at <http://passtheword.ky.gov>.

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