

**NMAA COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Wednesday, May 27, 2009**  
**9:00 a.m., NMAA Conference Room A**



- I. The NMAA Commission met on Wednesday, May 27, 2009, for their regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. Lawrence Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Ms. Alissa McCarthy, Administrative Assistant called roll and the following commissioners were present: Mr. Manuel Romero (Small Area A), Mr. Gary Frazier (Small Area D), Mr. Phillip Sategna (Large Area A), Mr. Brian Stacy (Large Area B), Mr. Lawrence Johnson (Large Area C), Mr. Louie Baisa (Small Area C), Mr. Gary Salazar (Small Area B), Mr. Tom Manning (Large Area D), Mr. Larry Waters (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors Association), Mr. Thomas Mabrey (New Mexico High School Coaches Association), Mr. Scott Affentranger (National Association of Secondary School Principals), and Mr. Don Gerheart (Activities Council), and Mr. Pete MacFarlane (Non-Public School Representative.) Absent was Mr. Terry Martin (State School Boards Association) and Mr. Jim Sayre (New Mexico Officials Association). A quorum was declared and business before the Commission could be conducted.

Present from the NMAA was Mr. Mario Martinez, Associate Director.

Mr. Manning made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented and Mr. Affentranger seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The minutes from the January 14, 2009 meeting were presented (see pgs. 3-8 of Attachments). A motion was made by Mr. Gerheart to approve the minutes. Mr. Salazar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

*Directors' Report* – Mr. Tripp thanked Mr. Bill Cleland, Ms. Sally Marquez, Mr. Dusty Young, Mr. Gene Pino, Mr. Mario Martinez and Robert Zayas for their tremendous management of the 2009 Spring State Championships. He asked for a standing ovation for Ms. Dana Sanchez for all her hard work and effort she put forth in all five state championships. He stated that she spent countless hours preparing heat sheets, and organizing officials.

Mr. Tripp informed the Commission about the Board of Director meeting held June 3<sup>rd</sup>. He stated that the Board of Directors did adopt the alignment and classification proposal from the NMAA staff. There are currently 7 petitions for appeal of this proposal. The NMAA staff has taken the criteria and aligned accordingly. This meeting the Board of Directors will determine what fits and what is in the best interest of the kids.

Mr. Tripp continued, stating that the NMAA's summer hours will be Monday thru Thursday from 7:30am- 5:00pm. He stated that he along with administrators for the New Mexico Highlands University will be hosting a golf tournament at Chamisa Golf Course in Rio Rancho on July 22. New Mexico Highlands is the only university that has a wrestling

program where 26 athletes across the state compete at Highlands University. He stated that this program is experiencing one half of a budget cut so the money raised will help go towards the Wrestling program at New Mexico Highlands University. For more information contact Gary Tripp at the NMAA.

Mr. Tripp thanked District 6-AA, 7-AA, APS, Clovis High School, NMHSCA, NMOA, NM Sports Hall of Fame, Moriarty High School, Belen High School and Magdalena High School for their participation in the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Foundation Golf Tournament. They have raised thus far around \$15,000 for future scholarships and building of new programs at schools throughout the state. He added that the Foundation Golf Tournament could use two more teams for the afternoon of Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. Please contact Mr. Tripp if interested.

Lastly, Mr. Tripp stated that in his office he has a display of golf balls from schools throughout the state. His goal is to receive one from all high schools and fill up his display. For more information contact Mr. Tripp at the NMAA.

Mr. Mario Martinez conveyed his appreciation for the Commission. He commended Mr. Louie Baisa, Mr. Buster Mabrey and Mr. Gary Salazar for their work at the state track and field championships this year. He thanked all of the officials and volunteers, without them this event would not have happened.

Mr. Martinez commented on the attendance of the state championships this year. He stated that Mr. Dusty Young from the NMAA compiled the attendance numbers for Fall, Winter and Spring state tournaments. This year the attendance was up by 14,000 going from 251,000 in 07-08 to 265,000 in 08-09.

Mr. Martinez informed the Commission the major change for next year would be universal tie breaking procedures for each sport. He stated that there were issues this year where districts did not have tie breaking procedures and conflict arose. With a universal tie breaking procedure for each sport, he stated that this could potentially avoid future conflict with districts that experience a tie.

Lastly, Mr. Martinez stated that on July 29<sup>th</sup> there will be an orientation for new athletic directors at 9:00am and a meeting for all athletic directors at 10:30am.

## *II. General Action Items- Consider changing the time limits of games at the sub-varsity and middle school/junior high level for Softball and Baseball.*

Mr. Dusty Young stated that time limits on games have been an issue for a long time. He stated that the Baseball sports specific committee is against setting any time limit on a baseball game at the sub varsity level because at this level the athletes are in a developmental phase and preparing for the varsity level. By placing a time limit it would not give them enough experience and exposure.

