

## **August 15, 2019, OHSAA Appeals**

The OHSAA Appeals Panel met with appellants on August 15, 2019 at the office of the Ohio High School Athletic Association in Columbus. Appeals Panel members were Kyle Kanuckel, former superintendent of Wood County Educational Service Center; Phil Ackerman, former superintendent of Switzerland of Ohio Local Schools; and Tony Mantell, former superintendent of Portsmouth Clay Local Schools. Mr. Ackerman served as the appeals hearing officer.

Also in attendance: Steve Craig, OHSAA legal counsel; Jerry Snodgrass, OHSAA Executive Director; Bob Goldring, OHSAA Senior Director of Operations; Deborah B. Moore, OHSAA Senior Director of Compliance and Sports Medicine; Roxanne Price, OHSAA Senior Director of Compliance; Kristin Ronai, OHSAA Director of Compliance; and Alyson McAdams, OHSAA Compliance Department Intern.

### **A. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, A 10th-Grade Student, Cardington-Lincoln High School (Central District)**

A 10th-grade student transferred from Cardington-Lincoln High School to Goal Digital Academy at the end of the 2018-19 school year. He transferred back to Cardington-Lincoln at the start of the 2019-20 school year. As a transfer student, the student became 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 none of the enumerated exceptions to Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, were applicable, specifically exception 9.

The student's parents, Ray and Connie McKee, and Tom Hack, Cardington-Lincoln athletic administrator, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Cardington-Lincoln High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.

### **B. Constitution Article 5-7-3, Requesting to Change Districts, Mechanicsburg High School (Southwest District)**

In May 2019, Mechanicsburg High School requested to change their district affiliation from the Southwest District to the Central District. Both Southwest District and the Central District denied Mechanicsburg's request so the OHSAA Board of Directors ultimately also denied the request.

Danielle Prohaska, Superintendent of Mechanicsburg Exempted Village School District; Paul Hershberger Jr., Mechanicsburg Principal; Coby Wilhelm, Mechanicsburg Athletic Administrator; Brian Forrest, interested party; and Marlo Schipfer, Mechanicsburg Junior High Principal, appealed the Executive Director's Office decision to change Mechanicsburg's affiliation from the Southwest District to the Central District. Andy Bixler and John Kronour, representatives from the Southwest District Board, and Chad Little and Mark Shivley, representatives from the Central District Board, also attended the appeal and offered insight.

There was a motion to **table** appeal.

Motion passed 3-0.

### **C. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, An 11th-Grade Student, Cincinnati Taft High School (Southwest District)**

An 11th-grade student transferred from Cincinnati La Salle High School to Cincinnati Taft High School during the 2018-19 school year. As a transfer student, the student became 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 none of the enumerated exceptions to Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, were applicable, specifically exception 9.

The student and his parents, Antonio Lowe Sr. and Lisa Rogers; Josh Hardin, District Athletic Administrator for Cincinnati Public Schools; and Daniel Hoying, Attorney for Cincinnati Public Schools, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Taft High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.

**D. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, An 11th-Grade Student, Dayton Carroll High School (Southwest District)**

An 11th-grade student transferred from Beavercreek High School to Dayton Carroll for the 2019-20 school year. As a transfer student, the student became 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 none of the enumerated exceptions to Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, were applicable, specifically exception 7.

The student and her parents, Jason and Angie Franklin, and Will Baker, the family's attorney, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Carroll High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.

**E. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, Two 12th-Grade Students, Oak Harbor High School (Northwest District)**

Two 12th-grade students transferred from Clyde High School to Oak Harbor High School for the 2019-20 school year. As transfer students, the students became 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 none of the enumerated exceptions to Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, were applicable, specifically exception 1.

The student's parents, William Dowling and Lori Schiets; Guy Parmigian, Superintendent of the Benton Carroll Salem Local School District; Cheryl Schell, Oak Harbor Principal; and Daniel Hoover, Oak Harbor athletic administrator, appealed the ruling so that the students could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Oak Harbor High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.

**F. Bylaw 4-7-4/4-7-6, Transfer, A 10th-Grade Student, Westerville South High School (Central District)**

A 10th-grade student transferred from Westerville Central High School to Westerville South High School for the 2019-20 school year. As a transfer student, the student became 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 none of the enumerated exceptions to Bylaw 4-7-4 or Bylaw 4-7-6, Intradistrict Transfer, were applicable.

The student's parents, Doug and Katie Lesmerises; Scott Reeves, District Athletic Administrator; Mike Hinze, Westerville South Principal; Scott Good, Westerville South Athletic Administrator; and Bill Heinmiller, Westerville South School Representative, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Westerville South High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.