

Rock Hill and **Fort Dorchester** will wrestle for the 5A state title after all. River Bluff **wrestling's** season is over.

The South Carolina High School League executive committee voted 11-0 to overturn the SCHSL decision to kick out **Fort Dorchester** from the 5A playoffs. With the ruling, the Patriots are back in and will wrestle **Rock Hill** for the state championship. A date and location have yet to be determined.

"Obviously, whenever one of our programs gets accused of things, no malice was ever intended, it is good to see the legislatures and principals get together and look out for what's better for the kids," **Fort Dorchester** athletics director Steve LaPrad said. "Our kids are excited, ready to wrestle for a state title."

The **Fort Dorchester wrestling** team and coaches gathered in the packed hearing room and let out a big sigh of relief when the verdict was announced.

Fort Dorchester defeated River Bluff, 41-26, on Feb. 7 in the Class 5A Lower State championship. But on Feb. 9, the SCHSL looked into the possibility of the Patriots using an ineligible wrestler.

SCHSL assistant commissioner Skip Lax said the league was made aware of the possible violation Jan. 31. Lax didn't say who sent the complaint, but it was likely from a rival school, based on information inferred during the hearing.

The complaint involved the residence of a **Fort Dorchester** freshman wrestler who is home-schooled.