

**New Mexico Activities Association
Spirit Specific Committee**

January 27, 2006

APPENDIX C



A. Welcome

1. The NMAA Spirit Specific Committee meeting was called to order at 9:15 am.

Meeting Agenda is presented as Appendix A to these minutes.

2. The following committee members were present: Mr. Rudy Aragon (NMAA Assistant Director), Ms. Kristin Derr (NMAA Administrative Assistant), Ms. Linda Ortiz (NE Cheer Representative), Ms. Kristy Tiley (NW Dance Representative), Ms. Rose Kartchner (Athletic Director Representative), Ms. Jennifer Armstrong (SW Cheer Representative), Ms. Stacy Lewis (SE Cheer Representative), Ms. Kristi Kearney (Central Dance Representative), Ms. Norma Sims (Spirit Management Team), Ms. Tracy Seckler (Spirit Management Team), Ms. Vanessa Whitaker (Spirit Management Team).

Not Present: Ms. Linda Collins (NW Cheer Representative), Ms. Liz Marquez (Central Cheer Representative), Ms. Rosalie Martinez (NE Dance Representative), Ms. Claire Gowing (SW Dance Representative), Ms. Mona Slayton (SE Dance Representative)

Committee Directory presented as Appendix B to these minutes.

B. 2006 Spirit Competition

Tracy informed the committee of the following changes to the 2006 Spirit Competition.

1. Judges will be sitting in the Mezzanine.
 - a. Jennifer expressed concern about communication due to this move.
 - b. Tracy assured Jennifer and the committee that a walkie- talkie system will be in place to ensure proper communication
2. Teams will not have accessibility to the UNM Auxiliary Gym for practice and warm-up.
 - a. Due to recent construction and UNM regulations this area is not available for our use
 - b. Teams will begin on the west side of the Mezzanine for a stretching period
 - c. Teams will then travel to the west side of the concourse for routine warm-ups

- d. Teams will then line up for a team picture to be taken before their performance
 - e. Teams will then travel back to the Mezzanine and resume the performance route used in past years
 - f. NOTE: Teams may not be able to run through the entire routine due to height limitations in warm-up area.
 - g. NOTE: Teams will not be able to use music in warm-up area due to the proximity to the performance area.
 - h. NOTE: Teams/Coaches will not be able to shout commands and/or cheers in the warm-up area due to the proximity to the performance area.
 - i. NOTE: Teams will not be permitted to go outside during warm-up. If a team misses their performance call, they will not be tracked down.
 - j. Stacey expressed a concern with this change regarding safety and warm-up space. She suggested that the NMAA rent a tent for warm-up purposes.
 - k. Tracy informed Stacey and the committee that the warm-up space will be equipped with mats for safety purposes. She also stated that this is the same warm-up area that the UNM Cheerleaders are now using, and space is not too limited. Tracy also said that the possibility of a tent has been researched, but when the price and exposure to the elements were considered, it was decided to remain on the concourse for warm-ups.
3. The Spirit Management Team and the NMAA **WILL NOT** post performance times.
 4. There will be a mandatory coaches meeting on the evening of Thursday the 30th. Time and place TBD.
 - a. This meeting will be succinct
 - b. The purpose of this meeting will be to review competition policies and procedures. This will not be a Question and Answer time.
 5. Scheduling and Weather Conflicts
 - a. If your team has a pertinent conflict, please contact the Spirit Management team.
 6. By order of the Fire Marshall, prop storage in the ramp of the Pit is prohibited. All props must be stored outside of the Pit until prior to performance. The NMAA is looking into purchasing a tarp for outside prop storage.
 7. Mr. Gary Tripp and Mr. Rudy Aragon would like to have a page in the Spirit Competition program to recognize one or more New Mexico Spirit Coaches who have coached for a long period of time and have been instrumental in the development of the Spirit program in our state. Please contact Rudy at (505) 923-3270 with any recommendations or questions.

C. Housekeeping

Kristin informed the committee about the following items:

1. The Lottery sale of the reserved seats for the competition went very well. We sold 5,981 tickets and no representatives had to travel to Albuquerque to purchase these tickets. Kristin would like to hear any and all input regarding this system so that decisions can be made regarding next year's process.
2. Kristin told the committee that the NMAA is still looking for approximately 10 more performers for half times at the State Basketball Tournament. If you would like to have your squad perform during the Tournament, please call Rudy at (505) 923-3270.

D. Proposed Changes for the 2006-2007 school year

Please see Appendix C, December 6th letter, Category 2 to reference these changes.

The following are the decisions by the Spirit Specific Committee, any discussion that took place, as well as items that will be presented to all coaches for further input. Items to be put out to forum are in bold. Items to be voted on are underlined.

1. Tie Breakers:
 - a. Article 6B in Cheer Guidelines
 - b. Article 5B in Dance Guidelines
 - c. No Change will be made
2. **All Girl Teams**
 - a. **Article 5D in Cheer Guidelines**
 - b. **Should teams with one boy be classified as co-ed OR Should the rule stay the same in that teams with one boy have a choice of competing in co-ed or all girl**
3. **Stunting – Open Division?**
 - a. **1 team per school**
 - b. **Should teams be given a choice of co-ed or all-girl regardless of the class that they compete in?**
 - i. **1 Boy or more = Co-Ed open division**
 - ii. **All-Girls = broken down into classifications**
4. **Number of Team Members**
 - a. **Article 5D and Note in Cheer Guidelines**
 - b. **Article 3A and Note in Dance Guidelines**
 - c. **Increase maximum team members for All-Girl to 20 from 18.**
 - d. **Increase maximum team members for Co-Ed to 24 from 20.**
5. Possibility of a Date Change for State
 - a. No change will be made
6. **Number of Categories and Divisions – 4A Cheer**
 - a. **Combine 4A Small and 4A Large resulting in one 4A Classification.**

NOTE: *Although it was not discussed at this meeting, coaches will also be voting on combining classes 5A Small and 5A Large in Dance.*

7. Create different dance categories.
 - a. No change will be made
8. **Military**
 - a. **Last sentence of Article 2A in Dance Guidelines**
 - b. **Committee Recommendation – “If you are altering a part of your uniform for the purpose of a visual effect, it will be considered use of a prop. Costume changes while performing will also be considered use of a prop”.**

NOTE: *Following the meeting it was decided that from this point on, the recommendation will read as “If costuming is pulled from the uniform or body and is used in the performance as an extension of the hand or in other choreographed movements and is dropped, costuming is then considered a prop and could be assessed a deduction under.....”*

9. **Uniforms:**
 - a. Unless a costume is part of a performance theme (i.e. Genie, belly dancer, etc.), midriffs may not be exposed when standing at attention.

NOTE: *Following the meeting, the NFHS issued a rule change, effective 2006-2007, stating that regardless of theme, midriffs may not be exposed when standing at attention. (New rule presented as Appendix D to these Minutes)*

10. **Dual Participation:**
 - a. **Regulated by individual school districts.**
11. **Judges Panels:**
 - a. **No change will be made this year**
 - b. **Will be re-evaluated after 2006 Competition**

E. Other Business

1. Ms. Rose Kartchner asked what she can do as an Athletic Director to help the committee.
 - a. The committee asked Rose to communicate the committees concerns and decisions with Athletic Directors throughout the state and thanked her for her interest and dedication to the program.

F. Adjournment

1. Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM