

NMAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Wednesday, March 11th, 2009
9:00 A.M., Pete McDavid Lounge at the Pit



- I. The NMAA Board of Directors met on Wednesday, March 11th, 2009, at the Pete McDavid Lounge at the Pit, 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); Dr. R.L. Richards (Small Area B); 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); and Mr. Dane Kennon (At-Large Member).

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. Harris and seconded by Dr. Abreu to approve the agenda. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

The minutes from the February 12th, 2009 Board meeting were presented. A motion was made by Dr. Richards to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

- II. *Executive Session* - Mr. Phipps stated the Board needed to go into executive session to discuss certain topics. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously. The Board entered into Executive session at 9:05 a.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Rounds to resume regular session. Dr. Abreu seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. At 10:36 a.m. the Board returned to regular session.

- III. *Directors Report* – Mr. Tripp started off by reminding the Board this is an Alignment and Classification year. He stated next year the NMAA will bring forth suggestions on seeding and selection.

Mr. Tripp stated the NMAA gives the Foundation \$15,000 from the revenue earned through the state championship video streaming. He stated yesterday there were 32,000 individual IP's received through the state championship video streaming. He stated next week he would report the unique hits received from the video streaming of the games that have been played at the state basketball championship.

Mr. Tripp stated the NMAA is continuing to make progress on the “Life of an Athlete” program which will be unveiled next year. He stated the NMAA feels if we give teenagers the information on the affects of alcohol and how it hinders athletic performances, we would hope to be able to curb the use of alcohol by teenagers.

- IV. *Financial Report* – Consider reducing member school assessments by 3% for the 2009-2010 school year due to budgetary concerns. - Ms. Daniels stated the NMAA has proposed a 6% reduction in school membership dues. She asked the Board to turn to pg. 9 of their packets. Listed on pg. 9 of the packet is the 6% proposal for all classes.

Mr. Tripp stated the NMAA is recommending a number of methods to save the NMAA and the member schools money because of the economic crisis.

A motion was made by Mr. Ferguson to accept the recommendations made by the NMAA staff, whereas schools will have a 6% reduction at the senior high level and all middle schools will have a \$230 fee regardless of classification. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

- V. *General Action Item* – Consider the action necessary concerning track and field for Cimarron High School based on Moreno Valley Charter High School students competing with Cimarron, thus giving them Class AA enrollment numbers. – Mr. Tripp proposed that Moreno Valley students do run and participate with Cimarron High School, but the points scored by Moreno Valley Charter school students do not count towards Cimarron's total points.

Mr. Tripp stated that he and Mr. Martinez would be monitoring and taking care of this issue.

Mr. Phipps stated if Moreno Valley Charter School students want to run track with Cimarron, they can run. This will allow us to follow the law. He stated the students would run unattached.

Mr. Martinez stated that he didn't think the word unattached was the proper word for the situation. He stated the Moreno Valley Charter School students would still be able to qualify for state. He stated it just means they cannot generate points for Cimarron High School.

A motion was made by Mr. Green to accept the recommendations made by the NMAA staff, whereas Moreno Valley will be allowed to participate with Cimarron, but their points will be generated for Moreno Valley and not Cimarron. Moreno Valley student athletes will be able to qualify to the state event. Ms. Ryan seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

General Action Item – Consider defining the actual makeup of the Review Committee which is the first level of appeal in Sections 13 and 14 of the NMAA handbook. – Ms. Marquez started off by saying the NMAA has an excellent appeals committee. She stated we would like to add on to 13.1.1 in the bylaws.

Mr. Tripp stated that we would like to keep the committee as close as possible.

Ms. Marquez stated we have five superintendents that work all the time on the appeals committee. She stated that it does get very busy for the committee. She stated she would like to include retired superintendents to serve on the committee.

