

**NMAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008**  
**10:30 a.m., NMAA Conference Room A**



- I. The NMAA Board of Directors met on Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008 for their regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. Mike Phipps, Board President, called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m.

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

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

A motion was made by Dr. Richards and seconded by Mr. Rounds to approve the agenda. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

The minutes from the June 5<sup>th</sup> and July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008 Board meetings were presented. A motion was made by Mr. Green to approve the minutes. Ms. Ryan seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

- II. *Director's Report* - Mr. Tripp welcomed the board members and thanked them all for attending. He welcomed everyone back to school for the 2008-2009 school year.

Mr. Tripp stated there were four issues that he needed to bring to the attention of the board members. The first issue he brought up was that the NMAA has adapted a new curriculum for the coach's education program. He stated that the NMAA is very happy with the NFHS coach's education training program. Mr. Tripp encouraged all coaches and in our member school to take the training program. He stated that all NMAA staff members have taken the test and if any board members would like to take it the NMAA will pay for it.

The second issue that Mr. Tripp brought up was that he met with the Phil Baca from the NMPED to ensure that we had athletic coordinators with the proper qualifications, working in our member schools. He stated that he talked about many athletic coordinators that may need to take classes in order to obtain their administrative license or level of Certified Athletic Administrator (CAA) in order to ensure that they have the proper training needed in order to successfully perform their job. He stated he spoke with many athletic coordinators that may be grandfathered in because of the amount of knowledge and experience that they have gained throughout the years. He stated that he would continue to discuss these issues with the NMPED.

Mr. Johnson asked if we required athletic coordinators to have their administrative license or certification.

Mr. Tripp stated that athletic coordinators are required to have their Registered Athletic Administrator (RAA) certification, from there they go on to complete their CAA and Certified Mater Athletic Administrator (CMAA) certification. Several athletic coordinators have their RAA certification. In order to move up from the RAA certification, athletic coordinators must obtain the proper certification. The state of New Mexico offers the CAA training. In order to be an athletic director in the state of New Mexico you must obtain CAA certification. Mr. Tripp stated he thinks it gives the state of New Mexico more credibility if athletic coordinators are required to have a CAA. He stated he thinks we need to be involved at the national level.

Mr. Johnson stated we need to encourage these administrators to take the proper classes that they need in order to obtain their certification.

Mr. Harris asked what the numbers were in the state of New Mexico for the CMAA certification.

Mr. Tripp stated that less than fifteen athletic directors in the state of New Mexico held that CMAA certification. He stated for the RAA certification there are probably a handful of people that have this in the state of New Mexico.

Mr. Evans stated that there are probably about 30-40 people that carry this certification.

Mr. Phipps stated that he would like to encourage others to get the license and training, and others that have years of experience can be grandfathered in.

Mr. Rounds asked if we can consider a tiered ladder for obtaining a license.

Mr. Tripp stated he thinks we can get a tiered ladder for people to obtain their license.

The third issue Mr. Tripp wanted to speak about was Pursuing Victory With Honor. He stated that it continues to go very well and feels that it is very successful.

The fourth issue Mr. Tripp talked about was the Fall Annual Meeting. Mr. Tripp stated we are going to be having a guest speaker from New York coming to speak, as well as Senator Sanchez. They will be speaking about steering away from testing athletes for drugs and steroid use. Mr. Tripp stated they will be steering more towards an educational approach for teachers, coaches, athletic directors, and students. He stated it will be a system for administrators to learn about and then to take the information back to students to teach them. He stated that this was something that they were working towards for the future.

Lastly, Mr. Tripp mentioned that last year Ms. Marquez started the “Volley for the Cure” program. He stated that last year Rio Rancho and La Cueva played a game and raised over \$10,000. This year Eunice and Tatum kicked off the “Volley for the Cure” program and raised over \$2,000. by raffling off cakes. He stated that this has been a great thing for the state of New Mexico and the kids are really stepping up and doing great things with this program.

- III. *Financial Reports* – Ms. Daniels, Director of Finance, presented a report of the budget for the 2008-2009 school year. Ms. Daniels then introduced Nick Landers and Eric Robinson, the auditors, to give a brief overview of their audit they conducted for the New Mexico Activities Association.

Mr. Landers called attention to page 50 of the Board packet. He stated he received everything and based on the account him and Mr. Robinson didn't see anything wrong.

Mr. Robinson stated that page 53 and 54 covers the balance sheet. He stated they did have one issue with inventory. He stated the NMAA needed to make sure to write down what is actually in the inventory book. He stated that overall the total assets did increase. The liabilities stayed about the same. Lastly, the balance sheet is very clean and in good shape.

