



NMAA OFFICIAL BALLOT
SENIOR HIGH REFERENDUM
June 4, 2026



Due Date: June 19, 2026

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.

Football: Film Submission

Update Bylaw 7.15.1.M – Film Requirement to include a progression penalty for weekly game film not turned in on time.

Thursday games – film must be submitted by 1:00 p.m. on Saturday

Friday games – film must be submitted by 1:00 p.m. on Saturday

Saturday games – film must be submitted by 10:00 a.m. on Sunday

Film not received in the NMAA/NMOA Hudl account using the above deadline will now be subject to penalty as follows:

1st Offense – Warning in Writing to Head Coach and Athletic Director

2nd Offense – Suspension from the 1st Half of the next game for the Head Coach

3rd Offense – Suspension from the entire next game for the Head Coach

Rationale: The current deadlines have become more like suggested deadlines. Coaches are holding film, with the excuse that their next opponent has an advantage. The penalty progression will put some consequences to the bylaw. The Football Sports Specific Committee was unanimously in favor of this, citing that late film has become more of an issue in recent years.

We Favor

We 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 June 19, 2026, 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 or mindy@nmact.org. **Please note that if either signature above is missing, the ballot will not be counted.** Contact Scott Owen (s.owen@nmact.org) if you have any questions regarding this referendum.*



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Upon direction of the Board of Directors, the New Mexico Activities Association is asking member schools **that participate in the sport of soccer** 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.

Soccer: Misconduct Progression

To align with National standards, the soccer committee with support from member coach survey data, is recommending removing card count misconduct progression for players and coaches from our bylaws entirely. Ejection penalties would still exist in alignment with all other sports.

Modify Rule 7.17.3 – Misconduct Progression Rule

Regular season – remove sections 1-3 referring to card counts during the regular season for teams and individuals. Sections 4a,b,c and 5 specific to ejections would remain.

Rationale: There is a feeling nationally that this is an outdated rule. 32 states do not count cards. Only 4 states count team cards. 14 states have individual counts, typically around 5, and several are considering removing these policies. Other sports do not track the number of fouls (i.e.: we do not count technical fouls in basketball or UNC's in football). Ejections for red cards (including a "second yellow") would still result in a suspension for the next scheduled game. Eliminates excessive game reports for officials to only include reports for ejections.

We Favor

We Do Not Favor

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Soccer: Regular Season Overtime

To align with National standards, the soccer committee with support from member coach survey data, is recommending removing overtime during the regular season, except when a regular season tournament requires declaring a winner for advancement.

Rationale:

Player safety - Potential for injury with increased minutes, i.e.: multiple OTs in the same week - if 3 games in a week all go to OT, additional 60 minutes of play.

National consistency - OT periods are by state adoption only. 41 states do not play overtime in the regular season (player safety is cited as the #1 reason). All other national governing bodies end regular season games in ties.

Facility constraints - Fields without lights and/or later start times have trouble finishing and sometimes eliminate the JV game to follow, especially later in the season.

Rewarding regulation wins and regulation ties - Ties are part of the sport and factored into MP rankings. A regulation win earns more than a tie, likewise a loss in overtime is not rewarded for playing an evenly matched regulation 80 minutes.

We Favor

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Executive Director Duties and Responsibilities

Provide the Executive Director with the authority/autonomy to hire professional staff and structure employment positions.

New language underlined, stricken language removed

2.2.2 Executive Director - Duties and Responsibilities

- A.2.** ~~Recommend employment of professional staff (Associate Directors) for approval by the Board. The Director shall~~ organize employment positions and hire ~~employ, retain and/or dismiss classified and discretionary positions (Assistants to the Director, clerical, administrative assistants, general operational personnel, etc.)~~ staff.

Rationale: Provides the Director with the flexibility and latitude to structure and organize staff to best suit and meet the needs of the Association.

We Favor

We Do Not Favor

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Eligibility: NMAA Handbook Section 6 Revision

Revise Section 6 (Eligibility) of the NMAA Handbook and update various eligibility and transfer bylaws.

- Current NMAA Section 6:
https://www.nmact.org/file/Section_6.pdf
- Proposed NMAA Section 6 with changes outlined/highlighted:
https://www.nmact.org/file/Section_6_Proposed_Changes.pdf

Rationale: National and societal trends along with increasing legal challenges and legislative involvement have made it necessary to evaluate and revise eligibility and transfer bylaws. These changes are an attempt to ensure the founding principles of interscholastic athletics and activities remain intact, but to also stay in step with the changing landscape of school sports and to minimize legal and legislative challenges so that NMAA bylaws continue to serve the membership for which they were intended.

We Favor

We Do Not Favor

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