

**NMAA Board of Directors' Meeting**  
**September 7, 2022**  
**10:30 a.m.**  
**Hall of Pride and Honor**

Welcome - Meeting called to order by Mr. Travis Dempsey, NMAA Board of Directors Acting President, at 11:02 a.m. Ms. Alissa Wesbrook, NMAA Assistant to the Executive Director, conducted roll call and the following members were present:

Mr. Matt Moyer (Small Area B)  
Mr. Gene Strickland (Large Area B)  
Mr. Travis Dempsey (Large Area C - Acting President)  
Mr. Lee White (Small Area D)  
Dr. Arsenio Romero (Large Area D)  
Mr. Scott Elder (Large School District I)  
Mr. Ralph Ramos (Large School District II)  
Mr. Martin Madrid (At-Large)  
Mr. Ernie Viramontes (NMAA Commission)  
Mr. Marvyn Jaramillo, (New Mexico School Boards Association)

Not Present:

Dr. Kim Mizzell (Large Area A)  
Mr. David Lackey (Small Area C)

10 members were present representing a quorum.

**Approval of the Agenda:**

Mr. Dempsey asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Jaramillo made the motion to approve the agenda. Mr. White seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (10-0).

**Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Dempsey asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2022, Board Meeting. Mr. Moyer made a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Romero seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (10-0).

**NMAA Director's Report:**

Ms. Sally Marquez, Executive Director, presented the Executive Director report. She discussed two (2) items on her report: 1) stated fall sports have begun and are going well; and 2) reported that she has begun her term as NFHS Board President.

**NMAA Financial Report:**

Ms. Shari Kessler-Schwamer, NMAA Business Manager, presented the NMAA Financial Report. She discussed two (2) items: 1) provided box reports and ticket sales information for all state championships held during the 2021-2022 school year; and 2) stated that the annual audit for 2021-2022 should be finalized within the next couple weeks with a final report presented to the Board at its December meeting. Mr. Ramos asked for clarification regarding membership dues and requested more information regarding this, especially that for middle schools.

**NMAA Activities Report:**

Ms. Tammy Richards, NMAA Assistant Director, presented the NMAA Activities Report. She discussed three (3) items on her report: 1) stated that State One Act Play would be held in the Fall with all other state activity events taking place in the Spring; 2) provided information regarding the annual Activities Council Meeting which was held in early September; and 3) reported that the NMAA has continued its partnership with Western New Mexico University which provides scholarships to students participating in each NMAA activity. Mr. Ramos asked for clarification regarding eligibility for students participating within activities and also stated that the membership should emphasize the importance of these programs and place more focus on funding them.

### **New Mexico Officials Association Report:**

Mr. Zac Stevenson, NMAA Commissioner of Officials, presented the NMOA Report. He discussed six (6) items on his report: 1) provided an update on current officials numbers which have increased for Fall sports but are still down slightly compared to pre-pandemic years; 2) reported that Dragonfly trainings have been ongoing since the summer months and the NMAA will continue to provide individual support as needed; 3) recapped the fall assignor/A.D. meetings that were held in an effort to identify dates with officials scheduling problems so that these could be addressed in advance; 4) stated that the NMOA State Clinic took place in July and was a success; 5) reported on the work of the NMOA Board and its efforts to remove barriers and lessen administrative requirements for officials; and 6) provided information regarding the new statewide officials' curriculum that has been created for schools to offer sports officiating as an elective for its students

### **Discussion Items**

NMOA Mileage Rings - Mr. Stevenson provided information regarding a new mileage system that the NMOA would like to propose in the future with the change helping to improve the process of paying officials while also providing more equitable fees to everyone within the contest crew. Feedback included concerns with the increase in expenses, especially for districts that have multiple schools or smaller schools, and the need for Superintendents to receive this change as soon as possible so they can be sure to include it in their budgets.

2023-2024 Calendar - Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, provided information regarding the calendar for the 2023-2024 school year. She stated that sports seasons will look like they are starting later than normal due to where July 1st falls. Schools will need to plan accordingly for the dates used to schedule based on a 2-year block.

Music License for State Playoffs - Ms. Marquez reported that the NFHS has placed an emphasis on public performance music licenses for state associations and school districts. Lawsuits have been filed against many schools across the country for failure to obtain these licenses prior to playing music during athletic contests and other school events. She stated that the NMAA will need to address this soon for early round playoff games that are held at host school sites. She also reported that the NFHS has a contract through ASCAP, which will cover all schools if a member of the NMAA, but that this agreement will expire within the next few months.

CPR Requirement for Coaches - Ms. Marquez stated that the NMAA has been researching coach requirements within states across the country and has found that the majority do have a CPR requirement either through the state association or department of education. Currently First Aid is required for renewal of licenses. Feedback was that this may be a good idea but there were concerns with cost, how this is done, if this should be all coaches or just head coaches, and if this should be individual school district discretion.

Middle School Championships - Ms. Marquez discussed the possibility of holding state championships for middle schools and stated that this has been implemented in other states to enhance middle school athletics, increase participation, bring more meaning to middle school sports, and ensure the association can provide additional support to these programs. Mr. Young added sanctioning brought more middle schools into the association and more students participating in other states around the corner where these events have been implemented. Feedback included concerns pertaining to student eligibility and losing sight of the true importance of development of skills at the middle school level.