Mr. Robinson then went over the Income Statement. He stated the revenue did increase from last year due to in-kind donations. Tournament revenue and membership dues stayed about the same. He stated that revenue and expenses increased their net worth. He stated the NMAA did turn a profit. The review was very clean and the only change would be to the baring in inventory change. He stated there was a letter on the last page and it stated the only thing they would like to see was some sort of a threshold of what sits on the balance sheet.

Mr. Phipps asked if anyone had any questions. He stated he we would like to thank Nick Landers and Eric Hinkle for all their work and the report they put together. He stated he would like to commend Ms. Daniels and the staff for everything.

Mr. Tripp stated in Ms. Daniels report there is a break down of all sports.

Mr. Richards asked on page 32, does \$3,000. reflect the net income of the NMAA.

Ms. Daniels stated that was correct.

- IV. *Executive Session* - Mr. Phipps stated that there was no need to go into Executive Session, it was not necessary at this time. The board continued on in regular session.
- V. *General Action Items – Consider approving procedures and sanctions for collecting late payments from Member Schools* – Ms. Daniels stated that on page 64 of the Board packet there is a process of procedure for assessing dues. She stated on June 15<sup>th</sup> the NMAA will send the Superintendent or Head Master of any school that has an outstanding fee a bill of what is due to the NMAA. She stated if the NMAA does not receive payment by June 30<sup>th</sup> the member school will become inactive. They will then have to appeal to the Board of Directors and pay a fine to become an active member again.

Ms. Ryan asked if this information goes to the Superintendent.

Mr. Tripp stated at this level, it does go to the Superintendent.

Ms. Kennon asked if this was the first time the Superintendent will be hearing about any fees from the NMAA.

Ms. Daniels stated we try as a last resort to send it to the Superintendent. She stated prior to this we make contact with Athletic Directors and then as a last resort we go to the Superintendents.

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

*General Action Items – Consider approving a form letter from the Board of Directors to be used on a yearly basis to allow management of scholarship monies by the NMAA office.* – Mr. Tripp stated that the Principle Financial Group handles all our monies that are to be distributed for scholarships. He stated that we would like to ask for permission for the NMAA to handle and distribute all the scholarship money. Mr. Rounds made a motion to approve this general action item. Mr. Green seconded the motion. A vote was taken and carried unanimously.

*General Action Items – Consider allowing home school students to participate in all sports starting with the 2009-2010 school year.* – Ms. Marquez asked everyone to turn to page 66 of the Board packet. She stated the bylaws committee met this past July. She stated a home school parent came to the meeting and asked for a home school team to be allowed to compete against member schools. The bylaws committee thought it was a good idea and wanted to be open minded to allowing home school students to participate in all sports.

Mr. Tripp brought up three things that he would like for the board members to consider. The first was to allow high school teams to participate. The second was to allow home school students to participate at any school of their choice. The third is to allow home school students to participate in all sports.

Mr. Rounds asked if the issue was going beyond one sport.

Ms. Ryan asked does this include activities as well.

Mr. Tripp stated this includes all activities they can participate in.

Ms. Marquez stated that this includes all extra curricular activities and not co-curricular activities where a student may be required to be in a class in order to participate in the activity. Dr. Richards made a motion to table this issue. Mr. Rounds seconded the motion.

*General Action Items – Consider revising the language for “ Transfers for Athletic Purposes” (Referenda).* – Ms. Marquez asked everyone to turn to page 67 of the Board packet. She stated that in the five years under Mr. Tripp’s administration, we are having a hard time proving a child transfers for athletic purposes. She stated that we still cannot prove this. She stated that it is very difficult to rule a child ineligible for 180 school days for violation of this bylaw. Ms. Marquez stated that we would like to omit the statement “Transfers for Athletic Purposes”. Dr. Richards made a motion to approve this general action item. Mr. Green seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it carried unanimously.

*General Action Items – Consider approving a requirement whereas participant member schools complete and submit an NMAA sanction verification of eligibility form prior to the State Competition (Referenda).* – Ms. Derr asked everyone to turn to pages 68 and 69 of the Board packet. Ms. Derr stated there was a concern that there is no way to verify eligibility for activities. She stated that right now we use the honor system, but it is very easy for some kids to participate without having academic eligibility. She stated that the form on page 69 will help verify eligibility for students who participate in activities competitions.

Mr. Tripp stated we do use this form for Spirit/Cheer competition. Mr. Richards made a motion to accept this general action recommendation. Mr. Kennon seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was carried unanimously.

