

NMAA Commission Meeting
September 12, 2012
9:00 AM
NMAA Office

Welcome – Meeting called to order by Mr. Lawrence Johnson, NMAA Commission Chairperson, at 9:02 a.m. A roll call was conducted by Mr. Jeremy Hernandez, NMAA Administrative Assistant, and the following members were present.

Mr. Todd Kurth (Small Area A)
Mr. Wayne Ferguson (Small Area B)
Mr. Mike Tillman (Small Area C)
Mr. Dave Campbell (Small Area D)
Mr. Peter MacFarlane (Non-Public School Representative)
Ms. Vicki Nelms (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors 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. Lawrence Johnson (Large Area C)
Mr. Kenny Barreras (Large Area D)
Mr. Terry Martin (State School Boards Association Rep.)
Mr. Thomas Mabrey (New Mexico High School Coaches Association Rep.)
Mr. Don Gerheart (Activities Council Member)
Mr. Anthony Gutierrez (Jr. High/Middle School Rep.)

The following members were absent.

Mr. Marc Baca (New Mexico Officials Association Rep.)

Fifteen members present, representing a quorum.

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Johnson asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Gerheart seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Approval of Minutes from May 23, 2012:

Mr. Johnson asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Nelms seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

NMAA Director's Report:

Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Assistant Executive Director, discussed two items during her report: (1) The staff is doing well and all staff members have stepped up and are getting ready to go for state championships; and (2) 8th grade participation forms are being submitted and the process is working well.

Ms. Dana Sanchez, NMAA Commissioner of Officials, will report during the NMOA Report.

Mr. Bill Cleland, NMAA Deputy Director, discussed three items during his report: (1) There are still questions about where items are on the website and explained all start of school forms are in the back to school packet; (2) Biggest questions about Max Preps are from coaches about their access code, AD's need to create their sports teams if they are not listed, the rankings are becoming available for fall sports and Max Preps does not allow for group messaging; and (3) informed the Commission on the process for the NMAA Executive Director selection.

Financial Report:

Shari Kessler-Schwaner, Business Manager, discussed four items during her report: (1) The financial reports for the fall, winter and spring sports for the 2011-2012 school year; (2) The NMAA has had their audit completed and the report will be presented to the NMAA Board; (3) district tournament reports will no longer be turned into the NMAA; and (4) introduced Mr. Butler to the Commission and informed them that he will be helping her.

Activities Report:

Ms. Sally Marquez, Assistant Executive Director, discussed two items during her report: (1) informed the Commission of the September 4th meeting with all Activities and the new direction the NMAA is going with activities and (2) the disconnect between the NMAA office and school activities representatives.

NMOA Report:

Ms. Dana Sanchez, Commissioner of Officials, discussed four items during her report: (1) 2012 Basketball District Rules clinic will have 5 different locations; (2) Junior High and Middle School levels need to be registered through our office for liability purposes; (3) the NMAA needs help with spectator conduct from the schools; and (4) issues with bands playing during football games.

General Discussion / Informational Items

Basketball Rules Clinic dates: Ms. Marquez, NMAA Assistant Executive Director, informed the Commission about the dates of basketball rules clinic: Oct. 22nd - Albuquerque, Oct. 23rd - Roswell, Oct. 25th - Las Cruces, Oct. 30th - Gallup, Oct. 31st - Santa Fe. Officials and head coaches are required to be at those clinics; (2) During these clinics, Rudy Aragon will also be hosting meetings for the region Middle School Athletic Directors.

Increased participation in Referenda Voting: Ms. Vicki Nelms, NMADA President, discussed the fact that referenda voting quite often has low voting turnouts and maybe a fine or something should be done. Also, referendums are coming out in the summer when voting representatives may not be at school.

Legal considerations for team photo requirement: Ms. Vicki Nelms, NMADA President, discussed the issue of publishing/posting photos of student athletes online and that some school districts have policies that may not allow photos to be posted.

Bands playing during football games: Mr. Scott Affentranger, NASSP Rep., discussed how to better communicate the issue of bands playing during the entirety of football games and asked if anything needs to be done about this right now beyond the notice that Dana Sanchez sent to AD's and officials.

Private School representative to the Board: Mr. Pete MacFarlane, Non-Public School Rep, discussed the fact that private schools have limited representation on the NMAA Board of Directors and that some of the information for the alignment and classification proposals took the private schools by surprise.

Fall Conference (October 14-16, 2012): Mr. Dusty Young, Assistant Director, informed the Commission that the Fall Conference will be October 14-16th, the annual luncheon will be on Monday, the mandatory Annual Meeting will be on Tuesday, and he listed a few of the speakers who will be present.

Upcoming Commission/Board openings: Mr. Bill Cleland, Deputy Director, informed the Commission about the terms that are expiring in December: Mr Ferguson, Mr. Haston, and Mr. Carver and for the Board: Mr. Benoit, Mr. T.J. Parks and Ms. Parsons.

Alignment and Classification (2014-2015, 2015-1016): Mr. Bill Cleland, Deputy Director, informed the Commission of the four current proposals for alignment and classification and that the current plan calls for the Board to determine in December which proposal will be used. The information will be based on a three-year enrollment average and he stated that looking at possibilities based on only one years worth of data isn't productive due to swings in enrollment numbers. Status quo has been mentioned as an option but there are different interpretations of what status quo is.

Mr. Campbell – Discussion was to reduce the number of teams selected to the playoffs, not necessarily reduce the number of classes.

Ms. Marquez - At the Fall Conference last year, AD's were asking for a reduction in the number of classifications.

Mr. Barreras - Agreed with Ms. Marquez that schools were talking about reducing the number of classifications.

Mr. Ellis - Has a problem with the 1.5 multiplier for private schools. Informed the Commission that the 40-day counts are inflated for Deming schools when the immigrants are in for harvesting season and then gone when harvesting is done. 48 days and participation numbers are used in Colorado. Let the Board know that some tweaking needs to be done to the alignment and classification proposals.

Mr. Johnson - recommended that schools contact their Board of Directors representative and inform them of any concerns they may have with the current proposals for alignment and classification.

Mr. Mabrey - Has the board looked at competitiveness?

Mr. Kurth - asked where the 1.5 multiplier came from for private schools and if it was possible to hold off on changing the current alignment for another 2 years?

Adjournment: Mr. Johnson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 a.m. A motion was made by Mr. Martin and seconded by Mr. MacFarlane. A vote was taken and passed unanimously. (15-0)

Next Commission Meeting will be November 20, 2012 at the NMAA.