

NMAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, February 12, 2009
2:00 PM NMAA Conference Room A



- I. The NMAA Board of Directors met on Thursday, February 12, 2009 for an emergency meeting. Mr. Mike Phipps, Board President, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Ms. Alissa McCarthy, Administrative Assistant, called roll and the following Board members were present: Mr. Dane Kennon (At-Large Member), Dr. R.L. Richards (Small Area B), and Ms. Zita Lopez (Small Area A). Those via teleconference were Mr. Rick Ferguson (Small Area D), Dr. James Abreu (Large Area D), Mr. Lawrence Johnson (NMAA Commission Representative), and Mr. Michael Harris (Large Area C.) Those absent were Mr. Winston Brooks (Large School District), Mr. Stan Rounds (Large School District II), Mr. Bill Green (Small Area C), Mr. Dion Sandoval (NM School Board Association), and Ms. Janel Ryan (Large Area A). Present from the NMAA were Mr. Gary Tripp, Executive Director.

A motion was made by Ms. Lopez and seconded by Mr. Kennon to approve the agenda. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

The minutes of the January 28, 2009 Board meeting were presented. A motion was made by Dr. Richards and seconded by Mr. Kennon. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Richards made a motion to go into Executive Session at 2:00 PM to discuss certain topics. Mr. Kennon seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Lopez made a motion to go into open session at 2:49 PM. Mr. Kennon seconded. Mr. Mike Phipps stated there was no action or vote taken in executive session.

Directors' Report - Mr. Tripp welcomed the Board and thanked them all for attending. Mr. Tripp stated that the NMAA did send out a survey to all the athletic directors as well as the Board of Directors regarding athletics and the impact the economy is having on schools. He stated that the survey contains questions regarding the schools thoughts on reduction of games or elimination of certain elements in the state tournament (pool play in volleyball, double elimination in softball, etc.) He stated that the NMAA is looking at presenting a cut in their operational budget and a report will be given on what is eliminated if approved by the budget committee.

He stated that he hopes this will alleviate some of the pressures and stress put on schools suffering from budget cuts due to the economy. Mr. Tripp added that at the next meeting there will be a report on this survey given out to the schools and their input.

Mr. Tripp asked that the athletic directors discuss with other administrators within their school districts and provide the NMAA with written recommendations on what they feel should be cut, game limitations, state tournament pool play, etc. These recommendations can be emailed to the NMAA.

II. General Action Items – Consider using a uniform district seeding/tie-breaking procedure for all team sports similar to those used in football –

Mr. Mario Martinez referred the Board to pg. 12 of their packet. He stated the current rule states the districts determine how to break a tie between two first place teams. He stated that the rationale behind having a uniform tie breaking procedure for each sport is that many districts do not have a defined tie breaking procedure within their handbook; districts are required to have a district handbook on file at the NMAA and often at times this does not occur or districts do not provide the most current handbook to the NMAA. Mr. Martinez continued stating that due to unique districts, schools could belong to several districts by particular sport therefore decreasing consistency within the tie breaking procedures, and lastly the universal tie-breaker for football has been very successful and non-problematic in the seeding/selection procedure. Mr. Tripp stated that Ms. Marquez and Mr. Aragon worked on improving the language within the sports of volleyball and basketball. He stated that within these two sports, if one team is tied there will be a playoff game at either a neutral site or a home site of one of the two teams; the home site is determined by the athletic directors of the two schools. A coin toss will be done determining who will be the home team. He added if there is a disagreement between the athletic directors the decision will be made by the NMAA executive director to determine the site.

Discussion ensued regarding a three team district. Mr. Tripp stated that his suggestion was to have the three teams participate in a round robin tournament.

A motion was made by Mr. Kennon to approve this general action item. Ms. Lopez seconded. A vote was taken and the motion unanimously carried.

General Action Items – Consider adopting a more recent Alignment and Classification proposal based on membership feedback and a variety of other factors. The revised proposal if approved will be posted online for continued membership feedback. Mr. Gary Tripp referred the Board to pg. 22. He stated that these are revisions to be made to the new alignment and classification proposal of the 2010/2011-2013/2014 school year. There were concerns regarding the four year cycle. Mr. Mike Phipps stated that these revisions are not permanent; however this helps to direct the NMAA in the right direction to coming to a final product.

Mr. Ramone Vigil attorney representing the Bloomfield School District asked to make some comments regarding enrollment numbers. Mr. Mike Phipps stated that the NMAA is still working with the PED to finalize the number from every school in the state to establish schools into certain classifications. Mr. Vigil stated that the last 80

day count for Bloomfield they included grades 8-11 and had 905 students enrolled. He stated that there are 9 students to which will be graduating from Bloomfield this year. He stated if those 9 students are not included that would make Bloomfield's count be 896 student enrolled/to be enrolled in their school the following year, falling beneath the 900 cut off for Class 3A.

Discussion ensued and these revisions would be added to the proposal for final vote at the June 2009 Board meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Ferguson to approve the revisions made to the Alignment and Classification proposal. Dr. Abreu seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7- 1 in favor. Dr. Richards abstained.

General Discussion/Information Item – Problems concerning Pursuing Victory with Honor Perspective throughout the state and the NMAA's administration proactive approach to this issue. Mr. Gary Tripp stated that there have been several issues regarding athlete and coach ejections. However, the most problematic recently are unsportsmanlike fan behavior. He stated that there is a possibility of needing an online course for fans similar to the one the NMAA implemented for ejected athletes and coaches. He stated that Mr. Fontaine helped to develop a system to which places a lot of the responsibility back on the schools. He stated that the NFHS is looking to provide a course for fans with unsportsmanlike behavior throughout the nation. Ms. Dana Sanchez spoke more on this issue adding that the trend the NMOA is seeing the most is with sub-varsity contests, and the reported problems include fighting and swearing among athletes. She reported that the fall sports showed an increase in player/coach ejections.

General Discussion/Information Item – State basketball, swimming and diving and wrestling. Ms. Marquez stated that the complimentary passes are out. The yellow passes get a person into the game as well as the hospitality room. Green passes get the person into the game only. She stated that the color and number of passes given were determined by the superintendents and those listed online. She stated that coaches interested in purchasing a complimentary pass may do so through Dusty Young of the NMAA for \$50.00. There are still tournament passes available and are \$125 dollars including the first round. She added that the seeding and selection meeting will be held on March 1st for 3A-5A and March 8th for A/AA. Lastly, she stated that a total of 20 coaches/players/managers/trainers only are allowed on the bench this year which.

Ms. Marquez stated that the Swimming championships are being held at the Albuquerque Academy. The administration at the Academy has been great and they have improved their sound system and microphone system this year. She thanked Andy Watson who has been a tremendous help with this championship.

Ms. Marquez stated that the entries will be in for state wrestling by this weekend.

VII. *Addendum Agenda*
No Addendum Agenda

VIII. *Next Board Meeting Wednesday, March 11, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. at the Pete McDavid Lounge.*

Mr. Phipps stated that this is the first year that the Board of Directors is proposing the new alignment and classification changes as opposed to having a committee as was done in previous years. This is done to provide an equal level playing field for all students and give them an opportunity to be successful.

IX. *Consider Adjournment*

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Kennon. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lopez and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.