

NMAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Wednesday, January 28th, 2009
9:00 A.M., NMAA Conference Room A



- I. The NMAA Board of Directors met on Wednesday, January 28th, 2009 for their regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. Mike Phipps, Board President, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Ms. Jacquelyne Gallegos, Administrative Assistant, called roll and the following Board members were present: Ms. Zita Lopez (Small Area A); Mr. Bill Green (Small Area C); Mr. Rick Ferguson (Small Area D); Mr. Winston Brooks (Large School District I); Mr. Dion Sandoval (New Mexico Board Association Representative); Ms. Janel Ryan (Large Area A); Mr. Mike Phipps (Large Area B); Mr. Michael Harris (Large Area C); Dr. James Abreu (Large Area D); Mr. Stan Rounds (Large School District II); Mr. Lawrence Johnson (NMAA Commission Representative). Dr. R.L. Richards (Small Area B) and Mr. Dane Kennon (At-Large Member) were present via teleconference.

Present from the NMAA were Mr. Gary Tripp, Executive Director; Mr. Mario Martinez, Associate Director; and Ms. Sally Marquez, Associate Director; as well as other NMAA administrative staff.

A motion was made by Mr. Rounds and seconded by Mr. Green to move Item III – Executive Session below Item IX – Addendum Agenda. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously to approve the agenda with the recommended change.

The minutes from the December 4th, 2009 Board meeting were presented. A motion was made by Mr. Green to approve the minutes. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

- II. *Election of NMAA Board of Directors President and Election of NMAA Board of Directors Vice President.* – Mr. Phipps stated we are now going to elect the NMAA Board of Directors President.

Mr. Ferguson made a recommendation for Mr. Phipps to hold his position as NMAA president.

Mr. Rounds seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.

Mr. Phipps will remain as the NMAA Board President for another two year term.

Mr. Phipps stated it was now time to elect an NMAA Board of Directors Vice President.

Mr. Ferguson stated that he would like to nominate Ms. Ryan.

Mr. Sandoval seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.

Ms. Ryan will be the NMAA Board Vice President for a two year term.

III. *Directors Report* – Mr. Tripp welcomed all Board Members for attending the meeting. He stated that it has been a tough year with tougher times to come.

Mr. Tripp stated he would like to pass out his evaluation to the Board of Directors. He stated he would like for everyone to return the evaluations within 2-3 weeks. He stated once the evaluations were returned he would sit down with Mr. Phipps and go over the feedback and comments.

Mr. Tripp stated the second thing we needed to ask is for a budget committee to look at our budget and assessments. Mr. Tripp asked Mr. Phipps to appoint some people to the committee.

Mr. Phipps stated the committee was open to volunteers and if we didn't get enough people through volunteers he would then appoint people.

Mr. Kennon, Mr. Rounds, Dr. Richards, and Mr. Harris, all volunteered to sit on the budget committee.

Mr. Tripp stated he would like for the budget committee to start looking at ways for the NMAA to cut costs for member schools. He stated this could be done by cutting games and so forth. He stated he would like for the committee to present their suggestions and recommendations at the Board Meeting in March.

Mr. Tripp stated he had one last thing to present to the board. He stated last year with the Boards approval the NMAA instituted Pursing Victory With Honor classes for ejected coaches and players. He stated we are now at the point where we are about to release a program directed towards ejected fans. He stated we are trying to keep up with fans that get ejected from a game. He stated the ejected fans would pay a fine and take a professional development class as a way to come back and be a fan for that district. He stated the fines would be paid to the member schools.

Mr. Phipps asked if the class would be online. He also asked if the fan who has taken the online class would be readmitted to the games.

Mr. Tripp answered, yes the fans would be able to attend games after completing the online course, and the member school would absorb the fee that was paid to take the online course.

Mr. Tripp stated he would like to keep this open for discussion at the next board meeting.

- IV. *Financial Report* – Ms. Daniels stated the NMAA has received all transactions for volleyball. She stated the NMAA has received all transactions for football with the exception of the receipts from the game that was held at Aggie memorial.

Ms. Daniels stated \$100,000 was placed in a 1 year CDAR. She stated that \$1,000,000 was placed in a 1.9% interest 13 week CDAR. She stated that she place \$50,000 in a 4 week CDAR with an interest rate of 1.9%. She also placed \$250,000 in 3 accounts in a 4 week CDAR with an interest rate of 1.7%.

Ms. Daniels stated there is \$80,000 in the NMAA checking account and it should get the NMAA through the middle of February.

