

## **February 5, 2020, OHSAA Appeals**

The OHSAA Appeals Panel met with appellants on February 5, 2020 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; Keith Bell, former superintendent of the Euclid City Schools and Westerville 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; 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 4-7-2, Transfer, A 10th-Grade Student, Delaware Olentangy Berlin High School (Central District)**

A 10th-grade student transferred from Westerville North High School to Olentangy Berlin 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's father, Sam Rippey, and John Betz, Olentangy Berlin athletic administrator, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Olentangy Berlin High School.

In light of new evidence that was presented, there was a motion to **approve** the appeal in accordance with Bylaw 4-7-2, Exception 2.

Motion passed 3-0.

### **B. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, An 11th-Grade Student, Portsmouth West High School (Southeast District)**

An 11th-grade student transferred from Lucasville Valley High School to Portsmouth West 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 1.

The student's father, Jeremy Phillips, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Portsmouth West High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.

### **B. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, An 11th-Grade Student, Mentor Lake Catholic High School (Northeast District)**

An 11th-grade student transferred from Mayfield High School to Lake Catholic 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 11.

The student's mother, Bonnie Ungrady; the student's uncle, Dave Ungrady; Scott Hivnor, Lake Catholic wrestling coach; and the family's attorney, Ben Aveni, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Lake Catholic High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.