*General Action Items – Consider adopting the NMAA lightning and weather delay procedures in all outdoor sports: football, cross country, soccer, baseball, softball, golf, track and field, and tennis* – Mr. Phipps stated he had some input from officials about this policy. He stated he thought we needed to table this issue and send it to the sports specific committees and the OCC for review.

Mr. Tripp stated he would like to suspend the NMAA football bylaws and follow the NFHS sports rulebook, which stated we would wait 30 minutes before any suspension of the game occurred. He stated he was asking for that to be considered.

Mr. Martinez stated that this year at the La Cueva and Clovis game this issue was brought to our attention. He stated that this is now an attempt to clean everything up. He stated we would like to finish a contest if possible. He stated it was impossible to reschedule some football games due to the amount of travel time and loss of school time that occurs. He stated because games don’t get finished it could have an affect on the seeding and selection process. He stated this was an attempt to lessen the confusion and assist the items that he mentioned.

Mr. Phipps stated there were a lot of emails that he received about this issue and this is why he feels we should assign this to the committees.

Mr. Tripp stated that we received emails from individuals that felt the officials did this wrong. He stated we found a bylaw that stated officials can suspend a game. He stated this was why we would like to use the NFHS rules.

Ms Sanchez stated we had officials that were following different rules other than the NMAA bylaws and handbook.

Mr. Rounds stated that he supports this if it has bearing on the seeding.

Mr. Martinez stated that if a contest isn't finished it could potentially affect the seeding and selection process for that contest. He stated the officials didn't do anything wrong and they followed the rules that said to suspend the game.

Mr. Phipps stated we don't want to change any rules in the middle of the season. He stated if officials didn't do anything wrong then let's keep everything the same.

Mr. Martinez stated that he really wanted to get that straight because if we get two schools in a state championship and it starts lightning, are we supposed to not finish the game? He stated that we have asked officials to try and finish games. He stated that of course the plan is to get everyone out of danger. He stated that most storms in the state of New Mexico don't go beyond two hours. He stated that if we go by our bylaws and if it starts lightning, the game is over and we must end the game.

Dr. Richards motioned to approve this general action item. Mr. Rounds motioned to add a friendly amendment to it and allow the NMAA to make the final decision.

Mr. Tripp stated that all officials would have the phone numbers for Ms. Dana Sanchez, Mr. Mario Martinez, and Mr. Gary Tripp in case something came up and there was a weather delay. He stated this would allow the officials to give one of them a call and decided on whether to follow the NMAA or NFHS rules. He stated if there was no answer from any of them, then the officials can make the call.

Mr. Martinez asked everyone to turn to pages 71 and 72 of the Board packet. He stated that this was an attempt to clean this up. He stated that it does follow the NFHS rules, but he needs to know what to tell an official in case they do call about this type of issue.

Mr. Rounds made a motion to reconsider the tabled item and the friendly amendment. Dr. Richards seconded the motion. Ms. Ryan opposed. Mr. Rounds made a motion to table the general action item. Mr. Ferguson seconded the motion. Mr. Green stated that we want to stick with the original decision as much as possible. The rules right now say we will cut them off at the end of the second half. He stated we can allow them to call Mr. Tripp for final decision.

Mr. Tripp offered a possible solution. He stated let's not change the rules in the middle of the season. He stated we can live by the rules for the regular season. He

stated that maybe for the post season we can change the rules for the playoffs so everyone is able to finish the game. He stated that this would allow us to follow the new guidelines for the playoffs. Mr. Harris made a motion that we follow Mr. Tripp's recommendation and adopt page 70 of the Board packet at the end of regular season play. Mr. Kennon seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was carried unanimously.

*General Action Items – Consider having Cimarron High School participate in District 4-AA in the sport of track and field where Moreno Valley Charter High School students participate with Cimarron based on the fact that they potentially have 200 students to choose from. – Mr. Tripp stated that currently with the Charter School Legislation we haven't had an issue where it keeps them at the same classification. But where Moreno Valley and Cimarron compete in track and field together, it changes Cimarron's classification.*

A representative for Moreno Valley Charter School said that they do not have the potential for 200 students, and that isn't the case. She stated that not all students who attend Moreno Valley are from Cimarron's district. She stated that some students are from Taos which means they would still be a Class A school. She stated when you take this into consideration you're going to have to look at every school that has a charter school in their district. She stated the fact is that we are at the high end for Class A.

Ms. Lopez stated at this point they are looking at 210 students to compete with. She asked if we are showing equity for these students.

The representative for Cimarron stated this is the second issue that has come up, and they shouldn't be punished for having a terrific track and field coach that is able to get all of the students involved in track and field. Mr. Martinez stated the average for all Class A schools is 75 students.

