

NMAA COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, May 26, 2010
9:00 a.m., NMAA Conference Room A



- I. The NMAA Commission met on Wednesday, May 26, 2010, for their regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. Lawrence Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Ms. Alissa McCarthy, Administrative Assistant called roll and the following commissioners were present: Mr. Phillip Sategna (Large Area A); Mr. Lawrence Johnson (Large Area C); Mr. Tom Manning (Large Area D); Mr. Terry Martin (State School Boards Association) and Mr. Gary Frazier (Small Area D); Mr. Sam Olney (Small Area C); Mr. Keith Durham (Small Area B); Mr. Thomas Mabrey (New Mexico High School Coaches Association); Mr. Pete MacFarlane (Non-Public School Representative); Mr. Doug Santo (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors Association); Mr. Brian Stacey (Large Area B) and Mr. Scott Affentranger (National Association of Secondary School Principals) A quorum was declared and business before the Commission could be conducted. Absent were Ms. Debra Ledford (Small Area A); Mr. Jim Sayre (New Mexico Officials Association) and Mr. Don Gerheart (Activities Council);

Present from the NMAA was Ms. Sally Marquez, Associate Director and Mr. Mario Martinez, Associate Director.

Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented and Mr. Frazier seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The minutes from the March 3, 2010 meeting were presented. A motion was made by Mr. Olney to approve the minutes. Mr. MacFarlane seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Directors' Report – Mr. Tripp congratulated Mr. Sategna and Mr. Frazier for their state championship titles in softball and baseball. He stated the Spring championships were a major success.

He stated that the Foundation Golf Tournament will be held May 27th at the Belen Country Club. He stated last year they raised around \$15,000. This year there is a total of 27 teams playing in the morning and 20 in the afternoon.

Mr. Tripp passed out a handout regarding the number of tickets sold on Ticketleap, the NMAA's online vendor for state championship tickets. He stated 2% of the tickets sold goes to the NMAA Foundation, and 25 cents for every ticket sold goes back to the school if they are in a championship if they decided to be a part of that.

Mr. Tripp continued stating that the NMAA will be discussing Alignment and Classification and reminded the Commission to look at this from a global aspect, keeping the students of New Mexico in mind.

Mr. Tripp introduced the newest member to the NMAA, Mr. Randy Adrian. Mr. Adrian was previously the Athletic Director at Cleveland High School and will now be the newest Assistant Director overseeing Football. Lastly, Mr. Tripp thanked Mr. Mario Martinez for his 34 years of service to the students of New Mexico.

Mr. Mario Martinez stated that the state track and field championships were tremendous this year. He stated he feels New Mexico holds one of the best state track and field championships in the nation. He thanked all of those involved for their help in making this one a success. Mr. Martinez thanked the Commission for their service. He stated he prayed for God to give him wisdom through this career, he was blessed with a great coaching career, his children and grandchildren and six successful years at the NMAA. He is very excited for his retirement, to spend time with his kids, grandchildren and on the golf course.

Ms. Sally Marquez introduced Mr. Robert Zayas as the new NMAA Associate Director, taking over for Mr. Martinez. Mr. Zayas stated he has big shoes to fill yet he is very excited for this opportunity.

II. General Action Items- Consider mandating the mandatory pre-season meetings prior to all sports seasons to continue proper communication between the NMAA and its membership.

Mr. Tripp referred the Commission to page 10. He stated that these meetings have been a major success in the past. He stated he feels this allows for great communication between the NMAA and their member schools. He stated that the NMAA is making a new DVD for the upcoming school year. He stated it will include three sections, general information, individual sports information and general district information. He stated the new DVD will be given to the membership at the coach's clinic held in July.

Mr. Martin made a motion to accept this format with the additions to the format. Mr. Stacy seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

General Action Item- Consider removing the \$100 fine for coaches who are ejected and replacing it with mandatory NFHS online coaching courses that must be completed prior to coaching again after sitting out the mandatory one game suspension (Rule 7.7.2 B)

Mr. Tripp stated that the coaches throughout the state felt the \$100 fine was too much. He stated that for the first offense he is proposing instead of the \$100 fine for the first offense the coaches would do a professional development course to be completed on the NFHS website. He stated that this course costs \$20 and it takes around two hours to complete.

