

NMAA Commission Meeting
September 9, 2015
9:00 AM
NMAA Office

Welcome – The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bruce Carver at 9:00 am. A roll call was conducted by Mrs. Mindy loane, NMAA Graphic Designer/Special Event Coordinator, and the following members were present:

Mr. Todd Kurth (Small, Area A)
Mr. Wayne Ferguson (Small, Area B)
Mr. Gary Schuster (Small, Area C)
Mr. Dave Campbell (Small, Area D)
Mr. Pete MacFarlane (Non-Public School Rep.)
Mr. Cooper Henderson (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors Association Rep.)
Mr. Jess Martinez (New Mexico Officials Association Rep.)
Mr. Scott Affentranger (National Association of Secondary School Principals Rep.)
Mr. Bruce Carver (Large, Area A)
Mr. Greg Haston (Large, Area B)
Mr. Ernie Viramontes (Large, Area C)
Mr. Kenny Barreras (Large, Area D)
Ms. Jennifer Viramontes (State School Boards Association Representative)
Mr. Thomas Mabrey (New Mexico High School Coaches Association Rep.)
Mr. Don Gerheart (Activities Council Member)
Ms. Debbie Coffman (Jr. High/Middle School Rep.)

16 members present representing a quorum.

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Carver asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Schuster made the motion to approve the agenda. Mr. MacFarlane seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Carver asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2015 Commission Meeting as presented. Mr. Viramontes made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Affentranger seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Election of Commission Chairperson:

Mr. Carver asked the members for nominations for the position of NMAA Commission Chairperson. Mr. Cleland informed the members that the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson are elected for a two year term. Mr. Kurth nominated Mr. Carver to retain the position as Chairperson of the NMAA Commission. Mr. Affentranger seconded the nomination. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Election of Commission Vice-Chairperson:

Mr. Carver asked the members for nominations to serve as NMAA Commission Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Affentranger nominated Mr. Viramontes to serve as NMAA Commission Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Carver seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

NMAA Directors' Report:

Mr. Bill Cleland, NMAA Associate Director, discussed five (5) items during his report: 1) He welcomed Ms. Jennifer Viramontes to the Commission. She has replaced Mr. Terry Martin as the State School Boards Association Representative; 2) discussed the timeframe for the upcoming Classification and Alignment procedure reminding members that the 40 day counts should be submitted to the NMAA office on October 14th, the same day as the Public Education Department reporting requirement; 3) announced that problems associated with email delivery to the NMAA as a result of switching internet providers from Time Warner to CenturyLink are expected to be cleared up by this afternoon; 4) announced that some Commission members received golf bag tags and asked them to deliver to their golf coaches, and 5) thanked Ms. Ioane for creating the 2014-2015 NMAA State Championship PowerPoint slide show that was being displayed during the meeting.

Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, discussed three (3) items on his report: 1) Potential options for 6-man, 8-man and 2A 11-man football as we move toward the next classification/alignment block; 2) updates on the NMAA Foundation including the hiring of Independent Contractor, Carolyn Folkman, to help grow the Foundation endeavors and an update on the 9th Annual Golf Classic and the 3rd Annual Foundation Fun Run which were both held since the last Commission meeting, and 3) reminded members of the upcoming 2015 NMAA/NMADA Fall Leadership Conference to be held October 4-6, 2015 at the Albuquerque Marriott Pyramid Hotel. The registration deadline is September 18th and the hotel reservation deadline is September 12th. Mr. Young reminded members that the Fall Conference is being held the same week as the International Balloon Fiesta so hotel reservations should be made as soon as possible.

NMAA Activities Report:

Ms. Dana Pappas, NMAA Deputy Director, discussed six (6) items on her report: 1) The Activities Council meeting that was held on September 1st via teleconference. She asked Council members to submit participation numbers to the NMAA office by September 15th for an Activities Participation report; 2) announced that all activities dates are posted in the NMAA calendar on the NMAA website with information for each activity on their respective web page; 3) she informed the members that Activities groups have mentioned difficulties in obtaining transportation for state activities due to conflicts with athletics and she asked that Athletic Directors check their calendars and share information with all pertinent parties; 4) informed members that the majority of activities take place after Winter Break with the exception of One-Act Play which is at the end of October; 5) state music events will take place at Volcano Vista High School and Cleveland High School, and 6) Ms. Marquez has had discussions regarding home school team participation and aligning all sanctioned activities constitutions' with NMAA bylaws.

