

NMAA COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, March 5, 2008
9:00 a.m., NMAA Conference Room A



I. Call Meeting to Order and Welcome

The NMAA Commission met on Wednesday, March 5, 2008 for their regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. Lawrence called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

Roll Call

Ms. Alissa McCarthy, 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 Frazier (Small Area D), Mr. Gary Schuster (Large Area A), Mr. Bruce Carver (Large Area B), Mr. Lawrence Johnson (Large Area C), Mr. Steve Medeiros (Non-Public Schools), Mr. Ernie Viramontes (NMHSAD) Mr. Scott Affentranger (National Association of Secondary School Principals), Mr. Don Gerheart (Activities Council) and Mr. Oscar Payan (New Mexico Officials Association.) Mr. Tom Manning (Large Area D) was absent. A quorum was declared and business before the Commission could be conducted.

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

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented and Mr. Payan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the January 16, 2008 meeting were presented (see pgs. 3-8 of Attachments). A motion was made by Mr. Martin to approve the minutes. Ms. Gerheart seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Directors' Report

Mr. Tripp welcomed the Commission and thanked them for attending the meeting.

Mr. Tripp reported on the strategic planning meeting and improvements NMAA were hoping to make. Mr. Tripp informed the commission about the 1st annual state choir championships hosted by Albuquerque Academy on February 29-March 1, 2008. Title Winners include West Las Vegas, Piedra Vista and Manzano.

Mr. Tripp informed the Commission that he met with athletic directors from the Northeast quadrant pertaining to the ejection classes for fan behavior. He mentioned the possibility of a Bill of Rights in every school to include a statement of expectations for fan behavior.

Mr. Tripp also stated Mr. Robert Zayas placed a survey for sport fans to have the opportunity to vote for their favored teams for the 2008 State Basketball tournament. The survey can be found at www.nmact.org.

Ms. Marquez yielded the directors report till later in the meeting.

Mr. Martinez thanked the staff for their wonderful support. He thanked them for their valiant efforts and time spent in the past months. Mr. Martinez also informed the commission that Mr. Frank Castillo resigned his position on the Board of Commissions. Mr. Martinez also informed the commission it was Mr. Bruce Carver's last time serving on the Board of Commission, and he thanked him for his service.

III. *General Action Items – Consider creating co-op teams at the Class A level in team sports only. (Basketball, Volleyball, Baseball, Softball)*

Mr. Martinez stated this item mainly affects the smaller schools where there are not certain teams. (Basketball, Volleyball etc.) This would enable mainly Class A schools to co-op with other schools therefore increasing participation. Mr. Soto added this would help to increase participation and opportunities for kids. Mr. Martin made a motion to accept this proposal. Mr. Medeiros seconded this motion and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

General Action Items –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.

Mr. Tripp referred the commission members to page 11. He stated there is discussion pertaining the online courses students and/or coaches would take if ejected during a game. Mr. Martinez added the NMAA would verify whether the student passed the online course through the composition of an essay about what they learned, but further discussion is needed to determine the criteria to which they will be graded, further discussion is needed on this issue. Mr. Frazier made motion to accept this proposal as presented. Mr. Viramontes seconded the motion and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously.

General Action Items – Consider adopting the soccer pool play coin flip procedures in the case of a tie. Mr. Tripp proposed the current coin flip procedures. Mr. Robert Zayas referred to page 17, regarding the addition that would be added to Section 7 of the Bylaws. The added section was to include: the odd flip would advance to semifinals, if all three coins land on the same side, another flip will take place until the odd flip occurs. No motion was made to approve the proposal, motion fails.

General Action Items –Consider changing the game limitation in softball to allow 20 games and 3 tournaments with no restrictions on the number of games playing the tournament. Mr. Victor presented this proposal to change the amount of games from the current 26 total games to 20 games and 3 tournaments. Mr. Baisa commented, stating there would be a definite issue with the smaller schools with smaller budgets would have a hard time traveling to the tournament sites. Mr. Carver made a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Viramontes seconded, a vote was taken. The motion failed unanimously.

General Action Items – consider changing the 3 person mechanics in basketball district tournament games. Mrs. Sanchez referred the commission members to page 18. She proposed to consider using 3-person mechanics in basketball district tournaments (boys and girls all classifications.) in order to help with consistency of the game. Mrs. Sanchez also mentioned this change would help with liability issues that accompany with rival games.

Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the proposal presented. Mr. Payen seconded, a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

General Action Items – Eliminate the Fall Tennis season.

Ms. Marquez proposed completely eliminating the fall tennis seasons for all classifications; this would also change the language in the bylaws pertaining to fall tennis seasons.

Practice would still be permitted.

She also included matches in the fall would go towards the spring limitation.

Mr. Schuster made a motion to approve the proposal presented. Mr. Gearheart seconded, and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

General Action Items – consider adding a new classification in tennis for 2008-2009 for “small schools” or “new programs.”

Ms. Marquez referred the commission members to page 20. She proposed adding a new classification for “smaller schools” that do not have enough players to make up a full 6 person team. This would help provide more opportunities for the smaller schools to compete.

Mr. Frazier made a motion to approve the proposal presented. Mr. Payen seconded, and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

The Commission took a 10 minute recess and re-convened at 10:45 AM.

General Discussion Item/ Information Item- report on current NMAA referendum and seeding selection questionnaire.

