

December 10, 2019, OHSAA Appeals

The OHSAA Appeals Panel met with appellants on December 10, 2019 at the office of the Ohio High School Athletic Association in Columbus. Appeals Panel members were Dave Gray, former superintendent of Franklin-Monroe Local Schools; Dale Fortner, former superintendent of Wadsworth City Schools; and Tony Mantell, former superintendent of Portsmouth Clay Local Schools. Mr. Gray served as the appeals hearing officer.

Also in attendance for all or portions of the hearing: 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 Intern.

A. Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship, A 12th-Grade Student, Dublin Jerome High School (Central District)

A 12th-grade student at Dublin Jerome High School did not complete and pass five one-credits courses or the equivalent during the first grading period of the 2019-20 school year. The Executive Director's Office ruled that the student was ineligible for interscholastic athletics for the second grading period of the 2019-20 school year in accordance with Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship.

The student and his parents, Marc and Toni Callahan; Mike and Jane Callahan, the student's grandparents; and Joe Bline, Dublin Jerome athletic administrator, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Dublin Jerome High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0

B. General Sport Regulation 20, Regular Season Participation Limitation Penalty- Bowling Regulation 4.1, Springfield Shawnee (Southwest District)

The Springfield Shawnee bowling team participated in a regular season contest one day prior to the start of the sports season. The penalty prescribed for this violation is removal from the OHSAA tournament per Bowling regulation 4.1, Penalties. The Executive Director's Office determined the team would not be able to participate in the OHSAA tournament per Bowling Regulation 4.1, Penalties.

The athletic director of Springfield Shawnee High School, Steve Tincher; Brian Kuhn, Springfield Shawnee superintendent, and Springfield Shawnee legal counsel, Lisa Burleson, appealed the ruling so that the bowling team would be granted permission to compete in the OHSAA tournament claiming the scheduling of the contest prior to the established sport season start date was an administrative error.

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

Motion passed 3-0.

C. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, A 10th-Grade Student, Toledo Christian School (Northwest District)

A 10th-grade student transferred from Swanton High School to Toledo Christian 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 4-7-2, Transfers, were applicable, specifically exception 7.

The student and his parents, Paul and Michelle LaPlante, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Toledo Christian School. Wade Haselman, Athletic Director at Swanton High School also attended the appeal.

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

Motion passed 3-0.

D. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, An 11th-Grade Students, Parma Senior High School (Northeast District)

An 11th-grade student transferred from Parma Padua Franciscan High School to Parma Senior 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 their respective transfers. 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 father, Brian Langermeier, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Parma Senior High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.

E. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, An 11th-Grade Student, Defiance Tinora High School (Northwest District)

An 11th-grade student transferred from Toledo Start High School to Tinora 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 4-7-2, Transfers, were applicable, specifically exception 2.

The student and his legal guardian, Jennifer Newsome, and his legal guardian's mother, Tonie Morris, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Tinora High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.

F. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, A 12th-Grade Student, Cincinnati Colerain High School (Southwest District)

A 12th-grade student transferred from Cincinnati Northwest High School to Cincinnati Colerain 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 4-7-2, Transfers, were applicable, specifically exception 9.

The student's father Lasaun Johnson; Craig Ulland, Colerain athletic director; and Erin Davis, Colerain assistant principal, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics Colerain High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.

G. Bylaw 4-6-3, Residency, A 10th– Grade Student, Wauseon High School (Northwest District)

A 10th-grade student attended Wauseon schools since 2016. His mother and his family moved back to Puerto Rico and gave custody to a non-family member so the student could continue to attend Wauseon High School. The student does not have a parent in Ohio. Therefore, the student became ineligible for interscholastic athletic participation in Ohio. The Executive Director's Office determined that none of the enumerated exceptions to Bylaw 4-6-3, Residence, were applicable.

The student, his legal custodian, Molly Pfund; Ms. Pfund's children and the student's friends; and Keith Leatherman, Wauseon athletic administrator, appealed the ruling so that the student could be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Wauseon High School immediately and indefinitely.

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

Motion passed 3-0.