

## **November 19, 2020, OHSAA Appeals**

The OHSAA Appeals Panel met with appellants on November 19, 2020, virtually through Microsoft Teams. Appeals Panel members were Dave Gray, former superintendent of Franklin schools; Tony Mantell, former superintendent of Portsmouth Clay Local Schools; and Dr. Keith Bell, former superintendent of the Euclid City Schools and Westerville City Schools. Mr. Gray served as the appeals hearing officer.

Also in attendance for all or portions of the appeals: Steve Craig, OHSAA legal counsel; Bob Goldring, OHSAA senior director of operations; Deborah B. Moore, OHSAA compliance advisor; and Kristin Ronai, OHSAA director of compliance.

### **A. Bylaw 4-1-2, Eligibility, A 10th-Grade Student, Mansfield Senior High School (Northeast District)**

A 10th-grade student transferred from Ontario High School to Mansfield Senior High School and attempted to regain immediate eligibility under the provisions set forth in Bylaw 4-7-2, Exception 1 – bona fide change of residence. The Executive Director's Office ruled that the student was in violation of Bylaw 4-1-2, Eligibility, because eligibility was attempted via falsified information. Based on the facts of the case, the Executive Director's Office ruled that the student was ineligible for the remainder of the football season and 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 student's parents, Calvin and Stacie Hill, and Kevin Porter, Mansfield Senior athletic administrator, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Mansfield Senior High School.

There was a motion to deny the appeal.

Motion passed 3-0.

### **B. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, A 10th-Grade Student, Lakewood St. Edward High School (Northeast District)**

A 10th-grade student transferred from Hunting Valley University School to Lakewood St. Edward High School for the 2020-21 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.

The student's father, Chris Kelly, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at St. Edward High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.