

VASJ's Jeff Rotsky receives temporary restraining order to coach Friday in OHSAA football playoff game

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CLEVELAND, Ohio — Jeff Rotsky will coach Friday in Villa Angela-St. Joseph's first-round football playoff game against Hawken.

A Cuyahoga County judge granted a temporary restraining order Thursday against the Ohio High School Athletic Association, which suspended the Rotsky for three playoff games this year. The suspension was the result of an OHSAA investigation into alleged recruiting violations.

Rotsky's attorney, Ian Friedman, confirmed Judge Deborah M. Turner's decision in Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court.

"The restraining order was granted, allowing Coach Rotsky to continue coaching his team for the next couple of weeks until this matter is heard," Friedman said.

The OHSAA issued a \$5,000 fine to VASJ in September during its investigation. At the time, it said it was working with the school to determine the eligibility of players in question. Rotsky, who coached at Euclid the previous six years, took the VASJ job in December last year.

On Thursday last week, the OHSAA [ruled during its board of directors](#) meeting that Rotsky had "impermissible contact" with student-athletes during a basketball game last December. It also cleared a player in question, referring to an intra-system transfer exception in the OHSAA bylaws.

According to Friedman, the next hearing to address the OHSAA's suspension and the restraining order will be Nov. 8.

By that time, the OHSAA playoffs will be entering the regional semifinals.

VASJ (6-1) plays Hawken (5-5) on Friday in the Division IV, Region 13 playoffs. The winner faces Glenville (7-3) or Lisbon Beaver Local (7-3) on Nov. 5