

OHSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES (December 10, 2009)

The Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Directors held a regularly scheduled meeting at the OHSAA office in Columbus on December 10, 2009. President Steve Stirn called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Steve Keller and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Matt Shomper.

Board Members Present: 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 Present: Dan Ross, commissioner; Bob Goldring and Deborah B. Moore, associate commissioners; Roxanne Price; Jerry Snodgrass, and Henry Zaborniak Jr., assistant commissioners.

Administrative Staff Excused: Steve Neil, assistant commissioner, and Tim Stried, director of information services.

Others Attending: Steve Craig, OHSAA legal counsel; Todd Boehm and Brenda Murray, OHSAA staff; Fred Dafler, retired OHSAA associate commissioner; Frank Gamble, Kevin Yoder and Doug Burtcher, Ohio High School Baseball Coaches Association; Dennis Overstake, Joe Cambron and Pat Murphy, Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association; Doug Pearson, Jay Niswonger, Bob Brigati, Mike Mauk, Wally Hood and Dick Kerschbaum, Ohio High School Football Coaches Association; Joe Matheny and Casey Milligan, Ohio High School Golf Coaches Association; Ryan Shaffer, Ohio Tennis Coaches Association; Greg Fraunfelter, Ohio Association of Track and Cross County Coaches; Scott Taylor, Jim Muth, Kaye Keller and Carol Russo, Ohio High School Volleyball Coaches Association; Scott Ebright, Ohio School Boards Association; James Betschel and Nicole Loucks; Joi Yancey and her son; Scott Reeves, Mike Smith and Pete Laihr; Lee and Sarah Horne; Lincoln Kynard, his daughter and Pam Edgell; William and Laura Walsh and Deborah Walsh; Anthony and Diana Veira; Richard Gaskell; and Cathy Horton, Ron Grant and Greg Moore.

I. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Dave Gray, second by Rocco Nero to **adopt** the agenda as amended for the December 10, 2009, Board of Directors meeting.

Motion passed 9-0.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Steve Keller, second by Walt Skaggs to **approve** the minutes from the October 8, 2009, Board of Directors meeting and the October 22, 2009, Board of Directors Special Conference Call meeting.

Motion passed 9-0.

III. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

A. Financial Report

Comptroller Todd Boehm provided the financial reports for the OHSAA state office for October and November. The reports are summarized as follows:

Balance – September 30, 2009	\$996,220.19
Receipts – October 2009	<u>101,574.51</u>
	\$1,097,794.70
Disbursements – October 2009	<u>699,284.48</u>
	\$398,510.22
Accounted for as follows:	
Checking Account Balance per 5/3 Bank (10/31/09)	\$559,707.00
	\$559,707.00
Less Outstanding Checks	<u>161,196.78</u>
Balance – October 31, 2009	\$398,510.22
Available Funds – October 31, 2009	
Bank Balance	\$398,510.22
Savings	612,138.19
Minus Reserve Fund	<u>(800,000.00)</u>
Working Capital	\$210,648.41
Reserve fund	\$800,000.00
Building fund	\$228,368.73
Balance – October 31, 2009	\$398,510.22
Receipts – November 2009	<u>937,779.39</u>
	\$1,336,289.61
Disbursements – November 2009	<u>910,207.55</u>
	\$426,082.06

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Accounted for as follows:

Checking Account Balance per 5/3 Bank (11/30/09)	\$523,406.58
	\$523,406.58
Less Outstanding Checks	<u>97,324.52</u>
Balance – November 30, 2009	\$426,082.06
Available Funds – November 30, 2009	
Bank Balance	\$426,082.06
Savings	612,138.19
Minus Reserve Fund	<u>(800,000.00)</u>
Working Capital	\$238,220.25
Reserve fund	\$800,000.00
Building fund (balance as of Oct. 31, 2009)	\$225,865.51

- B. The Board was also provided the financial report for the six district athletic boards through October. The report is summarized as follows:

