

# OHSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONFERENCE CALL MEETING MINUTES (October 22, 2009)

The Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Directors held a special conference call meeting on October 22, 2009. President Steve Stirn called the meeting to order.

**Board Members Participating:** Steve Stirn, president; Rocco Nero, vice president; Teresa Alberts; Dave Gray; Jose Hernandez; Steve Keller; Mike Rotonda; Walt Skaggs; Steve Zimmerman, and Matt Shomper (ex-officio) and Jeff Jordan (ex-officio).

**Administrative Staff Participating:** Dan Ross, commissioner; Deborah B. Moore, associate commissioner, and Roxanne Price, assistant commissioner.

**Others Participating:** Steve Craig, OHSAA legal counsel, and Douglas Heuer, James Reed and Kristin Hughes, Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District, and attorney John Britton.

## I. APPEAL

### Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Ms. Kristin Hughes, Director of Athletics, re: An 11th-Grade Student, Cleveland Heights High School (Northeast District)

An 11th-grade student transferred last spring from Maple Heights High School to Cleveland Heights High School. The OHSAA ruled that the student was ineligible (and thus the school was required to forfeit three victorious varsity football contests in which the ineligible student participated) because the school did not meet the stipulation of Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Exception 2, that says when a change of a legal custodian is made, the student is ineligible until ruled eligible by the OHSAA Office. Douglas Heuer, the school district's superintendent; James Reed, the school's principal; Kristin Hughes, the school's director of athletics, and attorney John Britton appealed the ineligibility ruling and thus were seeking to revoke the required forfeitures.

Motion by Steve Keller, second by Teresa Alberts to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 9-0.

## II. OTHER BUSINESS

### Revision to Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Exception 11

OHSAA Constitution Article 8-1-1, Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws, states that, in the event of a legislative action that modifies an existing bylaw or article of the constitution, the Board of Directors may immediately authorize the change in the bylaw or constitution so that they are in compliance with Ohio state law.

Upon realizing that a state bill will be passed that has an impact on Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Exception 11, the Board was presented with a proposed modification of that exception that would allow those students who transfer to another school, once their district ceases to sponsor its interscholastic athletic program, to transfer back to the district from which he or she transferred should that district reinstate its interscholastic athletics program and provided that certain stipulations are met.

Motion by Mike Rotonda, second by Walt Skaggs to **approve** the revision to Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Exception 11, provided that legislative action occurs to change Ohio law.

Motion passed 9-0.

### Approval of OHSAA Tournament Postponement Policy

The Board was provided with a proposed Tournament Postponement Policy that the OHSAA recommended be adopted in the event of a public health/safety concern including, but not limited to, an influenza or H1N1 influenza outbreak. The policy would be observed for all OHSAA sponsored tournaments.

Motion by Rocco Nero, second by Dave Gray to **approve** the tournament postponement policy as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

It was noted that the policy will be posted on the OHSAA web site and e-mailed to all OHSAA member school administrators.

### Revised Date for October 2010 Board of Directors Meeting

Commissioner Ross asked the Board to approve a recommendation that the date for the October 2010 Board of Directors Meeting move to the 21st from the 14th. The meeting would be held at the OHSAA office beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Motion Steve Zimmerman, second by Mike Rotonda to **approve** the date change.

Motion passed 9-0.

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Revision to District Athletic Board Handbook

At the September 10, 2009, Board of Directors Meeting, the Board approved a revised OHSAA District Athletic Board Handbook. The Board was provided with a modification to the handbook and was asked to approve the change.

Motion by Dave Gray, second by Steve Keller to **approve** the revision as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was unanimously approved.

Bob Goldring and Dan Ross, recorders.