

**NEW MEXICO  
ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION**



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**News Announcement**  
For Immediate Release  
November 10, 2006

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**Las Cruces Parents To Dismiss Lawsuit During Appeal Hearing-  
Secretary of Education Now Has Final Say**

**ALBUQUERQUE, NM-** In a joint news release by the NMAA and the Las Cruces High School football parents, the NMAA would like to announce that a proposal to resolve the existing temporary restraining order was offered to the 19 Las Cruces High School football parents who filed a lawsuit against the NMAA on Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The offer has been accepted by the Las Cruces High School football parents. The TRO had prevented the NMAA from imposing two forfeitures for games in which the Las Cruces high school football team played an ineligible player. The parents have agreed to dismiss the lawsuit.

The Board of Directors held an appeals hearing this morning at the NMAA to allow the parent's appeal to be heard and decided by the NMAA Board of Directors. The Board of Directors upheld the NMAA's decision. The appeal will now be heard by the Secretary of Education.

The NMAA's proposed resolution, accepted by the Las Cruces High School football parents, allows the Las Cruces High School football parents to have their appeal heard on an expedited basis; so that the decision of the NMAA Board of Directors can be reviewed by the Secretary of Education, as provided for in the State Department of Education regulations.

The ex parte Temporary Restraining Order was obtained by the Las Cruces High School football parents, which put the seeding and bracketing process for class 5A on hold until the State District Court could conduct a preliminary injunction hearing, where the judge would decide if the forfeits should stand. In the interest of resolving this matter on an expedited basis so that the New Mexico class 5A football playoffs could proceed, the NMAA Board of Directors and the Las Cruces parents entered into this agreement.

The NMAA welcomed and the Las Cruces parents attended the hearing on Friday morning, as this resolution truly serves the best interests of all class 5A football players in the state, their schools and their families.

For more information concerning this issue, please contact Robert Zayas, NMAA Director of Communications, at (505) 977-5386.