Mr. Green stated that it would be fine if a majority of the committee members were required to be active superintendents.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson to accept the recommendations made by the NMAA staff, whereas a majority of the committee members would be active superintendents. Dr. Richards seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

General Action Item – Consider sending out an advisory referenda on the issue of 8th grade participation at the high school level. –Mr. Martinez asked the board to turn to pg. 12 of the board packet. He stated the NMAA was asking to be able to send out a referendum on the issue of 8th grade participation. He stated the results could be separated by classification. He stated there were issues for and against 8th grade participation. He stated some of the arguments against 8th grade participation include taking away students from middle school athletics. Also, it causes a problem of displacement for some juniors and seniors. The issues supporting 8th grade participation came from small schools that rely on 8th graders to keep specific sports active. This includes, volleyball, basketball, and cross country.

A motion was made by Dr. Richards to accept the recommendations made by the NMAA staff. Ms. Lopez seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

General Action Item – Consider adopting the NMAA’s staff recommendations on reduction of games or matches due to budgetary concerns. – Mr. Tripp stated the NMAA’s proposal was to eliminate pool play from the volleyball state tournament, and the soccer state tournament making it only one weekend long instead of two. He stated the NMAA would also like to do away with double elimination for the softball state tournament, as well as eliminate the 2 out of 3 rule that is followed for the baseball state tournament. He also stated that the state tennis tournament would be reformatted so that it was only one weekend instead of two.

Mr. Phipps stated that the local districts and member schools should consider eliminating games as needed to cut back on expenses.

Mr. Tripp stated the NMAA staff encourages member schools to reduce the amount of games played during a season and let the local districts decide which ones will be eliminated.

Mr. Green made a motion to table the issue and bring it back as a discussion item for review. Ms. Lopez seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the issue was tabled.

General Action Item – Consider adjusting state championship formats in particular sports to reduce costs for member schools. – Mr. Tripp stated the new formats for the state championships were on pg. 18 of the board packet. The NMAA would eliminate pool play at the State Volleyball Championships, and the State Soccer Championships. The NMAA would eliminate the two out of three format in the State Baseball tournament first round. The NMAA would eliminate the double elimination format in softball. Lastly, the NMAA would reduce the State Tennis Tournament to one week versus two weeks, thus combining the team and individual championships into one week.

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

General Action Item – Consider revising “the point of origin” in payment of officials as per the NMAA Adhoc Committee. – Ms. Sanchez stated we are talking about officials being paid from their hometown rather than their group. She stated only one driver is paid for a contest that would be determined by the officiating crew. She stated that would be the recommendation for officials.

A motion was made Mr. Green to accept the recommendations made by the NMAA staff, whereas officials’ would be paid from their hometown rather than their group. Dr. Abreu seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

General Action Item – Consider increasing officials’ mileage from .405 to the .46 cents per mile as per the NMAA Adhoc Committee. – Ms. Sanchez stated we request that the item is tabled due to current economic issues.

Mr. Rounds made a motion to table the issue. Ms. Ferguson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the issue was tabled.

General Action Item – Consider adopting the Alignment and Classification finalized proposal as per the process adopted by the Board of Directors on October 15, 2008 (Member schools will be allowed to appeal on June 3, 2009.) – Mr. Tripp asked the Board Members to turn to pg. 21 of the board packets. He stated on that page the criteria and rules were set for the Alignment and Classification. He stated on pg. 43 there are a couple of schools that would like to speak on behalf of their districts.

Mr. Green stated appeals would be heard on June 3, 2009.

Mr. Tripp stated we do have a request for Swimming and Diving to go to two classifications. He stated we have had feedback from small schools requesting that we break into two classifications.

Mr. Benoit, the Floyd Superintendent, thanked the NMAA for taking the time to listen to them. He stated Mr. Chenault, the Floyd Baseball coach, was there to speak about the problems with 1A baseball.