Mr. Martin made a motion to approve this proposal. Mr. Affentranger seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific Action Item- Baseball: Removal of the baseball protests as per the NFHS rules that allow for state associations to formulate their own procedures.

Mr. Dusty Young stated that the NFHS gives all state associations the option to allow for protests in the game of baseball. He stated that the only way a coach can protest during a game is if they think a rule has been misapplied. He stated that the protest must be submitted in writing to the NMAA within 72 hours. He stated within the last 5 years, there has only been 8 total protests. He stated that baseball is the only sport that allows for protests and it becomes rather tedious rescheduling games. The Sport Specific Committee is in agreement to rid protests in the game of baseball.

Mr. Mabrey made a motion to accept this proposal. Mr. MacFarlane seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific Action Item-Wrestling: Consider approving the wrestling qualifying system for the state event as per the Sports Specific Committee based on the number of schools participating in each classification.

Mr. Evans referred to page 14 of the packet. He stated that there are some adjustments that need to be made to class A-3A . In class A-3A, schools have a harder time maintaining wrestling programs therefore combining districts will help in an effort to eliminate districts with two or three schools.

Mr. Frazier made a motion to accept this proposal. Mr. Olney seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific Action Item- Soccer: Consider adjusting the yellow card rule in post season play whereas a player may receive a third yellow card prior to having sit out the next contests as opposed to the current rule of two yellow cards. (Rule 7.17.5 B2)

Mr. Zayas referred the Commission to page 15. He stated that he conducted a survey in the spring and 136 officials and coaches agreed that in post season, athletes should be allowed three yellow cards before having to sit out the next game. He stated as a team, 24 yellow cards during season are allowed and if a team received 32 yellow cards they are ineligible for post season play. He stated that because the format for state changed to four games including the first round the change seemed needed.

Mr. Martin made a motion to accept this proposal. Mr. Durham seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific Action Item- Basketball/Volleyball: Consider the possibility of eliminating playoff games to determine the first seed in the district tournament when two or more teams are tied for first place.

Ms. Marquez stated that the NMAA is looking for ways to cut costs for schools. She stated that playoff games after a tie for first place, most schools are losing money by putting on these games. If the elimination of these games is passed, the universal tie breaking procedures will be revised. She stated it would then come down to head to head competition. Teams usually are playing each other several other times within the season. Mr. Tripp commented stating that many coaches ask for more games but when do they ask for more class time (education). Ms. Marquez stated considering the economic times this could help schools with eliminating some costs.

Mr. Martin made a motion to accept this proposal. Mr. Affentranger seconded, the motion passed unanimously

Sport Specific Action Item- Basketball and Volleyball: Consider revisions in these sports tie-breaking procedures concerning head to head competition and the effect on district seeding. Based on the passing of the previous proposal, no discussion was conducted.

Mr. Martin made a motion to accept this proposal. Mr. Affentranger seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific Action Item- Swimming and Diving: Consider allowing the district championships to be held at any time prior to the state event (District would determine the date) (Rule 7.19.1 E)

Mr. Cleland stated that the Sports Specific committee is proposing districts being allowed to hold a district meet at any time during the season in an effort to save money. Current bylaws state that district meets are to be held a week or two before the state tournament, and no meets are to be held after a district meet has taken place. In this case district meets could be held the same time as the metro championships held in January. Meet limitations will still be in effect.

Mr. MacFarlane made a motion to table this proposal. Mr. Martin seconded, a vote was taken and the motion to table passed unanimously.

Sport Specific Action Item- Swimming and Diving: Consider allowing meets to be held after the district meets (Rule 7.2)

Mr. Cleland stated that most schools use the district meet as a last chance meet to get more qualifiers for state. He stated that this is a proposal for regular meets to be held after district meets however goes hand in hand with the prior proposal.

Mr. MacFarlane made a motion to table this proposal. Mr. Martin seconded, a vote was taken and the motion to table passed unanimously.

Sport Specific Action Item- Swimming and Diving: Consider allowing first and second place finishers in each event at the District Meets to automatically qualify.

Mr. Cleland stated that currently all other sports allow top finishers to automatically qualify. He stated, this could help with having more qualifiers to state, as most schools use it as a last chance meet for some of their weaker swimmers.

Mr. Mabrey made a motion to accept this proposal. Mr. Martin seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific Action Item- Golf: Consider removing the reference to “designated home course” from 7.16.3 A. 10. A and changing the language whereas a qualifier must have two of the three legs shot on at least two separate courses.