<u>District</u>	<u>Checking</u>	<u>DOC</u> <u>Checking</u>	<u>Savings</u>	<u>CD</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Cash</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Revenue</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Expenses</u>	<u>Net</u> <u>Profit/Loss</u>
Central	\$25,469	\$0	\$59,651	\$0	\$85,119	\$5,940	\$104,916	– \$98,976
East	\$7,886	\$3,891	\$0	\$49,864	\$61,641	\$1	\$3,682	– \$3,682
Northeast	\$133,630	\$0	\$7,398	\$110,465	\$251,493	\$670	\$67,651	– \$66,980
Northwest	\$120,834	\$10,218	\$0	\$0	\$131,052	\$11,994	\$41,843	– \$29,849
Southeast	\$9,467	\$3,144	\$135,722	\$126,258	\$274,592	\$16,215	\$23,828	– \$7,613
<u>Southwest</u>	<u>\$37,506</u>	<u>\$100</u>	<u>\$62,426</u>	<u>\$123,866</u>	<u>\$223,897</u>	<u>\$31,629</u>	<u>\$146,767</u>	<u>– \$115,138</u>
Totals	\$334,792	\$17,353	\$265,197	\$410,453	\$1,027,794	\$66,449	\$388,687	– \$322,238

Motion by Steve Zimmerman, second by Jose Hernandez to **approve** the financial reports as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Nominations for the OHSAA Naismith Meritorious Service Awards (Central and East Districts)

The Board was reminded that it will act on the recommendations from the Central and East districts at the January 2010 Board of Directors Meeting for the Naismith Meritorious Service Awards. The OHSAA makes two annual \$300 contributions to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in the names of the nominees for their contributions to athletics in Ohio. Two of the six OHSAA District Athletic Boards make nominations to the Board of Directors on a rotating basis.

- B. Field Hockey Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of November 18, 2009

The Board of Directors was presented the minutes of the Field Hockey Advisory Committee Meeting of November 18, 2009, and Associate Commissioner Moore reviewed the highlights. She said two proposals will be made to the Board at its January meeting, with one proposal modifying the player participation limits per day and season and the other proposal adding a mercy rule. She said an additional recommendation is for officials to be permitted to wear a yellow shirt as an option to the striped shirt and since fuchsia shirts are difficult for men to obtain. In addition, Dr. Moore said the committee has forwarded proposed national playing rules changes to the National Federation of State High School Associations.

- C. Review of OHSAA Fall Sports Tournaments

The Board of Directors was provided with a review of the fall sports state tournaments from Associate Commissioner Deborah B. Moore (field hockey and volleyball); Commissioner Dan Ross (cross country); Assistant Commissioner Jerry Snodgrass (soccer); Assistant Commissioner Roxanne Price (girls tennis), and Assistant Commissioner Henry Zaborniak Jr. (football). Assistant Commissioner Steve Neil (cross country) and OHSAA liaisons Dale Gabor (cross country) and John Dickerson (golf) also provided reviews to the Board the previous day.

- D. Updates from OHSAA Board Committees

Updates were provided to the Board on various OHSAA committees that have recently met. Board member Rocco Nero said the **Technology Committee** met the previous day and will soon review proposals to provide an upgraded server and a backup server for the state office, which is phase two of the technology plan. Board member Dave Gray said the **Strategic Planning Committee** recently met and will have a recommendation for the Board at the January meeting. Board member Steve Zimmerman said the **7th-8th Grade Committee** met earlier in the week. A recommendation to send information to the OHSAA membership regarding other associations conducting middle school championships will be presented to the Board later in this meeting. Commissioner Dan Ross said the **Pension Committee** met the previous day and has put together an action plan that provides a timetable for fully funding the defined benefit program. And Board member Jeff Jordan said the **Audit Committee** will review the auditor's report and present it to the Board in February, with discussion on the report to take place at the All-Districts Board Meeting in March.

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E. Update of OHSAA Legal Issues/Infractions

