

NMAA Commission Meeting
May 18, 2022
9:00 AM
Hall of Pride and Honor

Welcome – The meeting was called to order by Mr. Ernie Viramontes at 9:01 am. A roll call was conducted by Ms. Alissa Wesbrook, NMAA Assistant to the Executive Director, and the following members were present:

Mr. Kamau Turner (Small, Area A)
Mr. Ben Tensay (Large Area A)
Mr. Dickie Roybal (Small, Area B)
Mr. Cooper Henderson (Large, Area B)
Mr. Jory Mirabal (Small, Area C)
Mr. Ernie Viramontes (Large, Area C - Chair)
Ms. Robbie Robinson (Small, Area D)
Ms. Ann Stewart (Large, Area D)
Mr. Willie Owens (Non-Public Schools)
Mr. Thomas Mabrey (New Mexico High School Coaches Association)
Mr. Scott Affentranger (New Mexico Association of Secondary School Principals)
Mr. Larry Chavez (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors Association)
Mr. Dale Lindley (Jr. High/Middle School Committee)
Mr. Donald Valdez (New Mexico State School Boards Association)
Ms. Mary Hahn (Activities Council) **via teleconference*

15 members were present representing a quorum.

Not Present:

Mr. Jess Martinez (New Mexico Officials Association)

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Lindley made a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Stewart seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2022, NMAA Commission Meeting as presented. Mr. Turner made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Valdez seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

NMAA Director's Report:

Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, discussed five (5) items on his report: 1) welcomed to the Commission Mr. Donald Valdez representing the New Mexico State School Boards Association; 2) thanked the Commission for their service to the students of New Mexico; 3) provided information on the NMAA Foundation Golf Tournament which will be held on June 13th at Tanoan Country Club; 4) thanked Rio Rancho Public Schools, ABQ Academy and APS for the use of their facilities during spring championships; and 5) asked for feedback regarding the state softball championships and possible venue changes. The group was open to looking at other options and asked that the NMAA also look at other championships held in mid-May on the day that the University of New Mexico holds its graduation because of the logistical challenges that result from an event of that magnitude. Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, also mentioned that the University of New Mexico's facilities will not be available for the 2022 state soccer championships.

NMAA Financial Report:

Ms. Shari Kessler-Schwaner, NMAA Business Manager, presented the financial report. She discussed four (4) items on her report: 1) presented ticket sales reports for 2021-2022 with comparisons to the NMAA's last full year (2018-2019); 2) stated that full box reports for all championships will be available at the next meeting; 3) reported that digital ticketing went well throughout the year; and 4) stated that the annual NMAA audit will take place over the summer.

NMAA Activities Report:

Ms. Tammy Richards, NMAA Assistant Director, presented the activities report. She discussed three (3) items on her report: 1) reported that all activities have concluded for the 2021-2022 school year with participant numbers increasing in most; 2) provided information on Powerlifting and the success of the state event; and 3) stated the next Activities Council meeting will take place at the beginning of September.

New Mexico Officials Association Report:

Mr. Zac Stevenson, Commissioner of Officials, presented the officials report. He discussed five (5) items on his report: 1) provided an update on the development of a curriculum for official's training and education – Mr. Mabrey asked that coaches be allowed to take part in committee work for this initiative; 2) stated the NMOA Board approved several constitution/bylaw revisions which will be effective July 1st; 3) reported that DragonFly training sessions will take place throughout the summer with some virtual and some in-person by region; 4) stated that the new regional assignor selection process was underway; and 5) provided information regarding a possible change to officials' fees pertaining to mileage and per diem.

Discussion/Informational Items:

Scheduling / DragonFly - Ms. Marquez provided an update on Dragonfly and schedule submission via this new platform. A virtual training for business officials and other school personnel that will utilize the payment features within DragonFly will be held on May 26th. In-person trainings will also be held in June in locations across the state and in July during the NMHSCA Clinic. More information will be forthcoming.

Classification & Alignment Update - Ms. Marquez provided an update on the work of the Bylaws Committee regarding Classification & Alignment. She stated that the group is reviewing the use of possible success factors to move schools down in classification. The process used in Oregon does this based on overall records and final rankings over a set period of time. The committee and NMAA staff will continue to explore this and other options for future classification and alignment proposals.

Administrative Presence at Contests - Ms. Marquez discussed sportsmanship issues and the possibility of bringing back the requirement that an administrator or designee be present for all athletic contests. Although the group felt it may be hard to cover all events at all levels, feedback was still that this should be included in NMAA bylaws and recommended that a proposal regarding this topic be presented to the Board of Directors.

