

Oklahoma governor asks OSSAA for reversal on decision to make 4 athletes ineligible

[Todd M. Adams](#)

Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt is unhappy with a decision made by the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association this week to make four transferring basketball players ineligible this winter.

The parents of the players are filing suit.

In short, it is a big mess.

The OSSAA board voted 12-0 to uphold the suspension this week, citing the fact that all four boys attended a team camp at their attended transfer destination, Glencoe High School, before they were enrolled at the school.

"They had involvement with the coach before they were enrolled — that's the problem," OSSAA assistant director Mike Clark said during the meeting.

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The four boys had all properly filed their one-time transfer exception application to the school during the transfer portal window in early summer.

"When I fought for open transfer, it was to ensure that every student in Oklahoma had equal opportunity to succeed," Stitt, the Oklahoma Governor, said in a statement. "For many students, athletics are an essential part of a well-rounded education.

"It is disappointing that OSSAA would continue to perpetuate a system that bars students from the opportunity to compete — especially when many students rely on the opportunity athletics provides to pursue higher education. I urge the OSSAA to reconsider their position and let all eligible students compete."

The four boys and their families plan to fight the decision.

"The rules keep on changing," Cristy Racy, the mother of junior Morrison transfer Cameron Racy, [told The Oklahoman's Nick Sardis](#). "The rules are very vague and so it can be applied in different ways, so it's very confusing as a parent.

"We are operating in good faith and want to follow the rules. My son made a choice to change his schools and he operated in the transfer policy. We submitted all the documentation needed. We feel like his eligibility should not be taken away."

Attorney Hannah Whitten is representing Glencoe.

"We are deeply disappointed in OSSAA's decision," Whitten said in a statement. "But we will not stop fighting for these students. This lawsuit is about holding OSSAA accountable to its own rules. The harm being done to these kids is real, immediate, and entirely avoidable."