

**NMAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**Wednesday, March 7, 2007**  
**10:00 a.m., Pete McDavid Lounge – “The Pit” - Albuquerque**



- I. The NMAA Board of Directors met on Wednesday, March 7, 2007 for their regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. Mike Phipps, Board President, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Phipps introduced Mr. Bill Green, the newly elected representative of Small Area C, and Mr. Stan Rounds, the Large School District II Representative.

Ms. Becky Mullins, Assistant Director, called roll and the following Board members were present: Dr. R.L. Richards (Small Area B), Mr. Bill Green (Small Area C), Mr. Rick Ferguson (Small Area D), Dr. Elizabeth Everitt (Large School District I), Mr. Dane Kennon (At-Large Member), Ms. Janel Ryan (Large Area A), Mr. Mike Phipps (Large Area B), Mr. Dick Pool (Large Area C), Mr. Stan Rounds (Large School District II), and Mr. Lawrence Johnson (NMAA Commission Representative). Ms. Zita Lopez (Small Area A), Mr. Joe Guillen (NM School Board Association Representative), and Dr. Pete Campos (Large Area D) were absent. Mr. Phipps stated that a quorum was present and business before the Board could be conducted.

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

A motion was made by Ms. Ryan and seconded by Mr. Ferguson to approve the Agenda (see pg. 1 of Board packet). A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

The minutes of the January 24, 2007 Board meeting were presented (see page 44 of Board packet). A motion was made by Mr. Ferguson to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

- II. Directors' Report – Mr. Tripp welcomed the Board to the 2007 State Basketball Tournament and thanked them all for attending. He informed the Board on current legislation including HB 956 which dealt with a Good Samaritan Law as presented by the recently created NMAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee and SB 1098 which would allow homeschoolers to participate in athletics at their home district school. Additionally HB 2 was discussed which previously granted the NMAA \$100,000 to offset state basketball expenses, and legislation that supported placing the NMAA back into NMPSIA. Mr. Tripp reported HB 454

dealing with gross receipts taxes for officials was tabled by the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. Tripp also discussed the approximate \$17,000 in repair to the NMAA building due to mold damage, and the renovation which would be taking place on the upper floor of the NMAA building to extend the office space for the New Mexico Special Olympics, which would cost the NMAA approximately \$11,000 - \$13,000 to complete.

Mr. Tripp discussed the creation of the NMAA Foundation, indicating the first meeting would be held tonight with Lt. Governor Diane Denish serving as Chairman of the Foundation.

Mr. Tripp informed the Board that the state basketball games would be streamed on the internet via NMAA.TV, indicating an approximate 10000 hits on the website were expected for today's games.

Lastly, Mr. Tripp advised that day one of the state basketball tournament indicated the attendance numbers were down from last year, and this was the first year the Santa Ana Star Center had been used as a venue, increasing costs to the NMAA. However, Santa Ana was a first class facility, and felt the membership had been served well by offering this venue.

- III. *General Action Items – Recommendation regarding two-week summer moratorium* – Mr. Tripp offered his recommendation regarding staying the current required two-week moratorium until it can be determined how to make it work consistently and fairly for all member schools. Mr. Tripp indicated that generally summertime activities were under the purview of the local school board/Athletic Director/Principal and Superintendent. Problems arose due to golf courses being located on school property as well as swimming pools, etc. Discussion ensued. Mr. Pool made a motion to make the two-week summer moratorium an NMAA recommendation and not a requirement. Mr. Ferguson seconded this motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

*General Action Items – Revision of the Exclusion System for officials in basketball and football as per the Ad Hoc Committee and Commission recommendations* – Ms. Dana Sanchez addressed the Board and directed their attention to pages 3 through 10 of the Board packet. She stated that this recommendation from the Ad Hoc Committee would allow for an equal exclusion system for coaches of officials and officials of coaches. Discussion ensued. Mr. Stan Rounds made a motion to accept this new policy as recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee. Mr. Ferguson seconded this motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

*General Action Items – Revising official pay in all sports to bring fees up to equal levels of neighboring states* – Ms. Sanchez explained this proposal to revise the current official fees was developed by reviewing national and area averages, as well as current mileage rates, and was a request to bring the current official's pay more in line with those standards. Discussion ensued. Mr. R.L. Richards made a motion to increase current officials pay by 6% (rounding to the next dollar) to be reviewed

annually for the next three years, with travel fees to remain stable for the current year. Mr. Stan Rounds seconded the motion. Additional discussion ensued. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

*General Action Items – Revising the pay scale for the assignors’ fee for officials –* Ms. Sanchez directed the Board members to page 12 of the Board packet and stated this request was to create consistency throughout the state for assignors’ fees and would not result in a budgetary increase. Ms. Sanchez indicated assignor’s fees throughout the state were not currently consistent and this recommendation would make this process fair throughout the state of New Mexico. Discussion ensued. Dr. Everitt made a motion to accept this proposal as presented. Mr. Kennon seconded this motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

