NMAA Bylaws Committee Meeting
September 30, 2026
10:00 a.m.
Virtual

Welcome – Meeting called to order by Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Executive Director, at 10:03 a.m. Mr. Young conducted roll call and the following members were present:

Ms. Debra Sena Holton
Mr. Kevin Lackey
Mr. Jory Mirabal
Mr. Ben Tensay **joined after action items*
Mr. Britt Cooper
Mr. Alan Edmonson
Mr. Adrian Ortega
Mr. Isaac Gamboa
Ms. Rainy Crisp
Mr. Angel Castillo
Mr. Scott Affentranger
Ms. Arelene Anglada
Ms. Michelle Ronga
Mr. Stewart Burnett
Mr. Sergio Castanon
Mr. Gary Boatman
Mr. Eric Vigil

17 members were present.

Not Present:
Ms. Robbie Robinson
Mr. Adrian Pete

Approval of the Agenda: Mr. Young asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Gamboa made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Cooper seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Young asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2026, Bylaws Committee Meeting. Mr. Edmonson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Lackey seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Discussion Items:
Section 6 of NMAA Handbook: Review of New Eligibility Bylaws – Mr. Young and Mr. Scott Owen, NMAA Deputy Director, led a discussion regarding the new bylaws in Section 6 (eligibility) of the NMAA Handbook that were adopted by the membership starting with the 2026-2027 school year. Topics discussed included an update on the new transfer policy and questions that have come up internally since implementation. This included asking for feedback regarding: students that transfer but do not participate and then either return to the original school or transfer to a third school, out of state students making a family move getting open enrollment and free transfer, granted eligibility if a student transfers after the practice start date but has not participated in that sport during the current year, allowing transfers to take place at any time or a within a set window, following a coach rules, Executive Director purview over extraordinary circumstances, residency rule clarifications, and specialized sports academy rules. Feeback included staying the course

with most of the new rules but continuing to evaluate them throughout the remainder of 2026-2027. There was support to allow the Executive Director to make decisions based on extraordinary circumstances, allowing for sub-varsity participation for students being ruled ineligible for following a coach, and updating specialized sports academy bylaws to allow some sort of pathway back to their original or local high school program at some level. The committee did feel that penalizing recruitment and maintaining some other guard rails were two items that need to continue to be emphasized moving forward.

Classification & Alignment for 2028-2030: Initial Discussion – Mr. Young led a discussion pertaining to Classification & Alignment for the 2028-2030 block. He stated that the NMAA would like to consider all options and propose at least one new way of classifying and aligning schools for the membership to consider. Feedback from the group included: looking at a conference model to help keep teams playing regular season games as close to home as possible; looking at a multiplier for students that are not within the district, moving back to a 6-class system for sports like basketball that most member schools have, looking to expand the lack of success factor to other sports (not just football), using some sort of socioeconomic factor to classify schools, classifying based on participation numbers, and looking at each sport differently. The group suggested creating a smaller sub-committee to work on Classification & Alignment which could more effectively put some of these ideas together and then report back to the full group. Mr. Young asked for individuals interested in this to let him know so that the NMAA staff could take the next steps in setting this up. Feedback also included looking into how other states classify and align schools, especially those that have a similar make up to New Mexico. The group did emphasize that although a new C & A model may be considered, the only true objective way to classify is using student enrollment.

Athletic State Championships: Format Review Update – Mr. Young stated the NMAA staff is working with Sports Specific Committees to review the formats for all athletic state championships and any potential changes will be shared with the Bylaws Committee and membership as a whole for feedback. The NM High School Coaches Association will also help with this process.

Consider Adjournment:
Mr. Young asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:40 a.m. Mr. Edmonson made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Ortega seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (17-0).