

Patriots Appeal Denied

Written by Staff Reports

Friday, 28 October 2011 11:15

The Freedom High football team will be staying home during the state playoffs this season. The Patriots, who had five players ejected for fighting during last Friday night's game against Chase, were notified by the North Carolina

High School Athletic Association Tuesday afternoon that they were disqualified from the state playoffs.

Freedom officials appealed that decision, but the NCHSAA Executive Committee denied the school's appeal after a Thursday morning conference telephone call in Chapel Hill between committee members and Freedom principal Dr. Ken Prichard, athletic director Joey Davis and head football coach Mike Helms.

The statement released on Thursday by the NCHSAA read, in part: "The committee deliberated after hearing the Freedom appeal but upheld the decision that there were five ejections for Freedom according to NCHSAA rules related to fighting. That number would put Freedom over the allowable limit of ejections for fighting to be able to participate in postseason play."

The Patriots (9-1 and ranked eighth in the state in the Associated Press Top 10 Poll), who has exhausted their options for appeal, wrap up the season tonight against Patton.