NMOA Officials Report:

Ms. Dana Pappas, NMAA Commissioner of Officials, discussed four (4) items during her report: 1) Gave a recap of the 9th Annual Referee Educational Forum (over 500 officials participated in local camps and camps in Colorado, Arizona and Texas); 2) discussed recruitment/retention strategies, commending Greg Haston (Hobbs), Darren Kelley (Clovis) and Mark Gallegos (Portales) for development of soccer officiating groups in those areas; 3) announced that there is still a shortage of officials in all sports with football being a major challenge since everyone wants to play under Friday night lights, NE, NW, and SE being the hardest hit spreading the financial burden of mileage payment, and 4) planning is in process for the first ever Baseball Umpire Education Forum in Las Cruces in January which will include developing a baseball training and education committee and will use the same model as other sports.

General Discussion/Information Items:

Open Enrollment Choice: Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, asked the committee for feedback regarding the idea of eliminating the open enrollment choice bylaw. The committee discussed various options to open enrollment choice and asked Ms. Marquez for a draft proposal (structure) that Ms. Marquez can present to the NMAA Board of Directors during their September 23rd meeting.

Moving up a Class in Sport: Ms. Marquez asked the committee for feedback on a proposal that would allow schools that dominate in a specific sport to move up a class, or classes, for that particular sport. The members discussed the proposal and asked for criteria or a formula to be developed to justify a school's upward movement. Ms. Marquez will survey Athletic Directors during the NMAA/NMADA Fall Leadership Conference on this issue.

Out of Season Coaching: Ms. Marquez asked members for their opinion regarding the Out of Season Coaching bylaw. Members discussed the pros and cons of the bylaw, the importance of time away from the coach and the value of the multi-sport athlete, especially within smaller schools. They also discussed the importance of the 7.5 hours of contact rule, the value of education-based coaches and of continuing to enforce the bylaw. They also talked about teams who wear uniforms with school names and whether or not they are actually an extension of the school team.

Strength of Schedule: Ms. Marquez brought this item to the committee at the request of an Athletic Director who would like Strength of Schedule as criteria for selection/seeding. The members discussed the fact that strength of schedule is already a component of the MaxPreps ranking process.

Break 10:30 – 10:40

Soccer: State Tournament Practice Proposal: Mr. Luis Villalobos, Santa Teresa Soccer Coach (with Ms. Karen Nougues, Athletic Director of Gadsden Schools and Ms. Lorraine Soriano, Santa Teresa Athletic Director also present), asked the members to consider a proposal that all non-Albuquerque Public Schools teams that qualify for the NMAA State Soccer Championships be allowed/offered one practice session at the APS Soccer Complex on the day prior to the start of the Championships. They are proposing a block of either one or two hours depending upon the number of non-APS teams that qualify each year.

The presenters believe that Albuquerque Public Schools has an unfair competitive advantage since they play 10 - 15 games per year at the APS Soccer Complex. A possible schedule might be as follows: A set of six (6) one hour blocks for each field for a total of 24 available time slots with time slots scheduled by the NMAA, a lottery, on a first come first serve basis, or any manner that the NMAA sees appropriate depending on the year and number of non-APS teams qualified.

Members thanked the presenters for their time/proposal but expressed concerns about the current NMAA bylaw prohibiting day before or pre-state tournament practices at the site of the state tournament and the domino effect a change might have for other sports.

Upcoming Commission/Board Elections: Mr. Cleland announced the expiring terms of office for the Commission: Small Area B (currently held by Mr. Wayne Ferguson), Large Area B (currently held by Mr. Greg Haston), and Large Area D (currently held by Mr. Kenny Barreras) and the Board of Directors: Large Area B (held by Mr. T.J. Parks) and the At-Large member (held by Dr. Crit Caton). Nominations will be requested from the member schools in these areas shortly after the NMAA/NMADA Fall Conference.

Once the nominations are received, ballots will be sent to member schools in each area. Schools will have 15 days to submit their votes for a position in their area. Note: The At-Large position on the Board is appointed by the Board President and affirmed by the Board at their first meeting of the calendar year.

Action Items:

Following a Coach (Bylaw 7.4.4): (Referenda Item) Ms. Marquez read a portion of the current bylaw which states ... "if the Student transfers to a school that his/her coach has relocated to within the past year, regardless of the change in the Student's bona fide residence..." and asked the committee to consider a proposal to delete "within the past year." She explained that there should not be a timetable for student-athletes who are "following a coach." These student-athletes should be ineligible if they transfer to "follow a coach" at any time. Mr. Carver asked for a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Barreras made a motion to accept the proposal. Mr. Schuster seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously (16-0).