The Board of Directors was provided with a list of schools that recently violated OHSAA bylaws or sports regulations. **Ansonia High School's** volleyball team had a student-athlete violate Volleyball Regulation 15.A.1.1 - 6 and 10 when she participated in more than the allowable number of sets in a single night. The OHSAA accepted the school's self-imposed penalty. **Cleveland Heights High School's** varsity football team had a student-athlete violate Bylaw 4-7-2, Exception 2, Transfers, and, in accordance with Bylaw 10-2-1, Forfeitures, the school must forfeit three victorious contests in which the ineligible student participated. **Minford High School's** varsity football team had a student-athlete violate Bylaw 4-6-3, Exception 1, Residence, and, in accordance with Bylaw 10-2-1, Forfeitures, the school must forfeit a victorious contest in which the ineligible student participated. **Lexington High School's** boys varsity soccer team violated Bylaw 8-3-3, Leaving the Field of Play, in a contest. The school's principal, athletic administrator and head coach met with OHSAA administrators and the OHSAA accepted the school's self-imposed penalty of suspending the head coach for its next two contests. **Lima Shawnee High School's** varsity volleyball team violated Volleyball Regulation B. 7. when it played 24 matches rather than the 22 that are permitted on 20 playing dates. In accordance with Bylaw 11-1-2, Penalties, the school was removed from the 2009 OHSAA volleyball tournaments. **Monroeville High School's** varsity cross country team had a student-athlete violate Bylaw 4-8-1, Students from Foreign Countries and Exchange Students, and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-5, Forfeitures, the school must forfeit all contests in which the ineligible student participated (although all eligible participants were able to keep their points, records, awards, etc.). **Milford Junior High School's** volleyball program had two student-athletes violate Sports Regulation 4.3, Non-Interscholastic Competition, when they participated on a non-school volleyball team after competing as members of the school's volleyball team. In accordance with Bylaw 10-2-1, Forfeitures, the school must forfeit a victorious contest in which the ineligible students participated and, in accordance with Sports Regulation 4.12, Penalties, the two students were suspended from participating in the school's next two volleyball contests. **London Madison-Plains High School's** head softball coach violated Sports Regulation 7.1.8, Open Gymnasium or Facilities, when he distributed information to prospective softball players. In accordance with Bylaw 11, Penalties, the coach is prohibited from having contact with any member of the 2010 high school softball team during the 10 permissible days between June 1 and July 31, 2010. **Troy Middle School's** football team had a student-athlete violate Bylaw 4-4-5, Scholarship, and, in accordance with Bylaw 10-2-1, Forfeitures, the school must forfeit any victorious contests in which the ineligible student participated. **Parma Normandy High School's** boys basketball program had a coach violate Bylaw 4-9-1, Recruiting, when he attempted to persuade a student from another high school to transfer to Normandy. The OHSAA reprimanded Normandy High School for the actions of the coach and accepted the self-imposed penalties by the Parma City School District and Normandy High School. **Lima Shawnee High School's** varsity softball team had five players violate Sports Regulation 4.5, Non-Interscholastic Programs, when they participated together on a non-interscholastic team in violation of the "50 percent rule" (no more than four players from the same school may participate together). In accordance with Sports Regulation 4.12, Penalties, each of the five students are ineligible to participate in four regular season contests during the 2010 season (they do not have to sit out the four games together but must complete the suspensions by the eighth game of the season). **Bryan High School's** junior varsity volleyball team had a student-athlete violate Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, and, in accordance with Bylaw 10-2-1, Forfeitures, the school must forfeit any victorious contests in which the ineligible student participated. **Waynesfield-Goshen High School's** boys basketball coach violated Sports Regulation 5.10, Instructional Programs, when he made attendance by student-athletes during the 10 permissible days of coaching between June 1 and July 31, 2009, mandatory. In accordance with Bylaw 10-4-2, Penalties, the coach and his staff will only be permitted to use two of the 10 permissible days of coaching between June 1 and July 31, 2010, and the coach was reprimanded. **Lyndhurst Brush High School's** girls junior varsity basketball team had a student-athlete violate Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeitures, the school must forfeit a victorious contest in which the ineligible student participated. **Lakeside Danbury High School's** girls basketball team had a student-athlete violate Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship, and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeitures, the school must forfeit two victorious contests in which the ineligible student participated. **Pickerington High School North's** girls varsity basketball team had a student-athlete violate Bylaw 4-7-4, Transfers, and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeitures, the school must forfeit a victorious contest in which the ineligible student participated.

OHSAA legal counsel Steve Craig also provided an update on litigation cases.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Proposals from the Ohio Association of Track and Cross Country Coaches

The Ohio Association of Track and Cross Country Coaches made the following proposals:

1.) Lower the weight of the shot put for girls 7th and 8th graders from eight pounds to six pounds while maintaining four kilometers for boys 7th and 8th graders.

Motion by Steve Zimmerman, second by Rocco Nero to **approve** the recommendation.

Motion passed 9-0.

2.) Expand the coaches pole vault education requirement to recertify coaches every three years beginning with the 2010 track and field season.