Mr. Gene Pino stated that Softball officials wanted a time limit on the games because they were spending three hours at one game. Ms. Dana Sanchez spoke stating that this often at times kept officials from wanting to officiate these games because they were then having to get off of work an hour earlier, losing time from work and in these economic times many crews could not do. A motion was made by Mr. Larry Waters and seconded by Mr. Gary Salazar. Discussion ensued. Mr. Barreras from the Baseball Sports Specific committee stated that the opinion of the committee was that these were lower level players preparing to move to varsity at some point. He added that the pace of the game is among topic of conversation within the Committee.

Later, Mr. Waters later withdrew his motion. Mr. Johnson asked for another motion on this topic. No motion was made therefore the proposal dies.

*General Action Items – Consider revising Rule 7.16.1 D of the NMAA Handbook relating to the sport of Golf.*

Mr. Bill Cleland referred the Commission to pg. 9 of the Commission packet. He stated that the current by-law allows players not on a designated school team to play as an individual but not qualify legs for state even if they shoot a qualifying score. The change in by-law being proposed is allowing only one team per school to qualify a leg at each tournament. No more than 5 players may be on a team, additional school members who play in tournaments on space available bases may qualify individual legs.

Mr. Alfonso Aguilar, head golf coach at Albuquerque Academy stated by making this change it will increase participation in the sport of golf. He stated that this would create more involvement from the student athletes and get more participation in local tournaments.

Mr. Robert Perea, head golf coach at La Cueva High School stated that without this change, it places a lot of pressure on the student athletes to qualify for state in the limited amount of tournaments they play in as a team. He agreed with Mr. Aguilar in that this would provide more opportunities for athletes to qualify for state.

Mr. Affentranger made a motion to accept the proposal. Mr. Waters seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

*General Action Items – Consider eliminating coach's \$100 fine for ejections.* Mr. Tripp stated that coaches do not enjoy having to write an essay for being ejected along with a fine of \$100. Mr. Tripp stated that his idea was that if there is a second ejection or multiple sanctions there be a \$1500 fine that goes towards paying for a program he hopes to implement soon called "True Champions." This program works as a professional development for the athletic director and coaches.

Mr. Mabrey made a motion to accept the proposal presented. Mr. Sategna seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

### *III. General Discussion Item- Charter School By-Laws*

Mr. Tripp referred the Commission to page 10 of their packets. Mr. Tripp referred to line 14 stating that Charter School By-laws are in need of a change to keep Charter school students from going to any high school to participate in athletics. This state law was voted on by representatives and passed with a vote of 99-1 where it was then presented to the Governor and vetoed. Mr. Tripp stated this issue will be brought back to the attention of the Legislature in the near future.

### *General Discussion Item- Alignment and Classification*

Mr. Martinez referred the Commission to page 12 of their packet. Presented was the alignment and classification proposal adopted with some minor changes. Those includes Newcomb moving to Class AA in the sport of softball, and Mesa Vista will play up in Basketball, Volleyball and Baseball. Mr. Martinez stated that the Board of Director Meeting scheduled appeals on the agenda for June 3<sup>rd</sup> and the following schools have appealed: Bloomfield, Alamo Navajo, Cloudcroft, District 2-AAA, Evangel Christian, Roy and Mosquero co-oping and Splitting A/AA Baseball. If there are any questions please contact Mr. Martinez at the NMAA.

*General Discussion Item- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Participation at the High School level*

Mr. Martinez referred the Commission to page 42 of their packet showing the results of the referenda. He stated the small schools were against not allowing 8<sup>th</sup> graders to participating simply because they at times would not be able to field teams without them, and the large schools were close in comparison. He stated that the final vote was 77% against the referenda, therefore it would be up to the school districts as to whether or not to allow 8<sup>th</sup> grade participation in their schools.

*General Discussion Item-Parochial Middle Schools becoming members*

Mr. Tripp stated that currently there are 13 Middle Schools to which are not members of the NMAA according to the Archdiocese of Santa Fe. He stated that the current by-law of the NMAA states that member schools cannot play non-member schools. Therefore by parochial middle schools becoming members this could allow more participation between private and public schools. The issues they are finding is parochial middle schools check grades every 3 weeks, while public middle schools check every 6 or 9 weeks. Mr. Tripp stated he is currently working with the Archdiocese on this issue.

*General Discussion Item- Swimming and Diving Qualifications- Rule 2.2.2 E3*

Mr. Tripp referred the Commission to page 43. He informed the Commission that in unique situations Rule 2.2.2 E3 states that it is under the Executive Director's authority to make certain decisions regarding swimming and diving and track and field. For instance, if a school wanted to only have a swimming team because they did not have facilities for a diving team, the power to grant the waiver is within the Executive Director's control.

*General Discussion Item- Options concerning officials that would potentially save the member school money due to budgetary concerns.*

Ms. Dana Sanchez presented the information on page 44 of their packet. These are the recommendations from officials to help schools with their budgets. These include eliminating gross receipt tax, playing varsity double headers on the same night; only have single elimination tournaments, temporary reduction of riders and meal fees, having two person crews vs. three, having a sliding mileage scale based on NM gas prices, coaches referee c-team games and find other ways to cut their budget by not cutting officials.

**The Commission took a 10 minute recess and re-convened at 10:25 AM**

*General Discussion Item- Seeding and Selection*

Mr. Martinez stated that the seeding and selection process is controversial regardless if there is a system in place. He stated that the NMAA recommends leaving everything the way it is until the next four year block when at that time the system will be re-evaluated.