Mr. Harris stated that this would have to be a case by case issue.

Mr. Tripp answered by saying yes, we do look at all schools that have charter schools in their districts. He stated we need to look at schools that participate with 14-45 students and a school that has 35-125 students on a team. Dr. Richards stated that he had a concern for Class AA because if you move up to Class AA this might be unfair. Mr. Rounds made a motion to table this issue. Dr. Richards seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the issue was tabled.

*General Action Items – Consider seeding Class A and AA basketball (and potentially volleyball & baseball) 1-16 as is done in classes 3A-5A – Mr. Tripp stated what a survey was requested by schools to move from 1-12 to 1-16. He stated that he believes that it is going to add more travel time to their schedules.*

Mr. Ferguson agreed with Mr. Tripp that it would cause a lot of travel time and missed school.

Mr. Green stated we are going to get complaints regardless of what we decide. A motion was made by Mr. Ferguson to leave everything as is. Dr. Richards seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried 11-1.

- VI. *General Action Items – Sports Specific – Baseball: Consider revising the A/AA State Championships format whereas the first round will be one game versus a two out of three format.* – Mr. Young stated Class A/AA schools have a lot of dual participation students. He stated that some games are on Tuesdays because track meets are on Saturdays. The NMAA believes that this causes missed school time. Mr Young proposed one game instead of two out of three. A motion was made by Mr. Kennon to approve this general action item. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it carried unanimously.

*General Action Items – Sport Specific – Softball: Consider increasing the A/AA State Championships format to twelve teams based on the creation of five districts versus four, due to new teams and the geographic makeup of the schools involved.*– Mr. Pino stated that they created a fifth district to reduce travel time. He stated that this worked out great for small schools. A motion was made by Mr. Kennon to approve the staff recommendation. Dr. Richards seconded the motion. A vote was taken and carried unanimously.

*General Action Items – Sport Specific –Track: Consider running the 1600m relay with a three turn stagger at the Class A/AA level as is done at the Class 3A/5A level (only mandated at the State Championships)* – Mr. Martinez asked if everyone could turn to page 85 of the Board packet. He stated that small schools had been resistant to this because their school tracks weren't marked correctly for this type of change. He stated small schools don't have to make any changes to their tracks and won't have to even for districts. He stated the only time this would be put into effect would be at the state championships. He stated that almost all schools get to race on a track during regular season that has the proper markings. A motion was taken to approve the staff recommendation. Dr. Richards seconded the motion. A vote was taken and carried unanimously.

*General Action Items – Sport Specific – Cross Country: Consider revising the State Championship qualifying system whereas there could potentially be three additional individual qualifiers from non-qualifying teams as per the sports specific recommendations.* – Mr. Aragon stated that currently the top ten finishers at the district meet qualify for state. He stated that most of the top ten finishers are individuals that qualify to state by their teams placing in the top three at districts. He stated by allowing the top three individuals that are not on a qualifying team to qualify individually for state, this will help increase the number of participants at the state meet. A motion to approve the staff recommendation was made by Mr. Green. Mr. Kennon seconded the motion. A vote was taken and carried unanimously.

- VI. *General Discussion/Information Items – Dr. Jacqueline Boyd: Moreno Valley Charter on student participation.* – Dr. Boyd stated we would like to have all students in the Cimarron District be allowed to participate with us.

Mr. Green asked if we are all of a sudden opening the doors for abuse of this system. He stated that it would be easy for schools to team up and agree on having certain teams at certain schools in order to create one stronger team.

A representative from Moreno Valley stated there was a problem when 8<sup>th</sup> graders were playing on soccer teams. She stated that 8<sup>th</sup> graders can no longer play soccer at their school.

Mr. Tripp asked should those 8<sup>th</sup> graders be participating in high school.

*General Discussion/Information Items – Potentially eliminating 8<sup>th</sup> grade participation at the high school level in all classes except Class A.* – Dr. Richards stated that his schools did away with it because it caused a lot of problems.

Mr. Kennon stated he felt this was more of a local decision. He stated he believes these decisions should be made on a local level.

Mr. Phipps stated he felt this is more of an individual sports decision.

Dr. Abreu stated that athletic directors are happy with 8<sup>th</sup> graders participating after the season is over.

Mr. Martinez stated that at the Section VI meeting the NMAA asked this question. He stated that none of the states that belong to the Section VI Region allow 8<sup>th</sup> graders to participate at the high school level.

Ms. Marquez stated she took this issue to several committees including the appeal, and bylaw committees and they would like to eliminate 8<sup>th</sup> graders from participating at the high school level. She stated that 100% of them wanted 8<sup>th</sup> graders to stay participating at the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level.

