

# Board of Directors Meeting

## September 30, 2009



The NMAA Board of Directors met in regular session today at the New Mexico Activities Association.

The Board began the meeting with discussion regarding a letter sent to all school board members in the state, by State Senators Timothy Jennings and John Arthur Smith on September 22, 2009. The letter details that a 10% reduction in the New Mexico educational budget maybe inevitable. Within the letter, it is written “we want to be clear with you that funding for education will have to be part of the solution to address this extreme fiscal crisis in order to address what we fear will be a \$550 million shortfall in the current budget.”

The NMAA Board of Directors discussed the seriousness of a 10% reduction in the educational budget. Several Board members expressed concerns that athletic and activity programs could be seriously impacted by a budget reduction of 10%.

The Board of Directors will meet in emergency session during the upcoming school superintendents meeting in October to address these concerns.

### ***Other action items included:***

The Board of Directors **tabled** two proposals for referenda. The first item to be **tabled** was to consider making cheer and dance/drill a sport versus an activity beginning with the 2010-2011 school year. The second action item to be **tabled** was a recommendation to clarify eligibility for Cyber School (Virtual School) students beginning with the 2009-2010 school year.

The Board of Directors **approved** the following action items:

**Approved** the establishment of a Finance committee to evaluate NMAA investment procedures.

**Approved** that boys and girls basketball district tournament games must be held separately, thus having separate admission prices.

**Approved** the seeding/selection process timelines for the future as the NMAA prepares to enter the 2010-2014 four year block. The NMAA has created four options to consider in revising the seeding/selection process.

*The four options are:*

- 1) Keep the current process of seeding/selection
- 2) Have the NMAA staff seed and select teams
- 3) Use a power rating system that would rate and ultimately seed and select teams.
- 4) Revert back to pre-determined match-ups with each district getting equal representation and having a smaller field in the state events.

*The timeline is as follows:*

- September 2009- discussion at the Commission and Board of Directors meetings.
- October 2009- discussion/ feedback at the Annual Meeting of schools.
- November 2009- Discussion at the Commission meeting
- December 2009- Preliminary vote by the Board of Directors based on feedback during the fall.

- January 2010- Review of feedback from member schools at Commission and Board of Directors meetings.
- March 2010- Board of Directors vote on NMAA staff recommendation based on written feedback from membership.
- June 2010- Finalized version of Seeding/Selection process for 2010-2014 voted on and approved by the Board of Directors.

**Approved** for referenda to strongly recommend that each student-athlete in New Mexico complete the on-line Life of An Athlete alcohol education curriculum beginning with the Fall 2010.

**Approved** for referenda to add NMAA bylaw 8.2.3 whereas Spirit coaches will be required to complete the NFHS/AACCA online safety education program beginning with the 2010-2011 school year.

**Approved** the restructuring of the tennis qualifying procedures, which will allow the tennis championships to start on Wednesday and keep the same number of athletes as the 2009 state championships.

**Approved** volleyball pool play on Thursday of the 2009 State Championships as per the Volleyball coaches of New Mexico.

**Approved** for referenda to move the softball pitching distance from 40' to 43' for the Spring 2010.

**Approved** the amending of the current NMAA bylaws concerning the reporting time after District Track & Field meets for A and AA schools. Class A and AA school representatives shall have a window of opportunity to declare participants and/or make adjustments for errors from Sunday at 5:00 PM through Monday at 11:00 AM. Class 3A-5A school representatives shall have a window of opportunity to Monday at 5:00 PM.

**Approve** the adding to NMAA bylaw 7.21.1 F that once a pole vault certification has been achieved, it is valid for a period of four years. This will be in effect as of Spring 2010.

The Board of Directors **did not approve** the following action item:

**Did not approve** seeding class A and AA basketball 1-16.

**Did not approve** the request from Clovis High School to allow Roswell High School to play one game over the maximum games allowed in the sport of boys basketball.

The Board of Directors will meet again in regular session on Thursday, December 3, 2009.