Motion by Mike Rotonda, second by Walt Skaggs to **approve** the recommendation.

Motion passed 9-0.

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3.) Adjust cross country and track & field schools into more balanced regional tournaments.

Motion by Dave Gray, second by Rocco Nero to **table** action on the recommendation.

Motion passed 9-0.

VI. NEW BUSINESS (CONSENT ITEMS)

A. Recommendation from 7th-8th Grade Committee

Commissioner Dan Ross informed the Board that the OHSAA 7th-8th Grade Committee recommends that the Board authorize a statement to be released that provides direction to member schools regarding other middle school organizations and their relationship with the OHSAA. The statement is as follows:

“The OHSAA has been asked by several member schools to clarify the relationship between the Middle School Athletic Association (MSAA), The Ohio Athletic Committee (OAC) and the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA). The MSAA and the OAC are not affiliated with the Ohio High School Athletic Association. Participation in events sponsored by the MSAA, the OAC and similar organizations must comply with the Bylaws and Sports Regulations of the Ohio High School Athletic Association. Students participating outside of the OHSAA defined sports seasons in events sponsored by outside organizations would not be covered under the OHSAA catastrophic insurance policy, and any and all participation must be in compliance with all OHSAA non-interscholastic sport participation rules.”

B. Sites/Dates for the 2009 Regional and State Baseball, Fast Pitch Softball and Track and Field Tournaments

Assistant Commissioners Roxanne Price and Jerry Snodgrass (baseball) reviewed the sites and dates for the 2010 regional and state fast pitch softball and baseball tournaments, respectively, while Assistant Commissioner Steve Neil and OHSAA liaison Dale Gabor provided the Board with the sites and dates for the regional and state track & field tournaments.

In fast pitch softball, regional sites are the University of Akron, Clyde, The Ohio State University and the University of Dayton in Division I; Akron, Bucyrus, Pickerington Central and Clayton in Division II; Massillon, Ashland, Lancaster and Wright State University in Division III, and Kent State University, Findlay, Pickerington Central and a site to be determined in Division IV. Regional semifinals will be Wednesday and Thursday, May 26 and 27, with regional finals Saturday, May 29. The state tournaments will be held June 3, 4 and 5 at Akron Firestone Stadium. The Division II state semifinals will be June 3 at 10:00 and 12:30 with the state finals June 5 at 10:00; the Division I state semifinals will be June 3 at 3:00 and 5:30 with the state finals June 5 at 1:00; the Division IV state semifinals will be June 4 at 10:00 and 12:30 with the state finals June 5 at 4:00, and the Division III state semifinals will be June 4 at 3:00 and 5:30 with the state finals June 5 at 7:00.

In baseball, regional sites are Canton, Dublin, Bowling Green/Case Western Reserve University and Cincinnati in Division I; Hudson, Tiffin, Zanesville and Dayton in Division II; Massillon, Elida, a site to be determined and Wright State in Division III, and Lorain, Hamler, Lancaster and Springfield in Division IV. Regional semifinals will be Thursday, May 27, at 2:00 and 5:00 with regional finals Friday, May 28 at 2:00. The state tournaments will be held June 3, 4 and 5 at Huntington Park in Columbus. The Division IV state semifinals will be June 3 at 10:00 and 1:00 with the state finals June 5 at 10:00; the Division III state semifinals will be June 3 at 4:00 and 7:00 with the state finals June 5 at 1:00; the Division I state semifinals will be June 4 at 10:00 and 1:00 with the state finals June 5 at 4:00, and the Division II state semifinals will be June 4 at 4:00 and 7:00 with the state finals June 5 at 7:00.

In track and field, regional sites are Youngstown Austintown-Fitch, Amherst Steele, Pickerington High North and Dayton Welcome Stadium in Division I; Ravenna, Lexington, Byesville Meadowbrook and Dayton Welcome Stadium in Division II, and Navarre Fairless, Tiffin Columbian, Lancaster Fairfield Union and Troy in Division III. Divisions I and III will be held Wednesday, May 26, and Friday, May 28, with Division II taking place Thursday, May 27, and Saturday, May 29. The state tournaments will be held at The Ohio State University's Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium in Columbus on Friday and Saturday, June 4 and 5.