*General Action Items – Approval of Alignment/Classification Proposal for 2008-2010 to be sent out by March 15 for Advisory Referendum (with potential adjustments by Board of Directors) –* Mr. Tripp directed Board members to page 13 of the Board packet, stating that a process had been developed for alignment and classification issues. Mr. Tripp reviewed the major issues of criteria, effect of charter school numbers and alternative school numbers, as well as the desire to balance the districts in football, combine A and AA baseball, combine A through AAA wrestling, and alignment and classification recommendations per sport. Mr. Tripp stated presentations would be made to the Board regarding alignment and classification concerns of some, though it was important to remember that the current alignment and classification had affected other schools detrimentally in terms of travel and loss of class time, and thus the reason for the continuous process of re-evaluating alignment and classification. Mr. Tripp indicated it was the NMAA’s recommendation to send specific questions regarding these proposals out for referenda, allow the Alignment and Classification Committee to review the results and bring back to the Board for their final recommendation.

Presentations were made by Mr. Allison of Bloomfield requesting the Board freeze the current alignment for the next couple of years as issues regarding loss of enrollment and new schools were being dealt with. Mr. Ellis of Deming stated that natural breaks in enrollment numbers could be viewed differently than the recommendations from the Alignment and Classification Committee, indicating that Deming’s 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade numbers were inflated on the 80-day counts. Mr. Ellis also stated that charter school numbers should not be included in school enrollment numbers. Mr. Johnson from Moriarty presented there were many academic and financial concerns that would be faced by Moriarty if moved to the southern district as proposed. Mr. Johnson also recommended a freeze of the current alignment, to be reviewed at a later date. Mr. Chavez of Belen indicated their move to the southern district would affect their school financially, and put an educational strain on their students. He indicated the current competition was good, and that Belen was happy with the current proposal which did not place Belen in the southern district. Mr. Draper of Estancia stated Estancia was a bubble school between class 2A and 3A, and indicated their competition in the current district was appropriate. Mr. Ferguson of Tucumcari stated that his boys and girls travel at the same time, and the current proposal would in effect quadruple his school’s travel requirements. He further indicated they were the only 2A school with a 4-day week, and the

educational loss to the students required to travel 2 more days a week would be very detrimental. Mr. Ferguson stated the natural breaks occurred differently than as recommended by the Alignment and Classification Committee. Mr. Phipps informed the audience the referenda would be for informational purposes only. Discussion ensued regarding charter and alternative school numbers, criteria, and the current proposal. Mr. Richards made a motion to send the Alignment and Classification referenda out for informational purposes and to continue with the Alignment and Classification process, reviewing the results for further input. Mr. Green seconded the motion. Additional discussion ensued and no vote was taken. Mr. Richards made a friendly amendment to his earlier motion to include in the referendum whether the membership would prefer the current alignment and classification remain with no change for the next two year block. Mr. Green seconded this motion. Additional discussion ensued regarding the specificity of the referenda. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

*General Action Items – Approval of the Appeals Process for Alignment and Classification Committee and the Board of Directors prior to finalizing this issue in late September* – Mr. Martinez directed the Board to page 42 for the current important dates in the alignment and classification process. Mr. Phipps suggested delaying the presentation of the referenda until March 28<sup>th</sup> for development of the referenda questions and submission to the Board for their review before sending out. Discussion ensued. Ms. Ryan made a motion adjusting the Advisory Referenda date to March 28<sup>th</sup> with a due date of April 19<sup>th</sup>, and rescheduling the appeals hearings before the Alignment/Classification Committee to April 30, 2007. Mr. Kennon seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

- IV. *Sports Specific Action Items – Baseball/Softball – Increasing the junior high game limitations from the present 12 games to 18 games* – Mr. Jim Smelcer the Athletic Director of Rio Rancho Mid High presented as acting chair of the Middle School/Junior High Committee. Mr. Smelcer stated there was a discrepancy between the game limitations for grades 6 through 8 in baseball, softball and basketball, recommending that all three limitations should be 18, as was the current case for basketball. Discussion ensued. Mr. Rounds made a motion to support the increase in game limitations for baseball and softball at the middle school/junior high level to 18. Mr. Pool seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

*Sports Specific Action Items – Co-oping – Allowing Santa Fe Prep in conjunction with other Santa Fe area member schools to co-op in baseball with no post season or district play permitted* – Mr. Martinez presented this request would not effect post season or district play, but would allow for increased participation for students in these schools. Discussion ensued. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Ferguson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

- V. *General Discussion and Information Items* – Mr. Tripp presented 40+ nominations for Sportsmanship awards were received by the NMAA. He further stated a luncheon was being held at the Wyndham Hotel honoring those recipients as well as

the 25/50 year reunion attendees. Mr. Tripp also stated that T. J. Parks, Randy Adrian and Don Alsup would be honored at a Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction Ceremony which would also be held at the Wyndham.

VI. *No Addendum Agenda*

VII. The next meeting of the NMAA Board of Directors is scheduled for Wednesday, June 6, 2007 with the Board of Directors Retreat to be held on Tuesday, June 5, 2007.

VIII. A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Ryan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Johnson and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.