

February 2, 2022, OHSAA Appeals

The OHSAA Appeals Panel met with appellants on February 2, 2022, virtually through Microsoft Teams. Appeals Panel members were Mr. Andy Bixler, superintendent of Anna Local 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. Bixler 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; Beau Rugg, OHSAA director of officiating and sports management; Kristin Ronai, OHSAA director of compliance; Ronald Sayers, OHSAA manager of membership and compliance; and Alexis Holderman, OHSAA membership and compliance administrative assistance.

A. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, An 11th-Grade Student, Carey High School (Northwest District)

An 11th-grade student transferred from Upper Sandusky High School to Carey High School. As a transfer student, the student becomes 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, Transfer, and specifically exception 4, were applicable.

The student; Lawrence and Lana Montgomery, the student's parents; and Derek Dailey, legal counsel for the Montgomery family, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Carey High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.

B. General Sport Regulation 14.1, Player Ejection, Delaware Buckeye Valley (Central District)

A student-athlete from Delaware Buckeye Valley High School was ejected from two boys basketball contests on January 4, 2022, and January 22, 2022. In accordance with OHSAA General Sport Regulation 14.1, the student is ineligible for the remainder of the season in that sport.

The student; Jodie Thompson, the student's mother; and Anthony Heald, legal counsel for the Thompson family, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate during the remainder of the basketball season at Buckeye Valley High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.

C. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, A 10th-Grade Student, Gates Mills Hawken High School (Northeast District)

A 10th-grade student transferred from Chardon High School to Gates Mills Hawken High School. As a transfer student, the student becomes 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, Transfer, and specifically exception 7, were applicable.

The student; Diana Shirkey, the student's mother; John Stiles, legal counsel for the Shirkey family; and Adam Katz, Hawken swim coach, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Hawken High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.

D. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, An 11th-Grade Student, Toledo St. Francis de Sales School (Northwest District)

An 11th-grade student transferred from Sylvania Northview High School to Toledo St. Francis de Sales School. As a transfer student, the student becomes 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, Transfer, and specifically exception 7, were applicable.

The student; Jason and Patricia Liber, the student's parents; Justin Edgell, St. Francis de Sales athletic director; and Amy Solaro, legal counsel for the Liber family, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at St. Francis de Sales High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.