C. Approval of 2010 Spring Sports Manuals

The Board was provided copies of the 2010 spring sport manuals in the sports of softball, boys tennis and track & field that were prepared by OHSAA staff members. The manuals include tournament regulations that are posted on the OHSAA web site and additional information that has been added as points of emphasis and for clarity. The manuals are mailed directly to member school head coaches in the respective sports, contest officials and are posted on the OHSAA web site. Also included in the mailing are sport specific rule books and attendance cards for OHSAA rules interpretation meetings.

D. 2010 Regional and State Girls and Boys Basketball Tournament Draw

The drawings for the 2010 Regional and State Basketball Tournaments were conducted by Assistant Commissioner Snodgrass along with Pat Murphy from the Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association.

The girls Division I regionals will be held at the Canton Memorial Civic Center (Mar. 9 and 12), Norwalk High School (Mar. 9 and 13), Otterbein College (Mar. 9 and 12) and Wright State University (Mar. 9 and 13). Division II regionals will be held at Barberton High School (Mar. 9 and 12), Ontario High School (Mar. 9 and 12) and two sites to be determined (Mar. 9 and 12).

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Division III regionals will be held at Cuyahoga Falls High School (Mar. 10 and 13), Lexington High School (Mar. 10 and 13), Ohio University (Mar. 10 and 13) and Springfield High School (Mar. 10 and 13). Division IV regionals will be held at Massillon Perry High School (Mar. 11 and 13), Elida High School (Mar. 11 and 13), Pickerington High School North (Mar. 11 and 13) and a site to be determined (Mar. 11 and 13). The girls state tournament will be held at Ohio State's Value City Arena at the Jerome Schottenstein Center March 18, 19 and 20. The Division III semifinals are Mar. 18 at 1:00 and 3:00, the Division II semifinals are Mar. 18 at 6:00 and 8:00, the Division IV semifinals are Mar. 19 at 1:00 and 3:00 and the Division I semifinals are Mar. 19 at 6:00 and 8:00. The finals are all on Mar. 20, with Division III at 10:45, Division II at 2:00, Division IV at 5:15 and Division I at 8:30.

The boys Division I regionals will be held at the University of Akron (semifinals Mar. 18 at Akron and the University of Toledo, finals Mar. 20 at Akron), Cleveland State University (Mar. 17 and 20), the Columbus Fairgrounds Coliseum (Mar. 17, 18 and 20) and Xavier University (Mar. 17 and 20). Division II regionals will be held at the Canton Memorial Civic Center (Mar. 18 and 20), Bowling Green State University (Mar. 18 and 20), Ohio University (Mar. 18 and 20) and Kettering Fairmont High School (Mar. 18 and 20). Division III regionals will be held at the Canton Fieldhouse (Mar. 17 and 20), Bowling Green State University (Mar. 17 and 20), Ohio University (Mar. 17 and 20) and Kettering Fairmont High School (Mar. 17 and 20). Division IV regionals will be held at the Canton Fieldhouse (Mar. 16 and 19); Bowling Green State University (Mar. 16 and 19); Ohio University (semifinals Mar. 16 at Ohio University and the Columbus Fairgrounds Coliseum and finals Mar. 19 at Ohio University) and Kettering Fairmont High School (Mar. 16 and 19). The boys state tournament will be held at Ohio State's Value City Arena at the Jerome Schottenstein Center Mar. 25, 26 and 27. The Division III semifinals are Mar. 25 at 10:45 and 2:00, the Division II semifinals are Mar. 25 at 5:15 and 8:30, the Division IV semifinals are Mar. 26 at 10:45 and 2:00 and the Division I semifinals are Mar. 26 at 5:15 and 8:30. The finals are all on Mar. 27, with Division III at 10:45, Division II at 2:00, Division IV at 5:15 and Division I at 8:30.

E. Criteria for Coaching Education Course Consideration

Commissioner Dan Ross asked the Board to approve a recommendation that criteria be approved for consideration of recommended courses within the Coaches Education Program. The criteria would be: 1.) The course must be portable; 2.) The course should be designed for interscholastic athletics; 3.) The course must be affordable; 4.) The course must be accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Coaching Education; 5.) The course must include the eight domains of coaching competencies as established by National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE), which is posted on the NASPE web site (www.naspeinfo.org), and 6.) The course must include the 40 standards established by National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE).