Collaborative Summer Clinic - Ms. Marquez discussed the idea of holding a larger statewide clinic during the summer that would include the New Mexico High School Coaches Association, the New Mexico Officials Association, the New Mexico Athletic Directors Association, the NMAA, and student leaders from schools across the state. It is felt that bringing these groups together will help build and improve relationships for all stakeholders while also helping to ensure collaboration in addressing the current challenges within interscholastic athletics and activities. The NMAA is currently looking for venues that can accommodate these numbers.

Parent Appeals - Ms. Marquez discussed parent appeals and possible adjustments to NMAA policies to clean up this process and hopefully decrease the amount currently being heard by the Appeals Committee and Board of Directors. Feedback included possible changes that would require more school involvement, charging filing fees to parents for appeals, adding more specified language as to what information can be disclosed at each level, and providing more education to parents regarding student eligibility.

Sportsmanship / Compete with Class - Ms. Marquez discussed sportsmanship and referenced some of the serious incidents that have taken place both on the field and in the stands over the last year. She stated that the Oklahoma Association has updated sportsmanship bylaws because of similar concerns and the new policies could lead to postseason bans for schools/programs that have multiple incidents take place during the same season/school year. Feedback included continued discussion regarding this matter.

Definition of Practice - Ms. Marquez asked for feedback regarding a contradiction that was found within the NMAA Handbook that pertains to the definition of practice and how tryout periods are handled to determine student eligibility. Ms. Marquez added this will be brought to the Bylaws Committee for further review.

### **Action Items**

Non-Scholastic Events During NMAA Playoffs - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to amend Bylaw 7.6.8 (Season Ends) to read as follows: A season ends when a team/individual does not qualify for, or is eliminated from, post season competition (playoffs, district, and/or state tournament). Once post-season play has begun or state tournament seeding and selection has taken place, no regular season or non-scholastic games/matches/events can be scheduled/played in the same sport. At the sub-varsity level, the regular season concludes at the end of regular season competition. Mr. Dempsey asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Dr. Romero made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (10-0).

Golf: State Qualifiers - Mr. Tyler Dunkel, NMAA Assistant Director, presented a proposal to change the state qualifying process in the sport of Golf to include the following:

- **Team Qualifying:** Teams must compete in a minimum of five regular season tournaments, recording a team score in those tournaments to be eligible for the State Tournament. If a District does not have a District Champion for either boys or girls, the next team in the iWanamaker rankings will be used to fill the remaining team slots at State. If a school participates in more than 5 tournaments, only their top 5 events will be used to calculate rankings. The District Tournament does not count towards the minimum five tournaments needed to be eligible for State.
- **Individual Qualifying:** The individual District Champions will automatically qualify for State if they are not on a qualifying team. Individuals need to participate in a minimum of five regular season tournaments. Only the individuals top-5 tournaments of the year will count in the iWanamaker rankings. The District Tournament does not count towards the minimum five tournaments needed to be eligible for State.
- **Maximum Score:** Maximum Score will be used in all regular season, District and State Championships.
- **Tie Breaking Procedure for First Place Team at State:** The Head Coach will select three golfers from his/her team to participate in the team playoff. The two teams will tee off from a hole to be determined.

Mr. Dempsey asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. White made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Ramos seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (10-0).

Tennis: State Qualifiers - Mr. Scott Owen, NMAA Assistant Director, presented a proposal to reduce the number of individual state qualifiers (singles/doubles) from 20 to 16 in the sport of tennis. Mr. Dempsey asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Viramontes made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Ramos seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (10-0).

**Executive Session**

Mr. Dempsey asked for a motion to go into Executive Session at 12:53 p.m. to discuss financial, personnel, and pending/possible legal matters. Mr. Strickland made the motion to enter Executive Session. Mr. Viramontes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously (10-0).

Yes/For	No/Against	Board Member Name
Yes		Mr. Matt Moyer (Small Area B)
Yes		Mr. Gene Strickland (Large Area B)
Yes		Mr. Travis Dempsey, Acting President (Large Area C)
Yes		Mr. Lee White (Small Area D)
Yes		Dr. Arsenio Romero (Large Area D)
Yes		Mr. Scott Elder (Large Schools District I)
Yes		Mr. Ralph Ramos (Large School District II)
Yes		Mr. Martin Madrid (At-Large)
Yes		Mr. Ernie Viramontes (NMAA Commission)
Yes		Mr. Marvyn Jaramillo (New Mexico School Boards Association)

Mr. Dempsey asked for a motion to exit out of Executive Session at 1:53 p.m. Mr. Dempsey stated no action was taken in Executive Session. Mr. White made the motion to exit out of Executive Session. Mr. Viramontes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously (10-0).

Yes/For	No/Against	Board Member Name
Yes		Mr. Matt Moyer (Small Area B)
Yes		Mr. Gene Strickland (Large Area B)
Yes		Mr. Travis Dempsey, Acting President (Large Area C)
Yes		Mr. Lee White (Small Area D)
Yes		Dr. Arsenio Romero (Large Area D)
Yes		Mr. Scott Elder (Large Schools District I)
Yes		Mr. Ralph Ramos (Large School District II)
Yes		Mr. Martin Madrid (At-Large)
Yes		Mr. Ernie Viramontes (NMAA Commission)
Yes		Mr. Marvyn Jaramillo (New Mexico School Boards Association)

**Consider Adjournment:**

Mr. Dempsey asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:56 p.m. Mr. Moyer made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Madrid seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (10-0).

**The next Board Meeting will be scheduled for December 1, 2022**