

August 18, 2022, OHSAA Appeals

The OHSAA Appeals Panel met with appellants on August 18, 2022, in person at the OHSAA offices and virtually through Microsoft Teams. Appeals Panel members were Dr. Kathy McFarland, deputy chief executive director of the Ohio School Boards Association; Mr. Dan Leffingwell, former superintendent of Noble City Schools; Dr. Keith Bell, former superintendent of the Euclid City Schools and Westerville City Schools; and Mrs. Jan Wilking, former athletic administrator of Wyoming City Schools. Dr. McFarland 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; Ronald Sayers, OHSAA manager of membership and compliance; Alexis Holderman, OHSAA membership and compliance administrative assistance; and Beau Rugg, OHSAA director of Officiating and Sport Administration.

A. Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship, 12th-Grade Student, Canal Winchester Harvest Preparatory School (Central District)

A 12th grade student at Canal Winchester Harvest Preparatory School did not pass five one-credit courses or the equivalent during the fourth grading period of the 2021-22 school year. The Executive Director's Office ruled that the student was ineligible for interscholastic athletics for the first grading period of the 2022-23 school year in accordance with Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship.

The student; The student's mother and stepfather, Michele and Rick Reynolds; the student's father, Ken Williams; David Dennis, Harvest Preparatory athletic administrator; and Lauren Sabo, family's representation, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Harvest Preparatory School.

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

Motion passed 4-0.

B. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, a 10th-Grade Student, McArthur Vinton County High School (Southeast District)

A 10th-grade student transferred from Wellston High School to McArthur Vinton County High School to start the 2022-23 school year. 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, Transfers, and specifically exception 1, were applicable.

The student's father, Scott Faught, and Richard Lewis, Faught's family representation, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Vinton County High School.

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

Motion passed 4-0.

C. Bylaw 4-7-5, Transfer, an 11th-Grade Student, Parma Padua Franciscan High School (Northeast District)

An 11th-grade student transferred from home education to Parma Padua Franciscan to start the 2022-23 school year. 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 the requirements set forth in Bylaw 4-7-5 were not met.

The student; The student's parents, Brandon and Karin Thomas; and Kevin Leigh, Padua Franciscan athletic administrator, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Padua Franciscan High School.

Based on the information presented during the appeal, there was a motion to **grant** the appeal.

Motion passed 4-0.

D. Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship, 12th-Grade Student, Gahanna Lincoln High School (Central District)

A 12th grade student at Gahanna Lincoln High School did not pass five one-credit courses or the equivalent during the fourth grading period of the 2021-22 school year. The Executive Director's Office rules that the student was ineligible for interscholastic athletics for the first grading period of the 2022-23 school year in accordance with Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship.

The student; The student's parents, Michael and Umeika Benjamin; and Kathryn Harris, Gahanna Lincoln athletic administrator, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Gahanna Lincoln High School.

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

Motion passed 4-0

E. Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship, 10th-Grade Student, Cleves Taylor High School (Southwest District)

A 10th grade student at Cleves Taylor High School did not pass five one-credit courses or the equivalent during the fourth grading period of the 2021-22 school year. The Executive Director's Office ruled that the student was ineligible for interscholastic athletics for the first grading period of the 2022-23 school year in accordance with Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship.

The student's mother, Mary Dailey, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Taylor High School. Mark Smiley, Taylor principal, and Larry Herges, Taylor athletic administrator, appeared virtually through Microsoft Teams.

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

Motion passed 4-0.

F. General Sports Regulation 7.7.2. NGB Waiver, a 12th, 11th, and 10th-Grade Student, Ursuline Academy (Southwest), Dublin Scioto (Central), and Kettering Fairmont (Southwest District)

A 12th grade student at Cincinnati School, an 11th grade student at Dublin Scioto, and a 10th grade student at Kettering Fairmont High School requested a waiver under General Sport Regulation 7.7.2, National Governing Body Waiver. The Executive Director's Office determined that the requirements set forth in General Sport Regulation 7.7.2 were not met. Therefore, the waivers were denied.

The student's parents, John and Tiffany Bultema, Eugen Rothe; Colleen O'Brien Ursuline Academy athletic administrator; and Nick Magistrale, Dublin Scioto athletic administrator, appealed the ruling so that the students could attend the USA Volleyball's National Team Development Program while maintaining eligibility with their schools' interscholastic team.

Based on the information presented during the appeal, there was a motion to **grant** the appeal.

Motion passed 4-0.

G. Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship, 12th-Grade Student, Wauseon High School (Northwest District)

A 12th grade student at Wauseon High School did not pass five one-credit courses or the equivalent during the fourth grading period of the 2021-22 school year. The Executive Director's Office rules that the student was ineligible for interscholastic athletics for the first grading period of the 2022-23 school year in accordance with Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship.

The student, and the student's parents, Cheryl and Larry Roush, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Wauseon High School.

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

Motion passed 4-0.