Ms. Daniels stated that the NMAA still has to pay for our roof and it will be around \$80,000.

Ms. Daniels stated that on page 12 of the Board packet the financial report for the scholarship accounts are shown. She stated the reason why she was giving this information to the Board was because we aren't putting any money into these accounts. It shows the accounts will eventually run out of money. She stated at the end of the year we will have \$1200 for scholarships and if we are paying \$4,000 by the end of the year we will run out of funds.

Mr. Tripp stated the question we have is should the money in the scholarship accounts be placed in the foundation accounts so we can continue giving these scholarships.

Mr. Green asked if it was possible to move all the money to the foundation accounts.

Mr. Tripp stated that some of these scholarships have been around for years and he would like to keep giving them out.

- V. *Sports Specific Action Item –Football – Consider revising Rule 7.15.1 H of the NMAA handbook to read as follows: The tie breaking procedure in the National Federation Rulebook is used in all games (varsity, sub-varsity, and junior high) between New Mexico schools as well as out of state guests, with the results determining the winner.* Mr. Martinez asked if the Board members could please turn to page 13 of the Board packet. He stated the reason he is bringing this issue to the table is because there has been some confusion in this area because they didn't want to end in a tie. He stated he knows some schools use a playoff system. He stated we only have by rule for varsity play. He stated most people don't like games to end in a tie.

Mr. Phipps asked the Board members if they had any questions for Mr. Martinez.

A motion was made by Mr. Green to accept the recommendations made by the NMAA staff. Dr. Abreu seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Sports Specific Action Item – Consider using a uniform district seeding/tie breaking procedures for all team sports similar to those used in football, soccer, volleyball, basketball, baseball, and softball. - Mr. Martinez started by letting the Board members know he would like to give them the reason behind this action item. He stated the history and the reason for the NMAA staff bringing this to you is for seeding and selection purposes. He stated for years we have had districts turn in their district handbooks, but we have a hard time obtaining them for every district. He stated, in trying to solve this problem, so there is a defined tie breaking procedure, the staff and their respected sports have come up with recommendations for their sports. He stated it was defined in our handbook and we felt that by having the procedure we would be able to defend ourselves in the case that we actually went to litigation. He stated this was a summary of what the NMAA would like to bring forward.

Mr. Johnson proposed a friendly amendment with the idea of cost savings. He stated a coin toss has always determined the home site rather than going to the actual site of play. He stated one of the member schools was concerned about the game, and they would like to make a decision of where the game was played.

Mr. Martinez stated he agreed that it could be a coin toss or a neutral site. He stated his feedback is to give the opponent the option to determine if the game will be played at a neutral site or coin toss.

Mr. Rounds asked how we would determine the home team.

Mr. Phipps stated it would have to be determined by the winner of the coin toss.

Mr. Johnson stated he thinks that when we talk about the tie breaking procedures it is cut and dry on what we are do.

Mr. Phipps stated he would like to amend it so the coin toss determines the home team and the site.

Mr. Rounds made a motion to table the issue. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. A vote was taken and carried unanimously.

VI. *General Action Items – Consider increasing officials' mileage to .465 cents per mile as per the NMAA Adhoc Committee.* – Ms. Sanchez stated as you recall last year it was recommended by the Board members to form an Adhoc Committee. She stated the Adhoc Committee had a total of three meetings. She stated the committee had a recommendation of raising the mileage to .465 cents per mile. She stated we had an issue of how this is paid for. One issue is that officials are being paid from their home town.

Mr. Tripp stated that an official forfeits that right if they choose to be in a different group other than their home town group.

Ms. Sanchez stated the third issue was that only one driver would be paid for each contest. She stated that usually the furthest driving official would get paid. She stated this would eliminate the multiple driver issue. She stated these were the recommendations from the Adhoc Committee.

Mr. Kennon asked if the rate of .465 cents per mile was in line with what the state rate is.

Ms. Sanchez stated the federal state rate is .60 cents per mile. She stated that this issue was brought up last year but were told to hold off.

Mr. Rounds stated that with this action item timing may be the issue.

Mr. Rounds made a motion to table the issue. Mr. Green seconded the motion. A vote was taken and carried unanimously.

General Action Items – NMAA administrative process for disqualified players and coaches when appealed by member schools. – Ms. Sanchez stated the process for appeals when a player/coach are disqualified from a contest. She stated this doesn't have anything to do with the officials' judgment. She stated the proper forms must be signed by the athletic director. She stated the disclaimer was that this process would not take place during a basketball tournament. She stated the decision would be final based in Mr. Tripp's decision. She stated if it does come up with officials we would review and breakdown of the game tapes and sanction officials correctly.

