

March 3, 2022, OHSAA Appeals

The OHSAA Appeals Panel met with appellants on March 3, 2022, virtually through Microsoft Teams. Appeals Panel members were Mr. Phil Ackerman, superintendent of Switzerland of Ohio Local Schools; Dr. Dale Fortner, former superintendent of the Wadsworth City Schools; and Dr. Keith Bell, former superintendent of the Euclid City Schools and Westerville City Schools. Mr. Ackerman served as the appeals hearing officer.

Also in attendance for all or portions of the appeals: Steve Craig, OHSAA legal counsel; Bob Goldring, OHSAA director of communications and special projects; Kristin Ronai, OHSAA director of compliance; Ronald Sayers, OHSAA manager of membership and compliance; and Alexis Holderman, OHSAA membership and compliance administrative assistance.

A. Bylaw 4-7-7, Transfer, A 10th-Grade Student, Cleveland Saint Ignatius High School (Northeast District)

A 10th-grade student transferred from Mentor Lake Catholic High School to Cleveland Saint Ignatius High School during the 2021-22 school year. As a transfer student, the student becomes ineligible beginning with the second 50 percent of the maximum allowable regular season contests and the OHSAA postseason tournament(s) in any sport in which the student participated during the 12 months immediately preceding the transfer. The Executive Director's Office determined that requirements set forth in Bylaw 4-7-7, Intra-System Transfer, that allow the Office to waive all or part of the period of ineligibility were not met.

The student's father, Willie Beers, and Saint Ignatius Athletic Administrator Rory Fitzpatrick appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Saint Ignatius High School.

There was a motion to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 3-0.