

Track & Field Sports Specific Committee  
Wednesday, July 29, 2009  
Minutes

The Track and Field Sports Specific Committee met on Wednesday, July 29, 2009 at the Albuquerque Hilton Hotel. Those present were as follows: Rick Miller, Officials; Mark Turner, Piedra Vista High School; Joe Bailey, Moriarty High School; Chris Carroll, Zuni High School; Diana Jameson, Socorro High School; Wayne Ferguson, Tucumcari High School; Wendell Lane, Cloudcroft High School; Lisa McMath, Fort Sumner High School; with Mario Martinez, NMAA Associate Director; presiding along with Robert Zayas, NMAA Assistant Director. Phil Sategna, Bloomfield High School; Kenny Henry, Cibola High School; Darrel Ray, Clovis High School; and Dick Roybal of Melrose High School were absent.

*I. Introductions*

Mr. Martinez started off by letting the committee know there were some new committee members. All of the NMAA committees have term limits so a few members have changed.

*II. Minutes from Monday, November 17, 2008.*

The minutes were handed out to everyone prior to the start of the meeting. Mr. Martinez stated there was not a meeting in the Spring because he felt there was no need for a meeting at the time.

*III. Calendar Change due to Mountain West Conference meet at UNM*

Mr. Martinez stated due to the MWC meet that will be held at UNM, the 3A-5A state track meet date will need to be moved. It will now be on May 7-8 and the A-AA meet will be held on May 5-6. This means the meet will be run the same way it was last year. Because of the change in the schedule track practice will now start a week earlier. This has already been approved by the Board of Directors. This is a onetime thing and we will be moving back to the normal schedule in the 2011 season. There is going to have to be a lot of communication as to when meets will now be scheduled.

Mr. Lane asked Mr. Martinez if he considered moving the District meets back a week in order to give the smaller schools more time between districts and state. Mr. Martinez stated districts can be held April 26 – May 3.

Mr. Zayas stated we will have the coaches meeting the day of the meet. Mr. Martinez stated the A-AA meet will start an hour later due to some schools that will need extra time getting to the meet. Mr. Sielschott stated the Track and Field Coaches Association would emphasize and suggest that schools move their meets back a week.

#### *IV. Committee Input by Classification*

Mr. Martinez asked the committee members for their input on the situation and if they had any suggestions.

Mr. Bailey thought the UNM Track and Field complex was the best facility to have the state meet. He stated he felt that Mr. Martinez had come up with the best possible solution.

Ms. McMath suggested moving the pole vault time because that was a concern that was brought to her attention.

Mr. Ferguson suggested allowing small schools to have two qualifiers for relays. He suggested going to eight automatic qualifiers from districts and then the next eight qualifiers the best times from around the state. This guarantees the top sixteen teams and sixteen qualifiers across the board.

Mr. Lane suggested moving the qualifying standards to an automatic and provisional qualifying standard in order to truly have the top runners from across the state.

Mr. Carroll stated he agreed that the meet was done good last year considering everything that happened.

Mr. Lane suggested a different way of scoring the individual and relay races. He stated relays should be worth a lot more points than individual races and that the top eight at state should be scored at state. He stated costs could be an issue because the NMAA would have to award medals to the top eight. He also suggested having the 4x800m relay. He stated it could be run in lieu of the 3200m run at some meets. He stated he liked what cross country has done with their district alignment for A-AA. It would be nice if there was an 8 team district. You could make districts seem like a bigger deal and it could be more fun for the kids to compete.

Mr. Miller stated he would be in favor of the second chance false start. The first false start would be charged to the field and the second false start would be charged to the athlete or team.

Mr. Sielschott stated it would be hard to have a provisional and automatic qualifying standard for state if everyone didn't use a FAT timing system.

Mr. Martinez stated if there were any changes that would be made to the districts it would have to go to the board. He stated we wouldn't make any changes this year but any changes would reflect upon the 2010-2011 school year. Mr. Martinez stated he would send out a survey for the false start rule. He stated he would try to have the results back before the January clinic so that way it could be discussed.

Mr. Miller asked if it would be possible to require all races 400m and below start out of blocks.

*V. Qualifying Marks*

Mr. Martinez stated qualifying marks would remain the same for this year. He stated we will stick with adjusting every two years.

*VI. Pole-Vault Certification*

He stated the pole vault certification has been good for two years. He stated he thought it was too short and is thinking of going to a four year certification. He stated he will take this to the commission.

*VII. Safety Concerns*

Mr. Martinez stated there was a girl last year that was hit with a discus in the head while at practice. He stated this was a very obvious negligence act. He stated that all coaches need to make sure every coach, paid or volunteer, is certified and has a coaches license.

*VIII. Time Schedule for State track and Field Meets*

Mr. Martinez stated we will keep the schedule the same as last year for now. If something comes up between now and the next meeting, please email him with your questions.

*IX. New or other business*

Mr. Sielschott had an issue with not all high jumpers receiving medals at the state meet. Mr. Martinez stated he just didn't feel like we should award those athletes medals if they did not even make the opening height.

*X. Next Meeting*

November 16, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the NMAA.

*XI. Adjourn*

Meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.