A motion was made by Mr. Ferguson to accept the recommendations made by the NMAA staff. Dr. Abreu seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

General Action Items – Consider removing 3.2.6 (Alignment and Classification) from the NMAA handbook based on the restructuring of the alignment process voted on by the board of directors at the June 2008 meeting. – Mr. Tripp stated in June we developed a new process for alignment and classification. He stated he met with the NMAA attorney and he demonstrated that in our handbooks the old procedures were still in our new bylaws handbook and procedures. He stated he wanted to bring that up because we forgot to remove them from the handbook in June.

A motion was made by Mr. Ferguson to accept the recommendations made by the NMAA staff. Mr. Rounds seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

General Action Items – Consider adopting the NMAA's "Revised" proposal based on membership feedback, 80-day numbers, and geographical make-up of districts. The

revised proposal if approved will be posted online for continued membership feedback as per the process established. – Mr. Phipps stated on page 26 of the board packet you can view the NMAA staffs recommendations.

Mr. Tripp stated in the packet it asks how the member schools feel about our recommendations. He stated we did receive feedback from the member schools and have created a packet for the Board members to review. He stated we did get overwhelming support to move to a four year block and not a two year block. He stated we would revise a new schools classification every two years. He stated we would keep wrestling with three different classifications. He stated we had a recommendation to move West Mesa to a different district. He stated another concern was whether or not Sandia Prep and Albuquerque Academy will continue to play up a level in classification.

Ms. Ryan asked if any of the changes that were made to the alignment and classification proposal were made based on the comments and feedback the NMAA received.

Mr. Tripp stated a large part of the membership from class A are here today because they would like to see five classes for baseball. He stated the NMAA did support some of the input we received from the membership schools when revising the alignment and classification proposal.

Mr. Ferguson stated we needed to define page 28 of the Board packet where the statement, “significant changes in attendance”, occurs. He stated we need to define the word “significant” in that sentence. He asked if it meant 10% change in attendance of if there was a specific number that we would be using to define the word “significant”.

Mr. Chambers stated if the board would consider bringing this to the superintendent organization he would really appreciate it. He stated with this proposal some of the schools will not have a baseball team in two years. He stated we needed to respectfully petition how we don’t feel that it levels the playing field. He stated he was talking about the possibility of cutting some baseball teams.

Mr. Benoit stated he would really like the Board to take this into consideration for the survival of Class A baseball.

A motion was made by Mr. Ferguson to accept the recommendations made by NMAA staff. Mr. Brooks seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

- VII. *General Discussion/Information Item – Possible Litigation: St. Pius High School’s intention to allow St. Pius coaches to contact Archdiocese middle school students.* – Mr. Geiger stated he had included the letters in the board packet between him and the St. Pius council. He stated that 80% of kids do attend St. Pius because they act as feeder schools. He stated this seems to be their position that a public school coach

could contact a student outside of their attendance zone. He gave an example of a La Cueva coach being able to contact a South Valley student outside of their attendance zone. He stated this is what the St. Pius coaches seem to think is allowed to all public schools. He stated this is a fairly novel approach to high school coaches approaching middle schools students. He stated he would let the Board know that at his time they are reviewing a situation where a middle school student attends a school out of their district. He stated any contact with a student outside their attendance zone would be viewed as undue influence. He stated he just needed to make sure the Board was aware of this.

Mr. Rounds stated no public decision about this should take place at this time. He stated he would urge all further discussion about this issue to take place in executive session.

General Discussion/Information Items –Classification of charter school student eligibility based on the 2007 legislative session. . – Ms. Marquez asked the Board members to turn to page 62 of their Board packets. She stated in 2005 the legislature passed a statute that charter school students could participate in sports at a high school. She stated it came to light when a parent of an 8th grader wanted her child to participate at a high school that was not in their district. The bylaws stated charter school students can participate at a high school that is within their attendance zone or any high school. She stated if a student chooses to participate at a high school that is not within their attendance zone they would be subject to the NMAA transfer guidelines.

Mr. Tripp asked if we have created an unconstitutional playing field for public schools. He stated an example would be a Manzano student can't play at East Mountain but an East Mountain student can play at Manzano. He state most rules are applied to a public school student, but not to a private school student.

Ms. Marquez stated we talked about a declaration of school. This would include 90 days beginning the first day of practice for the sport they are going to participate in.

