

NMAA COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, May 28, 2008
9:00 a.m., NMAA Conference Room A



- I. The NMAA Commission met on Wednesday, May 28, 2008 for their regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. Lawrence Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

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. Gary Frazier (Small Area D), Mr. Gary Schuster (Large Area A), Mr. Brian Stacy (Large Area B), Mr. Lawrence Johnson (Large Area C), Mr. Tom Manning (Large Area D), Mr. Ernie Viramontes (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors Association), Mr. Scott Affentranger (National Association of Secondary School Principals), Mr. Thomas Mabrey (New Mexico High School Coaches Association), Mr. Oscar Payen (New Mexico Officials Association) and Mr. Don Gerheart (Activities Council). Those absent were Mr. Louie Baisa (Small Area C), Mr. Terry Martin (State School Boards Association) and Mr. Steve Medeiros (Non-Public School Representative.) 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.

Mr. Schuster made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented and Ms. Dimitroff seconded. Mr. Martinez referred the commission to the addendum agenda, stating that the action item within that agenda will proceed directly after the soccer sport specific action item. Mr. Schuster and Ms. Dimitroff amended their motion to include this adjustment. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Johnson stated that due to Mr. Bruce Carver moving, there is no longer a vice chair. He stated the need to elect a vice president after the approval of the minutes.

The minutes from the March 5, 2008 meeting were presented (see pgs. 4-8 of **Attachments**). A motion was made by Mr. Frazier to approve the minutes. Mr. Viramontes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Johnson then opened the floor for nominations for a new Vice President of the Commission. Hearing no nominations, Mr. Johnson appointed Ms. Cris Dimitroff as the new Vice President of the Commission.

Directors' Report – Mr. Tripp welcomed the Commission and thanked them for attending the meeting.

Mr. Tripp continued by thanking the NMAA staff for all of their hard work and dedication to the Spring State Championships that occurred this past month. There was tremendous leadership and hard work at each event and he was very appreciative.

Mr. Tripp stated the need for major adjustments due to increasing fuel prices. He informed the Commission that the NMAA is looking for ways to help save money. He stated that he and Ms. Derr have discovered a way to have online conferencing. He feels the fuel prices could be a long term effect and hopes through this advancement, it could help to tackle the problem with increasing fuel prices.

Mr. Tripp announced the upcoming Foundation Golf Tournament held on June 13th at the University of New Mexico South Golf Course. The entry fee is \$100 per person or \$400 per team. He stated that the proceeds will go to the NMAA Foundation which helped to start several programs, and provides several scholarships for students throughout the state. Mr. Tripp added that the NMAA has a goal of receiving 54 teams for the tournament and asked the Commission to help in reaching that goal.

Mr. Tripp was honored to announce that an article was published in Sports Illustrated which named the Las Cruces/ Mayfield district the top athletic program in the state of New Mexico. He congratulated the administration and athletes of this district.

Mr. Mario Martinez addressed the Commission thanking Mr. Tripp for his comments pertaining the 2008 State Track and Field Championships. He expressed his appreciation for the officials and other workers that helped with this event.

Mr. Martinez informed the Commission pertaining Mescalero's petition to move from Class AA to A due to their 33% decrease in enrollment. He stated Mescalero will be moving to District 8A with Gateway Christian, Lake Arthur and Valley Christian therefore exiting the 5AA district.

Mr. Martinez also stated that because Shiprock Northwest is a transition schools, they will be entering into Class AA for girls basketball, volleyball and track and field. In addition, Elida will be starting 6-man football entering the district with Roy, San Jon, and NMSD.

II. General Action Items- Consider mandating schools to place their varsity rosters on the NMAA website by the following dates or face a \$500 penalty.

Mr. Robert Zayas presented this item to the Commission. Referring them Commission to Page 9 of their packet. He stated the need to have all varsity, junior varsity and c-team rosters on the website as a way to verify the eligibility of all athletes. He also mentioned the need for these rosters to be current and updated for the purpose of completing programs, certificates and t-shirts. Mr. Zayas informed the Commission that posting rosters on the website is stated in the by-laws, however there currently is not a penalty if violated. He has seen success in dealing with Track and Field and Direct Athletics, issuing \$500 fines to schools for not posting their qualifying athletes by a particular date. Adding a fine would hold coaches more accountable to their duties.

Mr. Mabrey stated his concern in schedules/scores not being updated as well. He suggested having a random check throughout the season to ensure scores and schedules are being updated. However, he does know that could become very time consuming.

Mr. Zayas announced the current MVP system on the NMAA website is being updated. It will soon be referred to as MVP 2.0. All athletes and staff will roll over to the new system in hopes of becoming more user friendly.

Mr. Gerheart made a motion to show support of this change and Mr. Payen seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

General Action Items – Consider mandating preseason meetings for all NMAA members' schools. These meetings will consist of the presentation of the NMAA DVD, general schools, district information, and information pertaining to individual sports and activities- Mr. Tripp referred the commission to pg. 10 stating that Ms. Marquez, Mr. Zayas and Mr. Martinez and himself worked on a 9-12 minute pre-season DVD. This DVD contains pertinent information regarding physical forms, reminders for coaches, review of the bylaws and other general information needed to enhance high school sport programs throughout the state.

Mr Evans stated that this DVD will help to make schools aware, providing them with the resources needed for pre-season meetings. He added that the DVD stresses the importance of education based athletics holding parents and athletes more accountable.

Mr. Tripp added that every sport program is obligated to have a mandatory pre-season meeting. The bottom of page 10 is the documentation form to which the coach fills out and returns to the NMAA as proof that the meeting occurred.

Mr. Stacy stated his concern for bilingual parents. He asked Mr. Tripp if the coaches would be held accountable for those parents that don't show up to these pre-season meetings because of the language barrier. Mr. Tripp stated that it is only the coaches' responsibility to provide the information to the parents. However, Ms. Sanchez would be willing to translate the DVD for the schools if needed.

Mr. Viramontes made a motion to accept the proposal presented on page 10 of the Commission packet. Mr. Gerheart seconded. Ms. Dimitroff intervened stating the need for a change to the wording at the bottom of document 10. The word *meeting* needs to be changed to *meeting(s)* to cover those schools who have only one meeting for all sports at the beginning of the year.

Ms. Dimitroff made a motion to accept the proposal presented on page 10 of the Commission packet, with the addition of *meeting(s)*. Mr. Gerheart seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

General Action Items – Recommendation from the Commission to the NMAA Board of Directors on seeding and selection for the next two year block- Mr. Martinez presented pages 11-12 of the Commission packet which are the proposed recommendations for revision of the seeding and selection process. Mr. Martinez stated if there is a need for revision of the current process that it be done at this time. He asked the Commission to consider equal representation from the state or advance the best teams (12 or 16) to the tournament.

Ms. Marquez addressed the Commission on behalf of the Volleyball and Basketball sports specific committee. She referred them to pg. 11 of the Commission packet. Both committees have strong recommendations to only advance the district champion from each district with the remainder being at-large selections. She stated if the current seeding and selection process remained the same, Class 4A would not have any at large selections. (See pg 11 for proposal)

Mr. Martinez referred the Commission to pg. 12 stating three possible options for the seeding and selection process for Class 3A-5A only.

Mr. Soto stated the concern from small school coaches wanting to have the same process for the smaller schools as the 3A-5A schools. This would allow for more schools to be selected for the tournament.

The Commission took a 10 minute recess and re-convened at 10:52 AM

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Affentranger made a motion to recommend option A, leaving the current seeding and selection process the same with no change. A roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Scott Affentranger- Yes	Mr. Lawrence Johnson- Yes
Mr. Brian Stacy- Yes	Mr. Thomas Mabrey- No
Mr. Oscar Payen- No	Mr. Tom Manning- Yes
Mr. Gary Frazier- Yes	Mr. Ernie Viramontes- Yes
Mr. Don Gerheart- Yes	Mr. Gary Schuster- Yes
Ms. Cris Dimitroff- Yes	Mr. Amadeo Soto- Yes

The motion carried with a vote of 10-2 in favor of option A. Mr. Soto asked Mr. Martinez and Ms. Marquez to consider changing the seeding and selection process for smaller schools to match that of 3A-5A.

- II. *Sports-Specific Action Items –Revising the wrestling qualifying procedures for the state event as proposed by the wrestling sports specific committee–* Mr. Evans presented to the Commission the change to bylaw 7.23.4 and 7.23.5. He referred them to a handout he passed out to the Commission. He stated he surveyed the coaches and they favored the proposed change 36-7.

A motion was made by Ms. Cris Dimitroff to approve this proposed change. Mr. Schuster seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Sports Specific Action Items – Revising the soccer tie breaking procedures for pool play– Mr. Zayas referred the Commission to pg. 13 of their packet. He stated the proposed addition to the gray area to include more information such as who would conduct the coin toss and which coin would be used.

A motion was made by Mr. Schuster to approve this addition. Mr. Gerheart seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Sport-Specific Action Items – Allow NMAA member schools to field both 7th and 8th grade teams to increase playing time and participation. Revise 9.8.5 B – Mr. Pino presented a change to 9.8.5 B of the middle school handbook to allow for middle school teams to field both a 7th grade team and an 8th grade team. Currently schools are able to have one team with both 7th graders and 8th graders on one team.

A motion was made by Ms. Cris Dimitroff to eliminate 9.8.5 B from the Middle school handbook. Mr. Stacy seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

- III. *General Discussion/Information Items – Some high school gymnasiums do not have the seating capacity to accommodate a large fan base. This causes issues during the 1st round of sixteen basketball games. Discuss recommendations for solving this problem–* Mr. Tripp informed the Commission that currently there is a rule for Classifications A-AA that the

NMAA can change the venue site of a playoff game if the current venue cannot accommodate the fan base of the two teams competing. This is now becoming an issue for the large schools in that the sites are not large enough to accommodate playoff games. Mr. Tripp asked for suggestions to help improve this situation.

General Discussion/Information Items- NMAA Calendar and graduations is this a conflict that can be resolved/improved. Mr. Tripp stated the issues pertaining to conflicts with spring athletics and graduations. He asked the Commission if there were any improvement/suggestions to that could better accommodate these athletes who are graduating and competing on the same day. He mentioned the 5-yr. tentative calendar posted on the website for coaches, and feels the NMAA does a great job making the schools aware of the spring championship dates.

General Discussion/Information Item- Review of all items passed by the Board of Directors or Referenda during the 2007-2008 school year. Mr. Martinez referred the Commission to pg. 14 of the Commission packet. He asked the Commission to review the changes to the bylaws that were passed by the Board of Directors throughout the 2007-2008 school year, specifically those changes on pg. 16 pertaining to academic eligibility. He stated that this document will be posted on the website for coaches and administration to access throughout the year.

General Discussion/Information Items- Private/Public issues. Progress and feedback regarding these issues. Mr. Tripp presented this item to the Commission stating the Private/Public committee has had two meetings with no consensus in changing the alignment of the districts. He stated that the private school representation has been outstanding at the meetings; however, the public school representation has decreased tremendously throughout the year.

General Discussion/Information Items- Summertime Athletics and their impact on Student athletes- Ms. Marquez stated the Basketball sport specific meeting; the committee addressed their concern for overworking athletes during the summer. They expressed an idea of having the winter and spring sports only practice during the month of June. This would then allow for the fall sports to have access to the gym during the month of July, helping to alleviate the multi-sport athlete and allow them to rest during that month.

General Discussion/Information Items- NMA Foundation Golf-Tournament. Mr. Martinez stated that the Foundation Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, June 13th at the University of New Mexico South Golf Course. The cost is \$100 for individuals and \$400 per team. Individuals and teams may register online at www.nmact.org.

General Discussion/Information Items- Report on NMAA activities. Mr. Rudy Aragon stated it was his pleasure to give up the "head cheerleader" position, naming Ms. Kristin Derr the new Director of Activities. He stated there are twenty-two different activities sanctioned by the NMAA throughout the State of New Mexico.

Ms. Kristin Derr reported on the activities for 2007-2008 school year. She stated some main accomplishments throughout the year include Sandia High School placing 4th in mocktrial, CTSO was nationally recognized, and twenty-two students from FFA were honored with scholarships. She also stated that the possible additions including Lacrosse and Raquetball for the 2008-2009 school year.

Ms. Derr also added the Albuquerque Academy hosted the 1st annual State choir contest and is currently looking for a host for the 2nd annual State Choir contest.

General Discussion/Information Items- Report from the NMAA Sports Medicine Committee. Mr. Tripp stated the committee is currently working on placing a weather indicator on the NMAA website to allow for coaches of outdoor sports. This will help to reduce weather related injuries and inform coaches of the weather prior to practices and games.

- IV. Mr. Johnson informed the Commission that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 17th at 9:00 a.m.
- V. A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Frazier. It was seconded by Mr. Gerheart and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.