Mr. Cleland referred to the designated home course whereas a leg can qualify on a home course only one time, the other two must be on other courses.

Mr. Martin made a motion to accept this proposal. Mr. Durham seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific Action Item- Golf: Consider revising the bylaws whereas the district champion (teams or individuals) automatically qualify for state events only if they shoot a qualifying score.

Mr. Cleland stated that currently teams and individuals qualify several times for state. He stated that winners of the district tournament automatically qualify. However, in the past some teams have qualified even if they shoot a score lower than the qualifying mark.

Mr. Martin made a motion to accept this proposal. Mr. Olney seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific Action Item- Golf: Consider allowing the NMAA to do the seeding for the state event.

Mr. Cleland stated that currently there is not anything about seeding and selection in the Bylaws.

Mr. Martin made a motion to accept this proposal. Mr. Olney seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Commission took a 10 minute recess and re-convened at 10:28 AM

General Discussion Item- Review the seeding and selection and qualifying series documents for the 2010-2011 school year passed by the Board of Directors in March with a summary of feedback to the final vote at the June meeting.

Mr. Zayas referred the Commission to page 22 of the packet. He stated that the seeding and selection proposal received great feedback. 65% of the feedback was positive in regards to the NMAA staff to conduct the seeding and selection process. Some feedback includes less costs for the member schools and too much bias exists when statewide representatives seed and select therefore having the NMAA would eliminate that bias. The negative feedback included reference of the NMAA staff not being able to see all of the games, the current process has worked in the past and the coaches' association poll does not seem to be that accurate. Mr. Mabrey stated that the coaches association polls is only the top ten teams, many seed 12 and 16 so that could be a potential problem.

General Discussion Item- Review of the 2009-10 80-day count for all members schools with procedures for the 2010-11 school year if schools want to petition for adjustment in classification for the 2012-13 school year.

Mr. Zayas referred the Commission to page 23. Mr. Zayas stated that schools can petition the alignment and classification based on their 8th grade to 11th grade enrollment numbers. However, he stated that he hopes to have one meeting where all schools can petition that wish in an effort to keep from petitions from being submitted throughout the year. HE stated this process will take place after the 2 year block has been completed, however a school can only petition if and only if a school has lost number in enrollment and if they were to move down a classification 25% of the schools in that classification were larger in numbers than them. He stated there is also the possibility that if schools petition to be moved down a classification, the NMAA could have the authority to move schools up in classifications.

General Discussion Item- Current Bylaws Committee information with potential changes for the future.

Ms. Marquez stated that on page 27 are some potential changes to the NMAA Bylaws to be in effect starting the 2011-12 school year. Some include changing ineligibility period to 180 school days instead of 90 school days. Elimination of the "did not participate" in Class 3A-5A (as A-AA need players at this level), Foreign Exchange students can participate at the sub-varsity level only (including seniors), Foreign Students are ineligible for the varsity level for 180 school days. Alumni games are not considered a scrimmage and does not count towards a game limitation. She stated that these are potential changes that must be voted on by the Board of Directors.

General Discussion Item- Feedback on team football contact camps and current NMAA interpretation based on Rule 7.15.1 B4.

Mr. Zayas stated that the NMAA has become aware of teams attending football team contact camps whereas stated in the NMAA Bylaws, all athletes participating in football must wear and condition without pads for three days. He stated that there is a huge liability

issue. Schools and coaches need to be more informed on the safety regulations when it comes to athletes participating in contact camps.

General Discussion Item- Baseball: Clarification on shortened games, recording of scores and forfeitures.

Mr. Dusty Young referred the Commission to page 28. He stated that some additions to the Baseball rules are in regards to time limits. He stated that there is not a statewide limit rule for any level; it is up to the district. He stated that Forfeited games should be recorded at 10-0, NFHS regulations show it should be recorded as 7-0, and however the NMAA Handbook states 10-0. He stated he hopes this will clarify some mis-conceptions when it comes to recording scores.

General Discussion Item- Mid school Bylaws that need cleaning and clarification.

