

September 22, 2022, OHSAA Appeals

The OHSAA Appeals Panel met with appellants on September 22, 2022, in person at the OHSAA offices. Appeals Panel members were Mr. Phil Ackerman, superintendent of Switzerland of Ohio Local Schools; Dr. Dale Fortner, former superintendent of Wadsworth City Schools; and Mr. Tony Mantell, former superintendent of Portsmouth 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; Ronald Sayers, OHSAA manager of membership and compliance; and Alexis Holderman, OHSAA membership and compliance administrative assistance.

A. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, a 12th-Grade Student, Springfield High School (Southwest District)

A 12th grade student transferred from Arcanum High School to Springfield High School in May 2022. 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; the student's parents, Amy and Jason Schondelmyer; Michael Dellapina, Springfield athletic administrator; and Darnell Carter, family legal representative and Springfield assistant coach, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Springfield High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.

B. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, an 11th-Grade Student, Cincinnati West Clermont High School (Southwest District)

An 11th grade student transferred from Batavia High School to Cincinnati West Clermont High School in November 2022. 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 mother, Stephanie Stewart; Jennifer Stewart, the student's aunt; and Dan Ramos, family member and representative, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at West Clermont High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.

C. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, a 12th-Grade Student, Toledo St. Francis de Sales High School (Northwest District)

A 12th grade student transferred from Whitehouse Anthony Wayne High School to Toledo St. Francis de Sales in January 2022. 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 7, were applicable.

The student's mother, Shelley Wynn; Amy Solaro, the family's legal counsel; and Justin Edgell, St. Francis de Sales athletic administrator, 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.

D. Bylaw 4-7-3, Transfer, a 9th-Grade Student, Macedonia Nordonia High School (Northeast District)

A 9th grade student transferred from Cleveland Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School to Macedonia Nordonia 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 the requirements set forth in Bylaw 4-7-3 were not met.

The student's mother, Chanel Starks; Rob Eckenrode, Nordonia athletic administrator; and Louise Teringo, Nordonia principal, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Nordonia High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.

E. Bylaw 4-7, Transfer, a 12th-Grade Student, Rocky River Lutheran West High School (Northeast District)

A 12th grade student transferred from Cleveland Ginn Academy to Rocky River Lutheran West High School in January 2022. 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, nor the requirements set forth in Bylaw 4-7-5, were applicable.

The student's parents, Tamika and Leron Fullerton; Michael Waugh, Lutheran West principal; and Jay Carson, family legal council, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Lutheran West High School.

There was a motion to **deny** the appeal of both rulings made by the Executive Director's Office.

Motion passed 3-0.

F. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, a 10th-Grade Student, Newark Catholic High School (Central District)

A 10th grade student transferred from Coshocton High School to Newark Catholic 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 5, were applicable.

The student's father, Jason Given, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Newark Catholic High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.

G. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, a 12th-Grade Student, Steubenville High School (East District)

A 12th grade student transferred from East Liverpool High School to Steubenville 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 Bylaw 4-7-2, Exception 1; Bylaw 4-7-2, Note 2; and Bylaw 4-7-5 were not applicable.

The student; the student's parents, Frank and Wilma Williams; Aaron Newman, Steubenville administrator; and Dan Spahn, Steubenville City Schools legal council, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Steubenville High School.

There was a motion to **deny** the appeal of all three rulings made by the Executive Director's Office

Motion passed 3-0.

H. Bylaw 4-7-5, Transfer, a 12th-Grade Student, Lima Senior High School (Northwest District)

A 12th grade student transferred from Toledo Whitmer High School to Lima Senior 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 the requirements set forth in Bylaw 4-7-5 were not met.

The student; the student's parents, Nakita and James Stout; Destinie Perkins, the student's sister; and John Zell, Lima Senior athletic administrator, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Lima Senior High School.

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

Motion passed 3-0.