

**NMAA COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Wednesday, February 28, 2007**  
**9:00 a.m., NMAA Conference Room A**



- I. The NMAA Commission met on Wednesday, February 28, 2007 for their regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. Lawrence Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

Ms. Kristin Derr, Administrative Assistant called roll and the following commissioners were present: Mr. Amadeo Soto (Small Area A), Ms. Cris Dimitroff (Small Area B), Mr. Louie Baisa (Small Area C), Mr. Gary Schuster (Large Area A), Mr. Lawrence Johnson (Large Area C), Mr. Tom Manning (Large Area D), Mr. Steve Medeiros (Non-Public Schools), Chris Pash (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors Association), Mr. Scott Affentranger (National Association of Secondary School Principals), Mr. Charles A. "Tony" Sayre (State School Boards Association), and Mr. Don Gerheart (Activities Council). Mr. Gary Frazier (Small Area D), Mr. Bruce Carver (Large Area B), Mr. Oscar Payen (New Mexico Officials Association), and Mr. Frank Castillo (New Mexico High School Coaches Association) were absent. A quorum was declared and business before the Commission could be conducted.

Present from the NMAA were Gary Tripp, Executive Director, Mr. Mario Martinez, Associate Director, and Ms. Sally Marquez, Associate Director.

A motion was made by Mr. Sayre and seconded by Mr. Gerheart to approve the agenda (see pgs. 1-2 of Attachments). Mr. Mario Martinez suggested the following amendments to the agenda. 1) Omit the general action/discussion item regarding mandating the use of three-person officiating crews in basketball. 2) Change the general action/discussion item regarding utilizing three-person officiating crews in softball to a general discussion item. 3) Change the general action/discussion item regarding officials pay to a general discussion item. 4) Change the general action/discussion item regarding assignors' fees to a general discussion item. 5) Omit the general discussion/Information Items regarding the State Basketball Tournament. Mr. Sayre amended his motion to reflect the above recommendations, and Mr. Affentranger seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

The minutes from the January 10, 2007 meeting were presented (see pgs. 4-9 of Attachments). A motion was made by Mr. Pash to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Gerheart seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

- II. *Directors' Report* – Mr. Tripp welcomed the Commissioners and presented his Director's Report. Mr. Tripp informed the Commission that the NMAA Foundation has received its articles of incorporation and will have its first Board meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup>, during the State Basketball Tournament. The NMAA Foundation Golf Tournament will be held on May 25<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Tripp informed the Commission that all State Basketball Tournament games will be aired on [www.nmaanetwork.com](http://www.nmaanetwork.com). All profits from the advertising on the NMAA Network go to the Foundation.

Mr. Tripp congratulated all of the State Wrestling and State Swimming and Diving Champions.

Mr. Tripp gave an update on the progress of the items being brought to the Legislature that affect the NMAA and its member schools.

- **Gross Receipts Tax** – This bill has to be heard by one more committee before going to the House floor. Its progress seems positive.
- **NMAA as a part of NMPSIA** – This item has been brought to the Legislature, but there is no update at this time.
- **\$100,000 assistance for State Basketball Tournament** – Speaker Lujan has proposed this assistance again, but the outcome of the proposal is still unknown.
- **Home school Participation Bill** – The signing of this bill would allow home school students to participate in athletics. A decision has not yet been made.

Ms. Marquez presented her Director's report to the Commission. She informed the Commission that Basketball Seeding and Selection went well. Some conflict has arisen due to the fact that not everyone understands the criteria used in the process. For instance, a team's regular season record holds more weight in the seeding/selection process than their district record. The seeding selection show, which was live streamed over the internet, had over 1200 hits. Some teams made a party out of the show and watched it all together!

Tickets for the First Round of State have been mailed out and are \$5 for everyone. Ms. Marquez asked the Commission to please remind their constituents that children younger than Kindergarten age should not be charged admission.

Ms. Marquez informed the Commission that after much negotiation, the Santa Ana Star Center will have a hospitality room during the State Basketball Tournament. The NMAA is very excited about the venue.

Ms. Marquez informed the Commission that reserved State Basketball Pass sales are above where they were at this time last year.

A/AA Seeding will take place Sunday, March 4.

Ms. Marquez stated that Athletes who participate in the First Round will be able to attend the rest of the tournament, even if they are eliminated from the tournament, by entering through the Comp door. Each athlete who moves on to the quarter finals will receive a bag tag and can enter with the bag tag.

Ms. Marquez invited the Commission members to attend both the Hall of Fame Luncheon, on March 8<sup>th</sup>, and the Sportsmanship and 25-50 year Reunion Luncheon on March 9<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Marquez reminded the Commission that teams may have a maximum of 12 uniformed players, and 20 people on the floor.

Mr. Martinez presented his Director's report. He reminded the Commission to pick up their complimentary tournament passes prior to leaving.

Mr. Martinez informed the Commission that he had attended the Science Olympiad this past weekend. Approximately 900 students participated, and the competition was incredible.

Mr. Martinez informed the Commission that the NMAA had received 43 sportsmanship nominations: 35 students, 4 adults, 3 teams, and 1 spirit squad.