*General Discussion Item- Change in Seasons*

Mr. Martinez stated that the Mountain West Conference is being hosted by UNM for Track and Field this year falling on the same weekend as the large school track meet usually takes place. He stated that in order to keep the State Track and Field Championships at the UNM Track, the A/AA track meet will be held May 5-6 and 3A-5A will be held the 7-8. This means that the large school track meet will be held one week earlier, however will be able to start practice on week 32 instead of week 33. He stated that all district meets will be held starting April 28 and ending on May 2. Mr. Martinez added that the first round of A/AA Baseball will be held May 7-8 as well.

*General Discussion Item- Consider splitting A/AA Baseball*

Mr. Dusty Young passed out a proposal regarding the alignment of A/AA Baseball. The Sport Specific committee recommends to split A/AA Baseball with class AA not in favor and class A in favor. Mr. Young stated that the proposal works well for the next four year block because with the new proposal for alignment, schools from AAA will drop to class AA, however for the remainder of this block, splitting these classes would cause for two team districts, which the NMAA tries to avoid.

*General Discussion Item- Consider a proposal to increase JV and C-Team wrestling official fees from \$25 to \$32 per dual.*

Dana referred the Commission to page 46 of their packet. She stated that this is proposed from the NMOA Executive Board and based on the length of event, feel this is suitable. It will be presented to the Board of Directors next week.

*General Information Item- Report on Changes in format in the 5 sports due to economic reasons.*

Mr. Martinez stated that on page 47 were the new formats for the state championships in the sports of Volleyball, Soccer, Softball, Baseball and Tennis. Discussion ensued regarding the formats. Mr. Tripp stated an option to keep from having long hours of athletes playing could be to eliminate a week in some sports to allow more time for playoff games.

*General Information Item- NMAA's staff recommendation on reduction of games or matches due to budgetary concerns.*

Mr. Tripp stated that the Board of Directors tabled this item at the March meeting. He stated that the NMAA staff decided not to take away local autonomy of the districts, therefore it is up to the districts to decide if they need to reduce games in certain sports to save money during these economic times.

*General Information Item- Videostreaming numbers for 2008-2009.*

Mr. Tripp reported on the number for state basketball. He stated NMAA films is compiling the numbers for the entire year. During the state basketball tournament 242,973 people watched the state championships streamed on the internet.

*General Information Item- Pursuing Victory with Honor "True Champions"*

Mr. Tripp stated this is a new program he will be trying out in August with a member school; this program is to help with character development by talking with coaches and administration at schools. This program will help coaches learn from the experiences of highly skilled athletes. He stated this program was implemented in Los Angeles schools and they saw a great response in coaches and athletes character development. The program costs \$1500 to implement.

*General Information Item-Life of An Athlete*

Mr. Zayas stated that the Life of An Athlete is a program to educate the dangers of alcohol in relation to performance of high school athletes. He stated that the NMAA is working with the American Athletic Institute to implement this program across the state of New Mexico. This program will run for a total of four years and seminars will be held at five locations throughout the state during the first week of August. For more information please contact Robert Zayas at (505)923-3274.

*General Information Item- NMAA Foundation*

Mr. Tripp stated there are four revenue streams that help with the Foundation. Those include an annual bowling tournament, annual golf tournament, corporate sponsor funding and in the near future, a banquet held the Monday night before the State Basketball tournament. This banquet will include guest speakers, and the NMAA Foundation will sell tables to this event to raise money for the Foundation. Mr. Tripp added that the new president of the Foundation is Mr. Steve Davis.

*General Information Item-Investigations/ Ejection Totals for Fall, Winter, Spring Sports.*

Ms. Dana Sanchez referred the Commission to page 53 of their packet. She informed them that the ejection totals for the year had increased by 28%. The amount of coaches ejected in 08-09 compared to 07-08 increased by 1. She noted that 45 schools did not receive any negative reports for the 2008-2009 school year.

*General Information Item- Title IX Legislation*

Mr. Tripp referred the Commission to page 78. He stated that this document is what the Governor passed for schools in New Mexico. He stated that the NMAA is working with Dr. Veronica Garcia and the PED to provide the most up to date information for schools. Mr. Tripp added that the NMAA is in the process of asking for funding to be able to create user friendly software to give to all administrators at every school state wide to use as guidance and provide information needed to adhere to the laws of Title IX.

*General Information Item- Athletic Director Orientation*

Mr. Martinez stated the Athletic Director Orientation will occur on July 29<sup>th</sup> with a new athletic director orientation at 9:00am followed by a meeting for all athletic directors at 10:30am. Mr. Martinez added that Mr. Louie Baisa of the Commission will be retiring as athletic director, however will continue to coach the Lordsburg football team. Mr. Baisa and his wife are tremendous role models throughout the community and thanked him for his many years he dedicated to the students of New Mexico.

- IV. Mr. Johnson informed the Commission that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 16 at 9:00 a.m.
- V. A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Louie Baisa. It was seconded by Mr. Frazier and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.