Mr. Chenault stated as a coach the current block, and the way the state championships are setup, it would be easy to have a 1A and 2A state tournament. He stated as a dad we have some athletes that have the potential to have some success, but stated we cannot compete with 2A schools. He stated as an advocate of the students we do not want 1A baseball to die out in the state of New Mexico. He stated under the current process we feel that 1A baseball will die out in a few years. He stated we are willing to find sponsors to make this work.

Mr. Phipps stated that the Board will ask the NMAA staff to look into this. He stated it’s too late this year and we would have to call an emergency meeting for approval.

Mr. Tripp stated it doesn’t have anything to do with money. He stated every student in the state of New Mexico needs to be treated with dignity and class. He stated again that the money was not the issue.

Mr. Guardiola, the Superintendent and Athletic Director at Santa Fe Indian School, spoke on behalf of District 2-3A. He stated Santa Fe Indian School’s first choice was to remain as is. He stated his proposal was for Santa Fe Indian School, Pojoaque, St. Mike’s, Hope, and Sandia Prep be in one district.

Mr. Tripp stated that on pg. 34 of the board packet is that exact recommendation for the 2009-2010 Alignment and Classification.

Mr. Martinez asked the board to turn to pg. 30 of the board packet. He stated we set a system up to move schools after two years not every four years in the case of attendance changes. They could appeal to this board and adjust the alignment for the remaining two years.

A motion was made by Dr. Richards to accept the recommendations on Alignment and Classification made by the NMAA staff. Mr. Rounds seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

- VI. *Sports Specific Action Item – Consider limiting softball games at the sub-varsity level to 1 hour and 45 minutes.* – Mr. Martinez stated three or four years ago we thought we had this in writing in the sport of baseball. We approved junior varsity baseball for this and we would like to keep it consistent across the state.

A motion was made by Dr. Abreu to accept the recommendations made by the NMAA staff, whereas sub-varsity softball games will be limited to 1 hour and 45 minutes. Mr. Rounds seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

- VII. *General Discussion and Information Items – Progress by NMAA Administration and the Archdiocese which includes St. Pius to have their parochial middle schools become members of the NMAA.* – Mr. Tripp stated if you remember St. Pius Coaches and the archdiocese had discussions on whether or not coaches could speak with their students. He stated their biggest concern is 8th grade participation. He feels like the parochial schools will become member schools at the junior high level thus alleviating the problems.

General Discussion and Information Items – State Basketball Tournament schedule including Awards, Luncheons, Inductions Ceremonies, Presentations and other important information. – Mr. Martinez stated on pg. 44 and 45 of the board packet the schedule for the State Basketball tournament was listed.

- VIII. *Addendum Agenda– Consider a variety of options concerning officials that would potentially save the member schools money due to budgetary concerns.* – Ms. Sanchez stated we needed other people to help reduce the costs for officiating. If we cut the 3rd official we are going to see more injuries, fights, and not enough Pursuing Victory With Honor. Those who supported it were those who only use two person mechanics.

Ms. Sanchez stated a sliding mileage scale based off of the current gas prices and local economy would help. This would mean officials pay would be affected by the gas prices at the current time. An example would be if the current gas price was set

at \$2.50 a gallon the officials pay would be X amount based off of the price of gas per gallon. The officials pay would then change again if the gas prices were to rise or drop and would be adjusted accordingly. She also stated she would have a reduction in meal allocation and officials pay.

Mr. Green made a motion to table to issue. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was tabled.

Addendum Agenda– Appeal by Dora Schools to participate in 6-man football district and potentially qualify for the state playoffs beginning in 2009. – Mr. Tripp recommended that the policy states a school must wait until they can switch classifications or districts. Mr. Martinez stated we need to follow the policies and be consistent with the rulings. Mr. Green agreed and stated we cannot go against the policies.

Dr. Richards made a motion to table the issue. Mr. Rounds seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was tabled.

- IX. *Next Board Meeting is Wednesday, June 3, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. at the NMAA.*
- X. *Consider Adjournment* - A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Ryan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Green. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.