

**NMAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**Wednesday, March 12, 2008**  
**10:00 a.m., The Pete McDavid Lounge/The Pit**



I. *Call Meeting to Order and Welcome*

The NMAA Board of Directors met on Wednesday, March 12, 2008 for their regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. Mike Phipps, Board President, called the meeting to order at 9:58 a.m.

*Roll Call – Ascertain Quorum*

Ms. Becky Mullins, Assistant Director, called roll and the following Board members were present: Mr. Bill Green (Small Area C), Mr. Rick Ferguson (Small Area D), Mr. Dane Kennon (At-Large Member), Mr. Dion Sandoval (NM School 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), and Mr. Stan Rounds (Large School District II), were present. Ms. Zita Lopez ( Small Area A), Dr. R.L. Richards (Small Area B), Ms. Linda Sink (Large School District I), and Mr. Lawrence Johnson (NMAA Commission Representative) were absent. Quorum was declared.

*Approval of Agenda and Addendum Agenda*

A motion was made by Mr. Harris to move the addendum agenda item between items 1 and 2 on the main agenda. Motion seconded by Mr. Rounds to approve the agenda with changes as stated by Mr. Harris. The motion carried unanimously.

*Approval of Minutes*

The minutes of the January 30, 2008 Board meeting were presented. A motion was made by Mr. Ferguson to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Kennon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

II. *Financial Report*

Ms. Carol Daniels addressed the Board and presented the NMAA financial report, contained in the Board packet beginning on page 12. Ms. Daniels stated the NMAA currently had 1.2 million in reserve funds, however, it was the goal to achieve a 3.5 million dollar reserve. Ms. Daniels stated since March of 2004 there has been no increase in NMAA membership dues, however, due to the increase in activities supported by the NMAA and in order to offset additional operational and event costs, the budget Committee was now recommending a 3% increase in school assessments for the 2008-2009 school year, as identified later in the agenda under action items. Mr. Green made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Mr. Stan Rounds seconded the motion. Motion unanimously passed.

III. *Directors' Report*

Mr. Tripp welcomed the Board to the 2008 State Basketball Tournament and thanked them all for attending.

IV. *Executive Session*

Mr. Phipps asked the Board and Mr. Tripp if there were any pending matters that needed to be heard by the Board in executive session. Hearing none, no executive session was held.

V. *Personnel*

Mr. Phipps stated he had received the evaluations for the executive director and had shared the majority of them with Mr. Tripp. Mr. Tripp stated he also had available the evaluations of the two associate directors to share with the Board members and recommended approval of their contracts. Mr. Green made a motion to approve the Executive Director and Associate Director contracts. Ms. Ryan seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. *General Action Items– Consider increasing the school assessments by 3% for the 2008-2009 school year* – Mr. Tripp informed the Board that the Budget Review Committee and the NMAA's recommendation is to approve the minor increase in school assessments. Discussion was had regarding including correspondence with the new assessment explaining to the membership that the NMAA is in good financial standing, but the increase was necessary to support the additional activities, programs and event expenses. Mr. Ferguson made a motion to approve the 3% increase. Mr. Rounds seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

*General Action Item – Consider adopting the revised language for alignment and classification for the 2008-2009/2009-2010 two-year block* – Mr. Tripp informed the Board of a clerical omission in the alignment and classification language. The language stating “due to geographical reasons” a program could move up in classification was inadvertently omitted. Mr. Tripp cited Cobre tennis as an example, choosing to move up a classification for participation in tennis due to geographical reasons. Moving up a classification would still have to be approved by the Board and recommended by the Executive Director. Mr. Harris made a motion to approve the additional previously omitted language as presented. Mr. Ferguson seconded this motion. The motion carried unanimously.

*General Action Item – Consider using 3-person mechanics in basketball district tournaments (boys/girls-all classifications)* – Ms. Sanchez stated that many areas already currently use 3-person mechanics. Due to the nature of many of the competitions, 3-person mechanics are necessary for better game management and provide crews the opportunity to participate in 3-person mechanics prior to the state tournament. Discussion was had. Ms. Ryan made a motion to accept this proposal, amending it to allow for schools to apply for a waiver or funding from the NMAA if they were unable to financially support the use of a 3-person team. Ms. Rounds seconded the motion as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

*General Action Item – Consider increasing middle schools football officials pay to \$30 per game (currently \$25) – Ms. Sanchez stated this recommendation came from the NMOA Board. This proposal would increase the officiating fee to approximately ½ of the current varsity officiating fee. Mr. Ferguson made a motion to approve this proposal as presented. Mr. Kennon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

*General Action Item – Consider creating co-op teams at the Class A level in team sports only. (Volleyball, soccer, basketball, baseball and softball) – referenda item increasing middle school football officials pay to \$30 per game (currently \$25) – Mr. Tripp stated this request came from the Maxwell schools and other smaller schools in the northeast part of the state. The proposal would allow two small schools to combine their numbers within the maximum allowed in class A, be allowed to coop in team sports. Discussion was had regarding the unfortunate abuse that might occur, and the positives of allowing more kids the opportunity to participate. Additional discussion was had. Mr. Green made a motion to table this item for additional research. Mr. Sandoval seconded the motion. Motion to table unanimously carried.*

