



Ohio High School Athletic Association
4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, Ohio 43214

OHSAA Student Eligibility Appeals Process for 2020-21 School Year

UPDATED: July 20, 2020 – On occasion, school administrators, officials, coaches, parents and/or students form the opinion that a decision of the Executive Director's Office was in error and, as a result, a desire to appeal that decision arises. The Constitution of the member schools of the OHSAA anticipates this and in May 2012, the member schools authorized the Board of Directors to establish an Appeals Panel with exclusive jurisdiction to hear student eligibility appeals. In May 2017 the member schools further modified this process by authorizing the expansion of the Appeals Panel's jurisdiction to hear ALL appeals related to rulings emanating from the Executive Director's Office. At its June 2020 meeting, the Board of Directors reauthorized the Appeals Panel process for the 2020-21 school year.

The Appeals Panel is not completely independent of the Board of Directors and/or the Executive Director's Office, and all members of the Appeals Panel either are or were professional educators from OHSAA member schools. Like the Board of Directors, the Appeals Panel has no authority to waive or modify the requirements of the Bylaws.

In the event that an appeal is requested by an OHSAA registered official, the offending official must notify the Executive Director's Office in a timely manner, preferably at least 48 hours prior to a scheduled hearing, of your desire to appeal.

In the event that an appeal is requested by a student and his/her family, please note that the procedures require that a **school official** notify the Executive Director's Office in a timely manner, preferably at least 48 hours prior to a scheduled hearing, of the desire to appeal a ruling that either the school or the Executive Director's Office has made. However, it is not necessary that the school/school official support or endorse a student eligibility appeal. Furthermore, unless compelled to attend pursuant to the authority vested in the Executive Director's Office, the school official is not obligated to participate in the appeals hearing unless he/she so desires.

Should the decision be made to appeal a ruling, the appropriate individual, outlined above, from must notify Assistant Director of Membership Services Ronald Sayers, at rsayers@ohsaa.org of the desire to appeal. The "notice" requirements of an appeal include:

1. Names and contact information of the persons involved in the appeal (phone and email)
2. The applicable constitution, bylaw or sports regulation and the ruling at issue
3. The sport(s) in which the particular student/official desires to participate and the student's grade level (if applicable)

The 2020-21 dates for appeals before the OHSAA Appeals Panel are as follows:
(the first appeal is tentatively scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM, and the dates are subject to change)

- Thursday, August 20
- Thursday, September 10
- Thursday, September 24
- Thursday, October 22
- Thursday, November 19
- Thursday, December 10
- Thursday, January 7
- Thursday, February 4
- Thursday, March 4
- Thursday, April 1
- Thursday, May 6
- Thursday, June 3