Track & Field: FAT for Class A-3A - Ms. Marquez reminded the Commission that Fully Automatic Timing will be a requirement for all track and field state qualifying events in Class A-3A beginning next school year (2022-2023). Schools are encouraged to purchase the necessary equipment on a regional basis to limit the expenses that may be incurred due to this new requirement.

Out-Of-Season Coaching: New Bylaws - Ms. Marquez stated the deadline for the referenda that would update Out-Of- Season coaching bylaws is tomorrow, May 19th. If the item passes, the NMAA will propose additional bylaws and/or clarifications to the Board of Directors to ensure recruiting/undue influence and other organizational philosophies regarding multi-sport participation and offseason

workouts are still intact. This would include severe sanctions for violations to offseason, following a coach, and undue influence bylaws and adding Director's Cup points for multi-sport participation.

Football: Parameters to Host Finals - Mr. Young stated that the Football Sports Specific Committee recommended that certain parameters must be met in order for schools to host a state championship football final. These parameters may include things like sufficient seating, adequate restroom and locker room facilities, and ADA compliance. A small committee of coaches and athletic directors will be created to discuss this in more detail. The group supported this initiative as long as the parameters set could be easily attained through either temporary or permanent updates/changes to school facilities.

Action Items:

Football: State Qualifiers for 8-Man Playoffs - Mr. Young presented a proposal to consider adjusting the number of qualifiers for the 8-Man State Football playoffs from 6 to 8 starting with the 2022-2023 school year (2022 football season). Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Mabrey made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Chavez seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Football: Coaches Education Update - Mr. Young presented a proposal to update bylaw 7.15.1.K Coaches Education to read as follows: Football Coaches must complete the NFHS Learn Football Tackling Course. It is the responsibility of the school district to ensure that each coach has this certification, which is current for four (4) years from the date of completion. This requirement is for ALL middle school/junior high and high school coaches. *Note- Coaches that have previously taken the USA Football Heads Up Course do not need to take the new course until their original certification expires (expiration is 4-years from the date of completion). Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Henderson made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Lindley seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Wrestling: Standardized Point Value for District Duals - Mr. Scott Owen, NMAA Assistant Director, presented a proposal to add to the match/meet limitation rule a standardized point value for conducting each district's district dual meet requirement. 7.24.1.D Match/Meet Limitation- Each varsity team/individual is limited to thirty-two (32) competition points prior to the regional tournament. Competition points are as follows (See bylaw 9.8.12.B for middle school/junior high competition limits): Dual Meet- 1 point; Double Dual/Triangular-2 points; Quad/One-Day Tournament-3 points; District Dual Meet Requirement for districts with 6 or fewer schools- 3 points; Two-Day Tournament with Single or Double Elimination-4 points; District Dual Meet Requirement for districts with 7-8 schools- 4 points; District Dual Meet Requirement for districts with 9 or more schools -5 points and Two-Day Multi-School Event with No/Limited Elimination- 6 points. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Turner made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Owens seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

NMHSCA: All Star Games - Mr. Buster Mabrey, NMHSCA Executive Director, presented a proposal to edit Bylaw 7.6.22.C and eliminate Bylaw 7.6.22.D (which stated "games must be held after the academic completion of the respective school year unless specific games are approved by the NMAA Commission & NMAA Board of Directors on a yearly basis). Bylaw 7.6.22.C shall now read as follows: Only current seniors that are academically eligible per NMAA standards and on pace to graduate may participate. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Turner made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Lindley seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Seeding/Selection: Tiebreaker Criteria Change - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to update Bylaw 7.11.3 NOTE to read as follows: In the event of a tie among criteria points, head-to-head will be used to break the tie. If there is no head-to-head competition, or the head-to-head competition is tied, then MaxPreps Strength of Schedule shall be used to break the tie. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Chavez made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Tensay seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Powerlifting: Sanction as Sport - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to elevate powerlifting from temporary activity status to a fully sanctioned NMAA winter sport beginning with the 2022-2023 school year. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Mabrey made a motion to again sanction Powerlifting as an activity in 2022-2023 and then elevate it to a sport beginning with the 2023-2024 school year. Mr. Tensay seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Mr. Lindley addressed the Commission, stating this would be his last meeting and asking the NMAA and school leaders to continue to emphasize the importance of education-based athletics/activities, while also placing more focus on sports/activities at the middle school / junior high level.

Mr. Viramontes noted that in addition to this being Mr. Lindley's last meeting, it would also be the final meeting for Mr. Turner and Mr. Chavez. He thanked all three for their service to the Commission and to the students of New Mexico. Mr. Viramontes also thanked the NMAA and all Commission members for their work throughout the 2021-2022 school year.

Consider Adjournment

Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:56 a.m. Mr. Chavez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Lindley seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).