Licensed school personnel present at all times during contest: (Referenda Item) Ms. Marquez presented a proposal that would add new language to bylaw 3.3 Requirements for Coaches, Sponsors, and Advisors as follows: The administration of each school is responsible to the Association in all matters pertaining to the athletic/activities relations of his/her school. A licensed administrator, a licensed coach, or a licensed school/district employee must be present before and during a game/contest/event in order for their student-athletes to participate. The rationale for the proposal is that a licensed administrator, licensed coach, or licensed school/district employee must be present with their students at all times for liability purposes. The members discussed coaches in multi-school districts covering for other district schools, private school licensing of school personnel, and the impact of this proposal on Activities. Following discussion, Mr. Carver asked for a motion to table the proposal as presented. Mr. MacFarlane made a motion to table the proposal. Ms. Viramontes seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Adjustments to Handbook section VIII (Activities): (Referenda Item) Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to delete 8.1.7 B, C, and D of the Home School Student Eligibility bylaw to align Section VIII with Home School State Statute. Mr. Carver asked for a motion to accept the proposal. Mr. Affentranger made a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Gerheart seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Adjustments to Handbook Section X (Charter Schools): (Referenda Item) Ms. Marquez discussed current bylaw 10.1.2 NMAA Member Charter Schools and 10.1.3 Non-NMAA Member Charter Schools and presented a proposal as follows: Students at NMAA Member Charter Schools are eligible in their home attendance zone school only. Students at Non-NMAA Member Charter Schools are afforded an open enrollment choice at the 9th grade. The rationale is that rewriting the Bylaws in Section 10 will match past NMAA Rulings in regards to Charter School Student's Participation. Mr. Carver asked for a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Barreras seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Mid School Football: Competition period/dual participation: (Referenda Item) Mr. Young presented a proposal to consider adjusting NMAA bylaws 9.5.A and 9.8.4.B regarding dual participation and the football competition period rule for middle schools / junior highs. Following committee discussion, Mr. Mabrey made a motion to alter the proposal so that only the Note in NMAA Bylaw 9.5.A would be

changed to include the wording: “Exception: Dual participation is not allowed in the sport of football.” Mr. Gerheart seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Golf: Coaching tee-to-green only: (Referenda Item) Mr. Cleland presented a proposal to modify NMAA bylaws to state that during competition, communication between coach and player would only be allowed from tee-to-green. Once the player and his/her golf ball are on the green, no communication may occur between the player and the coach until the player has completed the hole and exited the green. If approved, this item will take effect for the Spring 2016 golf season. Mr. Barreras made the motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. MacFarlane seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Tennis: Withdrawn/retired player returning to play: (Referenda Item) Mr. Joe Butler, NMAA Assistant Director, presented the following proposal: Team Competition (NMAA 7.21.2.B) In district/state competition after submission of an official lineup, a player who retires or withdraws from a match (singles/doubles) may return to play in the same team match in the alternating format (doubles/singles) in accordance with the submitted roster. The rationale for this proposal is that there is currently no rule in place to either allow or prevent a player from returning to play in the second match of a dual match, upon retirement or withdrawal from the initial match. The tennis sport specific committee felt unanimously that there was no advantage gained by allowing a player to do so. The members discussed this proposal and Mr. MacFarlane made a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Ms. Viramontes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
✓		Mr. Scott Affentranger	NMASSP
✓		Mr. Jess Martinez	NMOA
	✓	Mr. Cooper Henderson	NMHSADA
✓		Mr. Pete MacFarlane	Non Public School Rep.
✓		Mr. Dave Campbell	Small Area D
✓		Mr. Gary Schuster	Small Area C
✓		Mr. Wayne Ferguson	Small Area B
✓		Mr. Todd Kurth	Small Area A
	✓	Ms. Debbie Coffman	Jr. High/Middle School Rep
✓		Mr. Don Gerheart	Activities Council Member
	✓	Mr. Buster Mabrey	NMHSCA
✓		Mr. Jennifer Viramontes	State School Board Assn.
	✓	Mr. Kenny Barreras	Large Area D
✓		Mr. Ernie Viramontes	Large Area C
✓		Mr. Greg Haston	Large Area B
	✓	Mr. Bruce Carver	Large Area A
11	5		
Total	Total	(16 Total)	

The proposal passed (11-5).

Other Business:

Ms. Marquez informed the members of her email request to member schools who are on the classification borders, asking them to submit their enrollment numbers to her in advance of the 40 day count. This has allowed the NMAA to begin considering potential options for districts in the next classification/alignment block.

Mr. Mabrey thanked the NMAA Commission, NMAA Staff and those who have helped support and promote the NMHSCA's "Education-Based Athletics" initiative.

Consider Adjournment: Mr. Carver asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:58 a.m. Mr. Gerheart made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).