



NMAA OFFICIAL BALLOT
SENIOR HIGH REFERENDUM
May 5, 2022



Due Date: May 19, 2022

*Upon direction of the Board of Directors, the New Mexico Activities Association is asking member schools **that participate in the sport of football** to vote on the issue below. Please read through the entire referendum before selecting your response. Thank you for your participation in the governance of your organization and for your support of interscholastic activities.*

New Bylaw 7.15.1.N – Extension of Team Box

This proposal would adopt new NFHS rules that allow for the team box to be extended on each side of the football field.

Add Bylaw 7.15.1.N:

Extension of Team Box – Per state association adoption of NFHS Rule 1-2-3g Note 3, the team box will be extended to the 10-yard lines for both teams.

In addition to authorized team personnel, properly credentialed media representatives and approved event staff may be in the team box between the 10-yard line and 25-yard line, but only if approved by the head coach.

Only authorized team personnel may be in the team box between the 25-yard lines.

Rationale: In 2020-2021 & 2021-2022, the NFHS adopted a COVID rule modification that allowed the team box to be extended to the 10-yard lines to accommodate social distancing. The change was very well received across the country and was proposed as a permanent national rule change in January. This was approved by the NFHS as a potential state adoption, and thus was presented to coaches and athletic directors for possible approval in New Mexico. Survey results show overwhelming support from both groups to adopt this rule. Note that for turf fields, permanent changes to the turf are not required as temporary markings can be used to extend the team boxes.

73 Favor

2 Do Not Favor

This box must be completed by all member schools.

Print Name of Official Voter

Signature of Official Voter

Print Name of Superintendent/Head of School

Signature of Superintendent/Head of School

School

District/Classification

Due date is May 19, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.

*This ballot, with both signatures affixed, must be received in the NMAA office by 4:00 p.m. Please fax completed referenda to Mindy loane at (505) 923-3114. **Please note that if either signature above is missing, the ballot will not be counted.** Contact Dusty Young (dusty@nmact.org) if you have any questions regarding this referendum.*



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Bylaw 7.4 – Out-of-Season Coaching

This proposal would amend bylaws so that the 7.5-hour rule would be eliminated and policies for out-of-season coaching during the school year would thus be at the discretion of each school/school district as is the current practice for summer programs/activities.

Current Bylaw:

During the off-season each school's coaching staff is allowed 7.5 hours of total contact time per week, Monday through Saturday, and only when school is in session, to work with student athletes grades 6-12.

Summer programs are under the direction of the local school/school district. The NMAA does not govern coaching activities during the summer, other than undue influence and guidelines established in 7.5.3 below.

Proposed Change:

During the off-season, athletic programs are under the direction of the local school/school district. The NMAA does not govern coaching activities other than undue influence and guidelines established in Section 7.5 (Summer).

Rationale: With the change in school calendars across the state, schools will be able to determine what is best for their community in the off season. Note that new language and Q & A's will be established to ensure strict guidelines are in place regarding undue influence (students following a coach) and multi-sport participation. These will be presented to the Commission and Board of Directors at their next meetings (May/June).

73 Favor

8 Do Not Favor

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Signature of Official Voter

Print Name of Superintendent/Head of School

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