F. Dates to Begin Football Seasons in 2013, 2014 and 2019

Commissioner Dan Ross asked the Board to approve a recommendation that the starting dates and seasons for football be moved to a week later for the 2013, 2014 and 2019 seasons. The move would mean coaching for those three years would begin during the first week in August (rather than in July) and that the state finals would be held the week after Thanksgiving weekend (state semifinals held over Thanksgiving weekend; state finals held the next week). The starting and ending dates would be consistent through the fall of 2021. Starting dates for coaching in 2013 would be August 5, in 2014 would be August 4 and in 2019 would be August 5. The first contest would be permitted in 2013 on August 26 (first Friday game date is August 30); in 2014 on August 25 (first Friday game date is August 29), and in 2019 on August 26 (first Friday game date is August 30). The state finals would be December 6-7 in 2013, December 5-6 in 2014 and December 6-7 in 2019.

G. 2010 Referendum Items

The Board was provided with a draft of proposed referendum issues that reflect changes to the OHSAA Constitution and Bylaws. Associate Commissioner Deborah Moore reviewed the proposals. If placed up for referendum by the Board, OHSAA member schools will vote on the referendum issues between May 1 and 15, 2009.

- 1.) **Constitution 8-1-1, Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws** — Modifies that the Board of Directors may immediately change a bylaw or article in the constitution so that the OHSAA will be in compliance with Ohio law if there is proposed or adopted legislative action or a court order that modifies an existing bylaw or article of the constitution (the proposed and court order references are the modifications).
- 2.) **Bylaw 4-3-1, Enrollment and Attendance, Exception 6** — Clarifies that schools' partial enrollment policies for home schooled students requires that at least one of the courses be taken at the brick and mortar school.
- 3.) **Bylaw 4-3-1, Enrollment and Attendance, Exception 7** — Adds a new exception that grants eligibility for students enrolled in a STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) school that is established under the Ohio Revised Code.
- 4.) **Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship** — Provides a definition of "grading period" to add clarity.
- 5.) **Bylaw 4-4-4 and 4-4-5, Scholarship** — Modifies that students enrolled in the first grading period after advancement from the eighth grade must have received passing grades in a minimum of five of those subjects in which the student received grades during the preceding grading period in order to be eligible.

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6.) **Bylaw 4-6-3, Residence (Parents Out of State)** – Adds a new exception that grants eligibility to students enrolled in an Ohio school pursuant to the Interstate Compact of Educational Opportunities for Military Children.

7.) **Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Exceptions 1 and 3** – Clarifies the exceptions by noting that the bona fide legal change of residence must of have taken place within the last calendar year.

8.) **Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Exception 4** – Adds the stipulation that a student may gain eligibility at a new school not only if the school he/she attends closes but also if it discontinues its high school program after grade nine.

9.) **Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Exception 11** – The Board of Directors has already approved this change so that the OHSAA would be in compliance with Ohio state law pursuant to Constitution Article 8-1-1, Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws, since legislative action modified an existing bylaw. The OHSAA would ask the membership to ratify this change, which is as follows:

“During the period of time, and only if, a school district ceases to sponsor its entire interscholastic athletic programs, a student from that district may transfer to any other school district/system and have her/his eligibility restored upon application to the Commissioner’s Office. Furthermore, if the district from which such student transferred resumes with its sponsorship of interscholastic programs and the student wishes to transfer back to the district from which she/he transferred, she/he may do so and have her/his eligibility restored in accordance with Exception 6 of Bylaw 4-6-2, and notwithstanding Bylaw 4-7-3, provided the transfer back occurs prior to the start of the next school year following the school year in which resumption of sponsorship of interscholastic programs occurred.

“In consideration of all applications for the restoration of eligibility pursuant to this Exception, the Commissioner’s Office shall give due consideration to all factors relating to the transfer and particularly the timing of the transfer in relation to the effective date on which sponsorship of interscholastic athletics ceases and/or resumes.”

10.) **Bylaw 4-7-3, Transfers** – Modifies the bylaw by noting that the student that transfers within 50 miles is ineligible in that sport for the remainder of that sport’s season if the student participated in a regular season interscholastic contest (rather than the word “contest,” which would include a scrimmage or pre-view).

11.) **Bylaw 4-7-5, Transfers** – Adds a note to this bylaw, which is pursuant to state or federal statutes addressing unsafe schools or academically poor performing schools, that the student is entitled to one transfer only under the provisions of this bylaw.

Motion by Walt Skaggs, second by Rocco Nero to **approve** New Business Items VI. A., VI. B., VI. C., VI. D., VI. E., VI. F. and VI. G. as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

VII. NEW BUSINESS (OTHER)

A. Recommendation from the District Athletic Board Review Committee

Board member Teresa Alberts said the District Athletic Board Review Committee is seeking approval of an evaluation form that is to be used to evaluate district board secretaries and treasurers. Evaluation should be conducted annually no later than April, with the forms mailed to the OHSAA Office by June.

Motion by Dave Gray, second by Jose Hernandez to **approve** the evaluation form as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

B. Language for Game Contracts

Action on game contracts was deferred.

VIII. APPEALS

Board member Walt Skaggs served as the appeals hearing officer, while Board member Teresa Alberts was excused.

A. Football Regulation 4.41.3, Mr. Charles Ticknor III, re: An 8th-Grade Student, Jackson Middle School (Southeast District)

An eighth-grade student at Jackson Middle School has been invited to participate in a youth All-American game in January and the OHSAA has ruled that the student would be in violation of Football Regulation 4.41.3, which states that participation in tackle/contact football outside the school season is prohibited. The student’s father, Jake Betschel, and attorney Nicole Elps appealed the ruling so that the student can participate in the contest and other All-American game activities without penalties.

Motion by Jose Hernandez, second by Dave Gray to **deny** the appeal to permit the student to participate in the All-American game.

Motion passed 8-0.

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B. Bylaw 4-7-4 and 4-7-7, Transfers, Ms. Joi Yancy, re: Her Son, Grade 9, Youngstown Cardinal Mooney High School (Northeast District)

A ninth-grade student has transferred from Youngstown Ursuline High School to Youngstown Cardinal Mooney High School and has been ruled ineligible by the OHSAA for interscholastic athletics for one year from the date of the transfer because he does not meet any of the provisions of Bylaw 4-7-4 or Bylaw 4-7-7, Transfers. The student and his mother, Joi Yancy, appealed the ineligibility so that the student can participate in interscholastic athletics at Cardinal Mooney immediately.

Motion by Mike Rotonda, second by Steve Keller to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 8-0.

C. Bylaw 4-7-6, Transfers, Mr. Pete Laihr, Athletic Director, re: An 11th-Grade Student, Pickerington High School Central (Central District)

An 11th-grade student has transferred from Pickerington High School North to Pickerington High School Central in accordance with Bylaw 4-7-6, Transfers, and the student has been ruled ineligible by the OHSAA for interscholastic athletics for one year from the date of enrollment at Central because the stipulation that says the transfer must be requested and approved prior to the beginning of the school year was not met. Scott Reeves, the school's principal; Mike Smith, the school's director of student services, and Pete Paihr, the school's athletic administrator, appealed the ruling so that the student can participate in interscholastic athletics at Pickerington High School Central immediately.

Motion by Steve Stirn, second by Dave Gray to **approve** the appeal.

Motion passed 6-2 (Rocco Nero and Mike Rotonda dissented).

D. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Horne, re: Their Son, Grade 12, Portsmouth High School (Southeast District)

A 12th-grade student participated in basketball at Portsmouth High School during the 2008-09 school year even though he did not meet Exception 2 of Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers (the OHSAA never received documentation of a court ordered legal change of custody). The student transferred to Sandusky High School, and the OHSAA has ruled the student ineligible there because he has not met Exception 1 of Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers (the parents have not established residency within the school district). The parents have since transferred the student back to Portsmouth, but the OHSAA has ruled the student ineligible for interscholastic athletics at any member school since he does not meet any of the exceptions to Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers. The student's parents, Lee and Sarah Horne, appealed the ruling so the student can participate in interscholastic athletics at Portsmouth immediately.

Motion by Mike Rotonda, second by Rocco Nero to **deny** the appeal based on the information on hand.

Motion passed 8-0.

E. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Shields, re: Their Son, Grove City Christian High School (Central District)

A student transferred from Grove City High School to Grove City Christian High School in accordance with Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Exception 11 (school district completely discontinues its sports program), and the student was ruled ineligible by the OHSAA since he did not meet the stipulation that in order to participate in a sport at the school to which he transferred he must have played that sport the previous year at the school from which he transferred. The student's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Shields, appealed the ruling in writing and stated that the student did not play basketball at Grove City last year due to an illness.

Motion by Rocco Nero, second by Dave Gray to **approve** the appeal.

Motion passed 7-0 (Steve Keller absent from voting)

F. Bylaw 4-7-7, Transfers, Mr. Lincoln Kynard, re: His Daughter, Grade 10, Toledo Notre Dame Academy (Northwest District)

A 10th-grade student has transferred from Toledo St. Ursula Academy to Toledo Notre Dame Academy in accordance with Bylaw 4-7-7, Transfers, and the student has been ruled ineligible by the OHSAA for interscholastic athletics for one year from the date of enrollment at Notre Dame Academy because the stipulation that says the transfer must be requested and approved prior to the beginning of the school year was not met. The student and her father, Lincoln Kynard, and Pam Edgell, the school's athletic administrator, appealed the ruling so that the student can participate in interscholastic athletics at Toledo Notre Dame Academy immediately.

Motion by Mike Rotonda, second by Steve Zimmerman to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 6-1 (Dave Gray dissented; Walt Skaggs absent from voting).

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G. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Mr. and Mrs. William Walsh, re: Their Son, Grade 12, Chesterland West Geauga High School (Northeast District)

A 12th-grade student transferred from Chesterland West Geauga High School to Cleveland Benedictine High School per Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, and used old bylaw exception to gain athletic eligibility at Benedictine. The student has since transferred back to West Geauga and has been ruled ineligible for interscholastic athletics because he does not meet any of the exceptions to the transfer bylaw. The student's parents, William and Laura Walsh, and his aunt, Deborah Walsh, appealed the ineligibility so that the student can participate in interscholastic athletics at West Geauga.

Motion by Rocco Nero, second by Dave Gray to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 7-0 (Walt Skaggs absent from voting).

H. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Mr. Anthony Veira, re: His Son, Cleveland John Hay High School (Northeast District)

A student has transferred from Hunting Valley University School to Cleveland John Hay High School and has been declared ineligible by the OHSAA for interscholastic athletics for one year from the date of enrollment at John Hay in accordance with Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, because he does not meet the standards of Affidavit of Bona Fide Residence in Exception 1 of the bylaw. The student's parents, Anthony and Diana Veira, appealed the ineligibility so that the student can participate in interscholastic athletics at John Hay immediately.

Motion by Rocco Nero, second by Steve Zimmerman to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 8-0.

I. Bylaw 4-7-7, Transfers, Mr. Richard Gaskell, re: His Daughter, Canton Central Catholic High School (Northeast District)

A student has transferred from Canton Central Catholic High School to Louisville St. Thomas Aquinas High School and back to Canton Central Catholic in accordance with Bylaw 4-7-7, Transfers, and the student has been ruled ineligible by the OHSAA for interscholastic athletics for one year from the date of enrollment back at Central Catholic because the stipulation that says the transfer must be requested and approved prior to the beginning of the school year was not met. The student's father, Richard Gaskell, appealed the ruling so that his daughter can participate in interscholastic athletics at Central Catholic immediately.

Motion by Mike Rotonda, second by Jose Hernandez to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 8-0.

J. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Mr. Gregory J. Moore, Attorney, re: A Ninth-Grade Student, Hunting Valley University School (Northeast District)

A ninth-grade student has transferred from a non-public boarding school in Connecticut to Hunting Valley University School and has been ruled ineligible by the OHSAA for interscholastic athletics for one year from the date of enrollment at University School in accordance with Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, because the student does not meet any of the exceptions to the bylaw. The student's mother, Cathy Horton, attorney Gregory J. Moore and Ron Grant, athletic administrator at University School, appealed the ineligibility so that the student can participate in interscholastic athletics at University School immediately.

Motion by Dave Gray, second by Walt Skaggs to **approve** the appeal beginning with the 2010-11 school year.

Motion passed 8-0.

It was noted that the appeal was approved based on Bylaw 4-7-7, Transfers.

IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Board President Steve Stirn wished everyone a happy and healthy holiday season.

The Board unanimously approved a motion to **adjourn** the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

Bob Goldring, recorder.

FUTURE MEETINGS

(All meetings on Thursdays in the OHSAA Board Room at 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise stated.)
2010: January 14, February 18, April 1, May 13, June 10, August 5, September 9, October 21 (**note change from earlier published date**) and December 9.

