

June 3, 2021, OHSAA Appeals

The OHSAA Appeals Panel met with appellants on June 3, 2021, virtually through Microsoft Teams. Appeals Panel members were Mr. Phil Ackerman, director of shared & administrative services, Ohio Valley Educational Services Center, and former superintendent of Switzerland of Ohio Local Schools; Dr. Dale Fortner, former superintendent of Wadsworth City Schools; Dr. Kathy McFarland, deputy chief executive director of the Ohio School Boards Association; 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; and Ronald Sayers, OHSAA compliance and eligibility specialist.

A. Bylaw 4-9-4 #3, Recruiting, and General Sports Regulation 10.1.4, Open Gymnasiums, Holland Springfield High School (Northwest District)

On March 31, 2021, the OHSAA Office, amongst other penalties, limited Holland Springfield High School's girls basketball team to a total ten days of coaching contact during June 1-July 31, 2021, due to violations of Bylaw 4-9-4 #3, Recruiting, and General Sports Regulation 10.1.4, Open Gymnasiums, by the girls basketball coach.

Holland Springfield High School Head Girls Basketball Coach Clifton Hodges and Assistant Girls Basketball Coach Arthur Battle appealed the ruling so that the girls basketball team would not be limited to a total of ten days of coaching contact during June 1-July 31, 2021.

There was a motion to **deny** the appeal, but to provide clarity regarding the coach's ability to continue with individual skill instruction throughout the summer.

Motion passed 4-0.