Mr. Tripp stated that we would like to take this issue to the annual meeting to gain some feedback.

*General Discussion/Information Items – Alignment and Classification update: 2008-2009 is a count year and the next two year alignment will be determined during the course of this school year. Recommendations to the NMAA staff is how we will proceed.* – Mr. Tripp stated this was a count year to organize classification. He stated we put together some question on page 90 of the Board packet. He stated we would like for the Board of Directors to take some time and answer these questions to help us gain some feedback. He stated that this is meant to be a continued discussion. He stated he thought these questions could serve as a possible solution for the next alignment and classification process.

*General Discussion/Information Items – The possibility of mandating a two week moratorium for summer Athletics/Activities* – Dr. Richards stated that he thinks it's good for kids, especially if we are looking at multi-sport kids. He stated it gives them time to take care of family issues. Mr. Harris stated the he didn't think you could force something like this. Mr. Johnson stated that the agreement was that we could

close school facilities and students can do what they want, they just can't see the schools facilities. He stated that this was more of a local issue with what you do.

*General Discussion/Information Items – The possibility of adding new sports in the future.* – Mr. Tripp stated the sports people are asking for are lacrosse, skiing, racquetball, boys volleyball, and girls wrestling. Mr. Kennon stated to bring in something like boys volleyball we must make sure that it is equal for girls because you can't have more boys teams than girls teams.

*General Discussion/Information Items – NMAA calendar for the 2008-2009 and next year 2009-2010 including championship sites.* – Mr. Zayas gave a quick look at the championship dates. He stated the state volleyball tournament will be held at Johnson gymnasium and at Santa Ana Star Center this year. He stated the spirit competition will be at Santa Ana Star Center for the 2008-2009 year. Mr. Tripp stated the only other place that we can have the Spirit competition would be at NMSU.

*General Discussion/Information Items – Rosters and Schedules are required to be on-line by September 15<sup>th</sup> or face a financial penalty.* – Mr. Zayas stated that this falls under the new bylaw that requires teams to have their rosters and schedules posted on-line. He stated there will be a \$250. fine for the programs that didn't follow the bylaw. He stated on pages 101 and 102 of the Board packet there is a list of schools that did not post their rosters or schedules by the deadline.

*General Discussion/Information Items – Report on NMHSCA by Executive Director Buster Maybrey* – Mr. Maybrey stated this year they had two hall of honor inductees; Mr. Gary Sanchez and Mr. Mario Martinez. He stated he would like to thank the NMAA staff for their help with the Coaches Clinic. He stated through the leadership of Mr. Tripp he is pleased that everything has come together and it has been easy for the NMOA, NMAA, and NMHSCA to be located in the same building. He stated the association is growing in numbers. He stated he is currently working on increasing coach's educational opportunities. He stated the coaches association is increasing their all-star events. Lastly, he stated the state clinic had been scheduled for the next 10 years.

*General Discussion/Information Items – The NMAA foundation and how member schools can help.* – Mr. Tripp stated they have a meeting tomorrow morning and Board members were welcome to attend. He stated the foundation will be holding the Cottonwood Bowl-A-Thon in January. He stated that we will be trying to raise \$10,000 to \$15,000. He stated the golf tournament this year will take place in Belen. He stated Mr. Cleland is working on a website for the foundation, so we can start working on donations.

*General Discussion/Information Items – Activities Update* – Ms. Derr stated the Activities Committee meeting took place the first week of September. She stated out of that meeting they came up with a display for activities. She stated at the Spirit Summit she let everyone know the state competition was going to take place at the Santa Ana Star Center for the 2008-2009 school year. She stated that Mr. Evans presented a Pursuing Victory With Honor presentation for all attendees at the Spirit Summit. She stated that she is looking into PVWH patches for cheerleaders to wear

on their uniforms. She stated that the first Bowling tournament will take place at Leisure Bowling alley this week.

*General Discussion/Information Items – Annual Fall Conference dates and information* – Mr. Zayas stated on October 12<sup>th</sup> the LTC courses will begin. He stated on Sunday evening athletic directors can start gaining education towards their CAA certification. He stated at the Fall Conference J.P. Murrieta will be the MC. He stated that on page 100 of the Board packet, it has all the information for the only mandatory day of the conference.

VII. *Addendum Agenda: Discuss the current NMAA appeals process both from a current and historical perspective.* – This item was tabled for discussion in December.

IX. *Next Board Meeting Wednesday, December 10, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. at the NMAA.*

X. *Consider Adjournment*

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Ferguson. The motion was seconded by Mr. Green and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.