Mrs. McCarthy referred the commission members to page 21-24. She stated the results from the referendum, smaller schools have the largest representation thus far. Regarding the seeding selection questionnaire was similar with most agreeing with the current selection and criteria.

Mr. Martinez added there will be a reminder sent out the following week. All referendums and questionnaires are due Friday, March 14. He also added it was an opportunity for data to be taken to the classification meetings for future of seeding and selection.

General Discussion Item/ Information Item- 2008-2009 Calendar and State Championship dates.

Mr. Zayas passed out a copy of the 2008-2009 Calendar of state championship dates. The calendar will be put on the website.

Mr. Tripp added the conflict with the championship dates and graduation dates continues and there is progression to try and decrease the issues surrounding this. State baseball is the main concern. He also added there will be discussion at district meetings in order to give the NMAA feedback. Mr. Young then added there is now a two year block to help deter conflict between graduation dates and championship dates. This will allow for the school to see when championships are scheduled to reduce conflict between the two. The championship calendar dates mirrors the NCAA calendar.

General Discussion Item/ Information Item- Request by the Secretary of Education to formulate a taskforce to examine scholastic eligibility.

Mr. Tripp presented this information stating a need for improvement within the procedures for scholastic eligibility. He also mentioned there is a need for volunteers to help on the taskforce and for commission members to help get the word out pertaining to this need.

General Discussion Item/Information Item- Legislative report from an NMAA perspective

Mr. Tripp reported on this item and the great results that came from the legislature. Approved by the governor, the Senate finance committee contributed 143,000 for

assistance with state basketball from many different contributors. He is very pleased with the outcome.

General Discussion Item/Information Item- Increasing middle school football officials pay to \$30 per game (currently \$25)

Ms. Sanchez presented information regarding a need for an increase in pay for officials. This item will be presented to the Board of Directors at the next meeting.

General Discussion Item/Information Item- Junior Varsity/C Team district tournaments and possible exceeding game limitations.

Mr. Tripp referred the commission members to page 27, stating there are difference in opinions that pertain to this rule from schools. Mr. Tripp stated there is a need for more clarity on tournament games included in the game limitation. Mr. Martinez asked for feedback from schools regarding this issue.

General Discussion Item/Information Item- The impact of the sixteen team Class A/AA baseball tournament on small schools and the potential problems with the first round during the 2009 season.

Mr. Young presented this information to the commission stating he is currently trying to work out the issues of the 2008-2009 calendar for Class A and AA. He brought up the solution of possibly playing at a neutral site between the two schools that are playing in order to cut travel. Mr. Martinez added there are issues with small school and administration missing too many school days, but they are working on these conflicts between the schools.

General Discussion Item/Information Item- Pursuing Victory with honor Sportsmanship Award recipients and report on overall process and nominations

Mr. Martinez referred the commission to page 29 and 32. He mentioned there were 10 students who received \$1000 and two which received \$2500 from the foundation. There were 90 nominees and a list of the 12 recipients will be listed on the website.

General Discussion Item/Information Item- NMAA Foundation Golf Tournament

Mr. Martinez referred the commission to a brochure. Brochures are available at the NMAA office or through Mr. Martinez. The Golf tournament will be held on June 13th at the University of New Mexico South Golf Course. The goal is to have 54 teams enter the tournament and all the proceeds will go towards the foundation for athletes and programs of the NMAA. Individuals are \$100 and teams are \$400.

He also mentioned there will be flyers passed out during the State Basketball Tournament.

General Discussion Item/Information Item- Overview of state wrestling

Mr. Evans reported on the State Wrestling tournament that was held at the Santa Ana Star center. It was reported there were 557 athletes and 57 schools that competed in the tournament. He also mentioned the only issue were the expenses pertaining to the venue.

General Discussion Item/Information Item- Overview of State Swimming and Diving Championships

Mr. Cleland introduced himself and reported on the championships. He mentioned there were 16 schools that participated in diving and 33 that participated in swimming. There were a couple of issues mentioned which entailed the weather that deterred people from coming as well as some of the events were not completely full in regards to participants.

General Discussion Item/Information Item- State Basketball Championships Schedule (including ceremonies, inductions, banquets, ext.)

Ms. Marquez referred the commission to page 33, the state basketball agenda. This year we pre-sold more tickets compared to the last year. She informed the commission of the schedule for the week including the board of directors meeting, hardship petition review and the hall of fame banquet on Friday. She also mentioned the hospitality room would be closed during both of these meetings. Mr. Tripp added Jimmy Orancaton will be honored at the banquet. He was a state champion at Forest High School from seventy-five years ago, and there is an article on him in the state basketball program. Banquet tickets can be purchased from Kristin Derr. Mr. Martinez reminded the commission about receiving blue or pink passes for the hospitality room. If you have not received a pass, please contact Dusty Young. Cimarron will be streaming the games live online. For more information go to www.nmaa.tv.

General Discussion Item/ Information Item- NMAA Budget and Financial Picture for 2008-2009.

Mrs. Daniels presented the 2008-2009 budgets to the commission. She referred the commission to page 34 of the packet. She mentioned the proposal to increase membership fees by 3% further discussion at the Board of Directors meeting will follow.

- IV. Mr. Johnson informed the Commission that the next meeting is scheduled for May 28, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. at the NMAA.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Dimitroff. It was seconded by Mr. Gerheart and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.