

## **September 21, 2023, OHSAA Appeals**

The OHSAA Appeals Panel met with appellants on September 21, 2023, in person at the OHSAA office. Appeals Panel members were Dr. Dale Fortner, former superintendent of Wadsworth City Schools; Ms. Jan Wilking, former athletic director of Wyoming City Schools; Dr. John Richard, former superintendent of Perry Local Schools; and Mr. Tony Mantell, former superintendent of Portsmouth City Schools. Dr. Fortner 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 Preston Miller, OHSAA compliance staffer.

### **A. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, an 11<sup>th</sup>-Grade Student, Washington Court House Washington High School (Southeast District)**

An 11<sup>th</sup> grade student transferred from Circleville High School to Washington Court House Washington High School to start the 2023-24 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; the student's parents Debra and Charles Hughes; and Greg Phipps, Washington Athletic Director, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Washington High School.

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

Motion passed 4-0.

### **B. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, a 12<sup>th</sup>-Grade Student, Dayton Archbishop Carroll High School (Southwest District)**

A 12<sup>th</sup> grade student transferred from Dayton Oakwood High School to Dayton Archbishop Carroll High School in January 2023. 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 and the student's father, Dale Kimbrough, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Archbishop Carroll High School.

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

Motion passed 4-0.

### **C. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, a 12<sup>th</sup>-Grade Student, Mason High School (Southwest District)**

A 12<sup>th</sup> grade student transferred from Cincinnati Winton Woods High School to Mason High School to start the 2023-24 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, were applicable.

The student's mother, Shawna Talley, the mother's fiancé, Harold Fisher, and Scott Stemple, Mason Athletic Director, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Mason High School.

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

Motion passed 4-0.

### **D. Bylaw 4-7-3, Mid-Season Transfer, a 12<sup>th</sup>-Grade Student, Parma Padua Franciscan High School (Northeast District)**

A 12<sup>th</sup> grade student transferred from Euclid High School to Parma Padua Franciscan High School in August 2023. As a mid-season transfer student, the student becomes ineligible for the remainder of the sport season and the OHSAA postseason tournament. For any other sport(s) 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, the student's mother, Shawuan Telfair, and Kevin Leigh, Padua Franciscan Athletic Director, appealed the ruling so that the students could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Padua Franciscan High School.

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

Motion passed 4-0.

**E. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, an 11<sup>th</sup>-Grade Student, Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary High School (Northeast District)**

An 11<sup>th</sup> grade student transferred from Peninsula Woodridge High School to Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary High School in January 2023. 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, Naheelah Abdullah, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at St. Vincent-St. Mary High School.

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

Motion passed 4-0.

**F. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, an 11<sup>th</sup>-Grade Student, Stow-Munroe Falls High School (Northeast District)**

An 11<sup>th</sup> grade student transferred from Hudson High School to Stow-Munroe Falls High School to start the 2023-24 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, were applicable.

The student's mother, Erin Bivens, and Cyle Feldman, Stow-Munroe Falls Athletic Director, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Stow-Munroe Falls High School.

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

Motion passed 4-0.

**G. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, an 11<sup>th</sup>-Grade Student, Youngstown Ursuline High School (Northeast District)**

An 11<sup>th</sup> grade student transferred from Ravenna Southeast High School to Youngstown Ursuline High School in February 2023. 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; the student's parents, Jaclyn and Ryan Grope; and John DeSantis, Ursuline Athletic Director, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Ursuline High School.

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

Motion passed 4-0.

**H. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, an 11<sup>th</sup>-Grade Student, Gahanna Lincoln High School (Central District)**

An 11<sup>th</sup> grade student transferred from Columbus Patriot Preparatory Academy to Gahanna Lincoln High School in April 2023. 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 2, were applicable.

The student's parents, Michael and Cheri Morman; the student's sister, Makala Moman; and Rev. Garing Armstead Sr., the student's guardian, 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.

**G. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, a 12<sup>th</sup>-Grade Student, Pickerington High School North (Central District)**

A 12<sup>th</sup> grade student transferred from Millersburg West Holmes High School to Pickerington High School North in February 2023. 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 2, were applicable.

The student; the student's mother, Roddreka Dixon; Aaron Lawson, the student's mentor; and Colin Beemiller, Pickerington North Athletic Administrator, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Pickerington High School North.

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

Motion passed 4-0.