Mr. Tripp asked if a student participates in the summer does that define declaration.

Mr. Rounds stated the rules would apply to summer. He stated that is why the previous sentence is the way it is.

Ms. Marquez stated this allows a charter school student to pick any public school to participate at. She stated we looked at some guidelines and wanted to clarify our transfer guidelines.

Mr. Tripp stated that Mr. Rounds brought up the word declare. He stated he thinks that word needs to be clearly defined. He stated he thinks the key is that the student needs to declare a school to participate at.

Mr. Phipps stated we need to consider the costs that travel with the child.

Ms. Marquez stated that 10.13.1 talks about the declaration.

Mr. Green stated he thinks this needs to be an action item.

General Discussion/Information Items – Potential legislation to allow private school students to participate at public school. – Mr. Tripp stated he was on a phone call last week with what had to do with the constitutionality that will allow private school kids to participate in public schools.

Mr. Rounds stated that is clearly unconstitutional.

General Discussion/Information Items – Life of an athlete – Mr. Tripp stated at this year's annual meeting we had a discussion about alcoholism and student athletes. We provided all this information to the athletic directors. We have taken the initiative to possibly provide quality curriculum which the state department of transportation will assist us with.

Mr. Zayas stated there are four states that currently have a drug screening program. He stated ideally what we would like to do is introduce a curriculum including alcohol, drugs, cyber bullying, and energy drinks. He stated the primary focus is to have an alcohol online curriculum. He stated we would like to do something that the NFHS uses for the fundamentals of coaching. He stated we would have to create something kids are going to be interested in learning about. He stated it needs to be something the kids won't be board with. He stated we would ask athletic directors to pick out a well respected coach to come for the four hour curriculum class. He stated that was our plan for right now and you will be hearing more about this in the future. He stated we are trying to change the culture of our athletes so they will know what to do when faced with alcohol issues.

General Discussion/Information Items – Activities update. – Mr. Tripp stated that the state choir competition will be coming up in the next few weeks.

General Discussion/Information Items – State basketball update: tickets, sites, times, etc. – Ms. Marquez stated the main change was that the Class 5A girls will be moved to Santa Ana. She stated this move was determined by ticket sales. She stated she had a meeting with UNM and we have a few problems with the parking lot at The Pit. She stated construction crews have drilled holes in the Manzano Parking lot by the Pete McDavid lounge. She stated we will have people blocking that area the days of the tournament. She stated Sedexo is the new concession contractor for UNM. She stated Sedexo has an agreement with UNM that they will cater all events held in the Pete McDavid lounge. She stated this will cause us a problem with the hospitality room. She stated she thinks UNM will allow her to compromise with Sedexo and have them cater only half of the meals for the hospitality room while the other half are provided by our sponsors.

General Discussion/Information Items – Pursuing Victory With Honor. – Mr. Martinez stated that Mr. Rick Ferguson and Mr. John Burgess will be inducted into the NMAA Hall of Fame this year.

Mr. Martinez stated the NMAA is still accepting nominations for the Pursuing Victory With Honor Scholarships. The deadline is February 13, 2009.

General Action Items – NMAAfilms.tv and DVD sales update. – Mr. Tripp stated you can go online and click on the website to watch past state tournaments. He stated we will stream the swimming and diving championships. He stated there is a new contract with EZstream for \$200.00 a month. He stated member schools can pay for their services and they will stream events online.

Mr. Tripp stated the NMAA has started hosting the NMAA weekly show. He stated this is a 30 minute show once a week. He stated it is a way for people to get answers to questions they may have about the NMAA in a timely manner.

General Action Items – Basketball summit. – Ms. Sanchez stated we have been traveling the state to talk to officials and coaches. She stated everyone who attends is volunteering their time. She stated we are hoping to do this again next year before basketball season starts to get everyone on the same page.

General Action Items – NMAA Foundation. – Mr. Tripp stated we have raised \$68,000 for the NMAA foundation. He stated we had our first bowl-a-thon and will keep that going for the upcoming year.

VIII. *Executive Session* - Mr. Phipps stated the Board had some legal issues they needed to discuss. The Board entered into Executive session at 12:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Ms. Ryan to resume regular session. Dr. Abreu seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. At 1:00 p.m. the Board returned to regular session.

IX. *Next Board Meeting Wednesday, March 11, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. at the Pete McDavid lounge at The Pit.*

X. *Consider Adjournment* - A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Green. The motion was seconded by Dr. Abreu and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