Mr. Gene Pino stated that the middle school handbook needed some changes made to it. He stated that some changes include no elementary student may play athletics at the middle school level. Age limitations for 6th-8th graders will be added to the Handbook so parents see this bylaw in both middle school and high school handbook. Recommendation for middle school coaches to attend the online coaches clinic for high school coaches will be made, the football mercy rule of the 35 pt running clock and game over once a team is ahead by 50 points will be in effect at the middle school level as well. The NFHS has recommended a lighter shot put at 6lb vs. the high school level shot put weighing 8lbs, he stated this will go to the track and field sport specific committee, and lastly splitting the basketball seasons of having boys starting in January and girls starting in December is a topic of discussion. These are all rules and regulations of middle school athletics that will be enforced or discussed heavily in the future.

General Discussion Item- The New Mexico Equities Act and progress for the future.

Ms. Sally Marquez stated that this Act is in full force starting this fall, August 2010. She stated that she and Gary met with the PED and because the A.D.'s of the NMAA member schools are familiar with the NMAA website, the NMAA will form a database for the athletic directors to enter information needed for the Equities Act. However she did state that the NMAA is still in need of funding for this program in order to do so.

General Discussion Item- Life of An Athlete

Mr. Robert Zayas stated that the online curriculum will be launched at the end of July. He stated that there will be a press conference for this program on July 28th in hopes to reach all parents and students within New Mexico as well as nationwide. He stated that New Mexico will be the first state to have an online curriculum for student athletes as well as their parents informing them about the dangers of alcohol and the effect alcohol has on their athletic performance. This online curriculum includes a pre survey and a post survey, the Board of Directors will vote at their next meeting as to whether to make this a mandatory program for all student athletes to take prior to participating in their sport season.

General Discussion Item- The organization of a Native American basketball tournament sponsored by an organization called SEED.

Mr. Gary Tripp stated SEED is a non-profit that serves the Native American community. He stated that out of all Native American students, 80% who start school do not finish. He stated that this program is trying to motivate these students to stay in school and move on to receive a college degree. He stated that the NMAA is hoping to help this organization put on a basketball tournament to help motivate these kids by providing them with opportunities to participate in athletics. He stated that Mr. Martinez is looking to help be

the director of this tournament this year in hopes other athletics directors will take over and have a positive impact on their community.

General Discussion Item- Activities Update

Ms. Kristin Derr stated that it has been a busy couple of months. She stated that Spirit was a huge success in March. This year the NMAA will be holding a mandatory meeting for all coaches at the annual coaches' clinic. She stated that the NMAA has looked at the Bylaws and is in the process of editing them to be spirit specific. She stated that State Band was a huge success, this year she had forty-two bands register. Other activities going on included Scholastic Publication, Chess, Athletic Training and several other activities had their state competitions that received tremendous turnout. She added that BPA and Rodeo are coming up to which she will be attending. Lastly, Ms. Derr mentioned that over the summer she and some other NMAA staff members will conduct "tryouts" for national anthem singers. She stated she hopes to then have a list of national anthem singers the NMAA can use throughout the year at the many different events where national anthem singers are needed.

General Discussion Item- 2010-2011 Calendar

Mr. Zayas stated that the new 2010-2011 calendar has been released and will be posted soon on the website for view.

General Discussion Item-Update on newest version of the NMAA reporting system and database known at MVP 2.1.

Mr. Zayas stated that this version will be an upgraded version of the current database the NMAA uses. He stated that this will be more user friendly and hopes to have new features such as a mass email system where athletic directors throughout the state can email others throughout the state.

General Discussion Item-Review the current information on Sports Medicine including but not limited to the Concussion Law, CPR and the Heat Index.

Mr. Gary Tripp stated that the Concussion Law is to become effective Fall 2010. He stated that the State Legislature passed the Senate 1 bill with the NMAA being named the enforcer of this bill. He stated that the NMAA is working with the Brain Institute, the PED and the Athletic Training Association in an effort to accomplish a protocol for concussions. He stated that the meetings will entail discussion regarding protocol for a game when a student is diagnosed with a concussion, the law states an athlete is out for seven days automatically once they are diagnosed, coaches will be required to take a course through an NFHS online program and become certified in this area. He stated that the Concussion Law will be part of the physical form where the parent and student/athlete must sign off that they understand there is a protocol in place for concussions. EMT's will also help with this training for coaches. He stated that by on June 16th, a protocol will be made available in time for the NMHSCA Clinic.

- V. Mr. Johnson informed the Commission that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 15, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.
- VI. A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Martin. It was seconded by Mr. Olney and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.