*General Action Item – Consider adopting an on-line Pursuing Victory With Honor program that must be completed by any student-athlete or coach who is disqualified prior to playing or coaching in a subsequent contest (The minimum standard of sitting out the next contest will remain in place). – Mr. Tripp presented this recommendation to the Board, which had been additionally discussed in previous meetings. Mr. Kennon made a motion to approve, adding “student-athlete or coach/sponsor” to the language. Dr. Abreu seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.*

*General Action Item – Eliminate Fall Tennis Season – Ms. Marquez stated that although tennis is a year-round sport, New Mexico high schools do not actually participate in the fall season. Keeping tennis as a year round sport, but eliminating the fall season would allow tennis players to play in USTA tournaments without affecting their total game limitations. Mr. Green made a motion to approve this proposal as presented. Mr. Kennon seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried. Dr. R.L. Richards joined the Board meeting at this time.*

*General Action Item – Consider adding a new classification in tennis for 2008-2009 for “small schools” or “new programs” – Ms. Marquez stated that jv and small schools who are unable to support a team participate with the USTA, who also hosts jv tennis programs and schools with only two or three participants. Currently, a school must be able to support a team with six players to participate in state. Allowing for a new classification, a team with 2 boys and 2 girls can accommodate a 4-2 format for state team participation. This format would allow for 4 individuals and two doubles, boys would play boys and girls would play girls. If the new classification is passed, the USTA has committed to assisting with payment for coaches for these startup programs. This would also allow large schools that don’t have the numbers for tennis participation. The whole intention of developing this new classification would be to allow more participation in the sport of tennis throughout the state. Mr. Kennon made the motion to approve to the*

proposal as stated. Dr. Abreu seconded the motion. Motion carried nine votes for, one against.

*General Action Item – Determine site based on RFP for the next 2-year block – Cross Country* – RFP documentation was available for all Board members to review. Mr. Tripp presented an overview of the bids received. Dr. Richards made a motion to approve Rio Rancho as the host site for cross country for the next two-year block. Mr. Kennon seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

*General Action Item – Determine site based on RFP for the next 2-year block – Wrestling* – RFP documentation was available for all Board members to review. Mr. Tripp presented an overview of the bids received. Mr. Green made a motion to approve Rio Rancho/Santa Ana Star Center as the host site for wrestling for the next two-year block. Dr. Richards seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion was had initiated by Mr. Phipps regarding the potential of purchasing mats for the state wrestling tournament. Currently the NMAA utilizes mats from local schools. The Santa Ana Star Center accommodates 8 mats. Mr. Phipps asked the NMAA look into purchasing these mats with an NMAA logo utilizing some of the funds granted to the NMAA by the legislature.

*General Action Item – Determine site based on RFP for the next 2-year block – Softball* – RFP documentation was available for all Board members to review. Mr. Tripp presented an overview of the bids received. Mr. Harris made a motion to approve the City of Las Cruces and the Las Cruces Convention and Visitors Bureau as the host site for softball for the next 2-year block. Mr. Rounds seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

## VII. *General Discussion/Information Items*

Ms. Alissa McCarthy, NMAA intern, reported on the referendum results that will be put in place in the fall of 2008 as well as the seeding/selection questionnaire that the membership had an opportunity to provide feedback on the past few weeks.

Mr. Robert Zayas reported on the 2008-2009 state championship dates as to provide information to the membership as they make next year's calendar.

Mr. Tripp reported on Secretary of Education Leader Dr. Veronica Garcia's plans to formulate a task force to examine the future of scholastic eligibility.

Mr. Tripp reported on the 2008 legislative session and how friendly it had been to the NMAA including the passage of \$143,000 to help with the costs of the state basketball tournament as well as the other events.

Mr. Dusty Young reported on how the sixteen team class A/AA baseball tournament will impact small school, loss of school time, and asked for feedback concerning this issue. The Board of Directors will think on this and make potential recommendations in the future.

Mr. Tripp reported that seating capacities at certain gymnasiums is a definite problem for district/state basketball playoff games and needs addressing for the future.

Mr. Tripp reported on the NMAA foundation Golf Tournament to be held on Friday, June 13, 2008 at the UNM Golf Championship Golf Course, the Pursuing Victory with Honor Sportsmanship Award recipients, and the state basketball championship schedule.

VIII. *Addendum Agenda Item*

Mr. James Rea presented to the Board the United States Flag Code and discussed the lack of proper flag decorum shown during the National Anthem at high school events. Mr. Rea stated that coaches, officials, and players were all role models in these situations and proper flag decorum should be shown. Discussion was had regarding possibly placing the United States Flag Code within the bylaws under sections 1.6 and 1.7 and placing the information in future state tournament event programs to continue to educate the public about this important matter.

Mr. Tripp briefly discussed the comp list for state basketball and stated the matter would be reviewed by the NMAA administrative staff and brought before the Board again at a later date. Many assistant basketball coaches throughout the state were not listed on the comp lists submitted by the superintendents/athletic directors and therefore did not have passes to get in to the state basketball tournament.

IX. *Board of Directors retreat and next meeting*

The Board of Directors retreat will be held on June 3, 2008 and the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 4 at 9:00 am at the NMAA Building.

X. *Consider Adjourn*

A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Abreu. The motion was seconded by Mr. Green and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously.