

**Kansas State High School Activities Association**

**Minutes**

**Appeal Board Meeting**

**KSHSAA Board Room**

**Friday, December 4, 2020**

The meeting of the Kansas State High School Activities Association Appeal Board was held via Zoom online meeting platform on Friday, December 4, 2020.

**Roll Call:**

Members present were Lori Barnes, Bill Day, Travis Githens, Jeff Koelzer, Sonya Martin, Tom Mitchell, David Morford, Jason Walker.

In accordance with **Bylaw Article VIII, Section 6**, no board members were excused due to conflict of interest.

All present Appeal Board members signed an Oath of Office.

**Call to Order:**

Tom Mitchell, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Tom Mitchell served as chairperson, David Morford served as vice-chairperson, Sonya Martin served as recording secretary and Jason Walker as alternate recording secretary. These officer positions will remain in place until such election is necessary.

**Purpose of Appeal:**

Chad & Alyssa Boaz, parents of students attending Erie/Galesburg USD 101 schools; Kayla Burr, parent of a student attending Macksville Junior High School; and Superintendent David Younger, USD 214 Ulysses and with support of the Great West Athletic Conference; each requested a hearing with the Appeal Board in order to review decisions made regarding spectator limitations at winter activities due to the Covid-19 Coronavirus. Subsequent to the appeal from these identified appellants, other requests for appeal have been received and the information provided by these individuals was shared with the appellants designated to appear before the Board.

The appeal is from the November 24, 2020 meeting of the KSHSAA Board of Directors. During this meeting, the Board made two determinations for spectator attendance during winter activities. The first was to implement a no spectator policy for high school activities basketball, bowling, scholars bowl, swimming & diving, and wrestling for the dates of December 1, 2020 through January 28, 2021. The second was to implement a no spectator policy for junior high/middle school activities basketball, bowling, scholars bowl, and wrestling for the dates of December 1, 2020 through January 28, 2021. The appellants request the appeal board recommend the board of directors modify both decisions to allow a limited number of spectators at all activities. The reasons for their request include medical necessity, student's minor status, local government control of pandemic requirements, and lack of KSHSAA authority to control regular season attendance limits.

**Appearing:**

Chad & Alyssa Boaz, parents, Erie  
Kayla Burr, parent, Macksville  
David Younger, Superintendent, USD 214, Ulysses  
Bill Faflick, Executive Director, KSHSAA

**Appeal Board Decision:**

The following motion was made by Appeal Board member Bill Day:

*“Because masks are already required for attendance at KSHSAA events, and because the science tells us that proper mask wearing and social-distancing effectively mitigate the risk of transmitting COVID-19, and because we believe that for several reasons, parents should attend their children’s activities, we propose the KSHSAA Board of Directors be reconvened for the purposes of reconsidering the decision to prohibit spectators at high school and junior high/middle school events through January 28, 2021 with a recommendation to allow for attendance of one or two parents/guardians per athlete.”*

A second was given by Jeff Koelzer, to approve the recommendation in accordance with **Bylaw VIII, Section 3**. The vote was 7 to 1 in favor of the recommendation.

The recommendation from the Appeal Board will be submitted to the Board of Directors during a meeting on Tuesday, December 8, 2020 for a final determination on the matter.

In addition to the above recommendation, Appeal Board member Bill Day moved for a statement of appreciation be given to the Board of Directors for their work to support Kansas students during the Covid-19 pandemic. A second was given by David Morford and a request for unanimous approval was made by Travis Githens. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.