



January 13, 2016

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**RE: Trevor Jones' Athletic Eligibility**

**Cindy Simmons**  
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The OSAA Eligibility Appeals Board (EAB) met Monday, January 11, 2016 to review the eligibility request waiver of OSAA Rule 8.6 *Transfer Without Change of Joint Residence* for Trevor Jones, whose athletic eligibility had been denied by the District Athletic Committee of the 3A Mountain Valley Conference. The hearing was conducted at the OSAA office in Wilsonville.

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The Appeals Board reviewed all of the written information that had been submitted on behalf of the student. In addition to the original information received by the District Athletic Committee, the EAB received letters of support from Matt Montgomery, Principal, La Pine H S, and Dave Kerr, Administrator, La Pine USA Mat Club; plus an Athletic Eligibility Weekly Grade Check Form dated 1/11/16. During the hearing, the Board listened to comments and testimony by Trevor Jones, the student; and Aaron Flack, Athletic Director/Wrestling Coach, La Pine H S. Following the dialogue and questions, the Eligibility Appeals Board convened into executive session.

**Marci McGillivray**  
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From the written documentation submitted and the oral testimony provided at the hearing, the Eligibility Appeals Board concluded the following:

**Findings of Fact:**

1. Trevor attended Fred Beyer H S in Modesto, CA his freshman year through October 26, 2015 of his sophomore year in high school. He moved to La Pine, OR to live with his mother and enrolled at La Pine H S on October 28, 2015 of his sophomore year. Trevor explained that he was getting into trouble at school, and had poor attendance and grades. When he was suspended from school for being in possession of and under the influence of marijuana his mother traveled to California to bring him to La Pine where she would provide consistent parenting and discipline.
2. Trevor has been involved in kickboxing and wrestling for years. He was excited to learn that La Pine H S has a wrestling program. Mrs. Smith, Trevor's mother, states that being involved in wrestling helps Trevor focus on academic success to participate, and Mr. Flack feels that staying involved in the wrestling program, even though he is not participating, has helped him stay focused on improving his grades and socializing with people that don't jeopardize his daily behavior. Trevor wants to take responsibility for his prior behavior and decisions and make a fresh start in La Pine. He shared that he would also like to participate in baseball in the spring and football next fall.
3. La Pine HS submitted an Eligibility Request to the 3A-Mountain Valley Conference District Athletic Committee the second week of November 2015. The DAC denied the eligibility request on November 19, 2015 and La Pine H S requested an appeal on January 7, 2016.

**Conclusions:**

The EAB may grant an exception to the transfer rule "when in its opinion there are circumstances beyond the control of each of the student and the student's parent(s), or other circumstances whereby enforcement of the rule would work an undue hardship upon the student." After reviewing the facts and

testimony presented, the EAB concluded that the decision to transfer Trevor from California where he was living with his father to La Pine to live with his mother was not made for athletic reasons, but was necessary and he is now where he belongs in a supportive, disciplined environment. Allowing Trevor to participate in wrestling at La Pine H S will enable him to continue in a positive direction academically and through future participation in baseball and football.

Therefore, the Eligibility Appeals Board voted (4-1) to grant Trevor athletic eligibility. Trevor Jones is eligible to participate in OSAA activities effective January 11, 2016.

It is our sincere hope that this waiver will be of benefit to the student.

Sincerely,



Brad Garrett

Assistant Executive Director

BG/ar

cc: Aaron Flack, Athletic Director, La Pine H S  
Paulette Smith, Parent  
Jordan Osborn, Asst. Principal, Creswell H S, 3A Mountain Valley Conference, DAC Chairperson