III. *General Action Items –Revising the Exclusion System for Officials in Basketball and Football as per the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation* – Ms. Dana Sanchez, NMOA Commissioner of Officials, presented the Commission with a proposal regarding a revised exclusion system. Please see pages 11-18 of the attachments. Ms. Sanchez stated that in the fall of 2006, the NMAA Board of Directors had asked for an Ad Hoc committee to revise the exclusion system. Currently, every coach can exclude 5% of the officials in their region. The committee decided that coaches still need to have the option of excluding officials, but reasons must be provided to justify the exclusion. After the forms are submitted, they will be reviewed by a commission comprised of the Commissioner of Officials, an NMAA Associate Director, an At-Large Athletic Director, and an At-Large Official.

Mr. Tom Manning asked if the excluded officials would receive copies of the forms. Ms. Sanchez stated that yes; the forms will be used as a form of professional development.

Mr. Sayre made a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Baisa seconded the motion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

*General Action Items – Mandating the use of three-person officiating crews in basketball at the varsity level beginning with the 2007-2008 season in all classifications.- ACTION ITEM REMOVED FROM AGENDA*

*General Action Items – Establishing a time limit of one and one-half hours for sub-varsity softball games.* – Mr. Richard Carbajal, NMOA Softball Umpire, approached the Commission with the stated proposal. Due to the large number of fields with no lights, and the length of many sub varsity games, there are many varsity games that are being called for darkness and not being completed. Rescheduling these games is very difficult. Mr. Gene Pino, NMAA Assistant director, informed the Commission that this proposal is not coming from the Softball Specific Committee. Mr. Scott Affentranger made a motion that the Softball Sports Specific Committee present a more informed proposal to the Commission at a later date. Mr. Sayre seconded this motion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

*General Action Items – Utilization of three-person officiating crews for regular season varsity softball contest if umpires are available.* – CHANGED TO A DISCUSSION ITEM – Mr. Carbajal stated that 3 man mechanics are different, and officials who use 2 man mechanics throughout the season are missing out on the practice/training in 3 man mechanics prior to having to use 3man mechanics during the post season. Discussion ensued.

*General Action Items – Revising officials pay in all sports to bring fees up to equal levels of other states.* – CHANGED TO A DISCUSSION ITEM – Ms. Sanchez presented page 27 of the Commission packet to the Commission. Discussion ensued.

*General Action Items – Revising the pay scale for the assignors’ fee for officials –*  
CHANGED TO A DISCUSSION ITEM – Ms. Sanchez presented page 28 of the  
Commission packet to the Commission. Discussion ensued.

*At this time the Commission took a 5 minute recess from 10:40-10:45 AM*

- IV. *Sports-Specific Action Items – Baseball/Softball – Increasing the Jr. High game limitations from the present 12 games to 18 games –* Mr. Jim Smeltzer, a representative from the Jr. High/Middle School Committee, presented the Sports Regulations handout to the Commission. Mr. Tripp informed the Commission that the NMAA’s recommendation is to make this change slowly. Mr. Baisa made a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Schuster seconded this motion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

*Baseball– Allowing Santa Fe Prep, in conjunction with Desert Academy, Santa Fe Waldorf, and NM Academy, to co-op in baseball with no post season or district play. –* Mr. Martinez introduced Mr. Todd Kurth, Athletic Director at Santa Fe Prep. Mr. Kurth approached the Commission regarding this proposal. He stated that 5 small schools that cannot field their own team have voiced interest in this co-op. Mr. Martinez stated that the NMAA favors this co-op because it allows more students to participate. Mr. Soto made a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Manning seconded this motion, a vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

*Jr. High/MS – Making section IX of the NMAA Handbook more defined to alleviate problems within the Jr. High/Middle School population. –* Mr. Pino presented this proposal to the Commission. Discussion ensued. The Commission recommended that to avoid discrepancies, the Jr. High/Middle School committee meet to make the desired changes and present those changes to the Commission at a later date.

*Baseball – The future of state tournaments in this sport and the effect on school calendars and graduations. –* Mr. Tripp informed the Commission that problems continue to arise in regards to the scheduling of the State Baseball Tournament. He stated that the NMAA is aware of the issue and is constantly trying to improve the scheduling situation.

- V. *General Discussion/Information Items – Classification and Alignment recommendation for the next two year block and the process therein –* Mr. Martinez informed the Commission that the Board will make a decision regarding the current Alignment and Classification proposal at their March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting during the State Basketball Tournament. The proposal includes the following.

- New numbers are being proposed in Basketball, Volleyball, Track and Field, and Football.
- It is being recommended to the Board that Charter School numbers will count towards enrollment and Alternative School numbers will not count towards enrollment.
- Combine classes A and AA in Baseball.
- Combine classes A through 4A in Wrestling
- Wild Card procedure for state participation in Tennis, similar to that already in effect in Cross Country
- Propose a 4 year Alignment and Classification block rather than a 2 year block.

*General Discussion/Information Items – State Basketball Tournament –* DISCUSSION ITEM  
REMOVED FROM AGENDA

*General Discussion/Information Items – Spring Sports Dates, Venues, Etc.* – Mr. Martinez referred the Commission to page 30 of the Commission packet.

VI. A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Dimitroff. It was seconded by Mr. Schuster and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 11:45 p.m.