



## NMAA Board of Directors Meeting

July 27, 2010

5:00-6:00 p.m.

Albuquerque Hotel

**Welcome** – Meeting called to order by Mr. Mike Phipps, NMAA Board President, at 5:00 p.m.

**Roll Call** – A roll call was conducted by Mrs. Mindy loane, NMAA Administrative Assistant, and the following members were present: Mr. Paul Benoit (Small, Area B), Mr. Bill Green (Small, Area C), Mr. Buddy Little (Small, Area D), Mr. Winston Brooks (Large School district I), Mr. Dane Kennon (At-Large Member), Mr. Dion Sandoval (NM School Board Association), Mrs. Janel Ryan (Large, Area A), Mr. Mike Phipps, President, (Large Area B), Mr. Dick Pool (Large Area C), Ms. Janette Archuleta (Large, Area D), Mr. Stan Rounds (Large School District II) via conference phone, Mr. Lawrence Johnson (NMAA Commission Representative). Mrs. Zita Lopez, absent.

### Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Mr. Kennon, seconded by Mr. Lawrence

**Motion:** Unanimous  Carried  Failed

### Approval of Minutes from March 10, 2010:

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Kennon

**Motion:** Unanimous  Carried  Failed

### Approval of Mr. Buddy Little:

Motion made to approve the appointee position of Small Area D, by Mr. Buddy Little, Tatum Superintendent, to fill vacated spot.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Kennon

**Motion:** Unanimous  Carried  Failed

### Approval of Janette Archuleta:

Motion made to approve the appointee position of Large Area D, by Ms. Janette Archuleta, Espanola Superintendent to fill position.

Motion by Mr. Brooks, seconded by Mr. Kennon

**Motion:** Unanimous  Carried  Failed

**Executive Session (Legal issues, Financial, Personnel):** Mr. Phipps informed the board that an executive session was not needed at this time. He introduced Mr. Mark Geiger (NMAA Legal Council) who gave an update on Mr. Isler's case against the NMAA. He informed the members that those serving on the Board of Directors in December of 2010, may be requested to submit a deposition at the request of the council for the plaintiff. Mr. Geiger stated that he will keep the board updated on the lawsuit as well as some potential Title IX issues at the September 29, 2010 Board of Director's meeting.

**NMAA Executive Directors Report:** Mr. Tripp (NMAA Executive Director), welcomed the new board members.

Mr. Tripp asked Mrs. Marquez (NMAA Associate Director) to give an overview of a court case concerning Title IX and cheer in Connecticut. Mrs. Marquez stated that at the university level, a judge declared that cheer was not a sport. She stated that this action raised concerns within the state of New Mexico by superintendents and athletic directors. She also stated that the NFHS is currently preparing a statement regarding the sanctioning of cheer as a sport at the high school level. She will forward the statement onto the superintendents in the state of New Mexico. She concluded by describing the difference within high school cheer and the Connecticut case; cheer as a sport and cheer as a sideline activity do not coexist at the college level, whereas at the high school level cheer as a sport and sideline cheer can be seen as-one activity.

Mr. Tripp gave an overview of the Financial Impact advisory referendum results; the referendum was sent out in July 2010 to the member schools. The referendum was used to determine the desire to reduce the number of teams/participants who have an opportunity to attend state championship events. He stated the member schools opted not to have a reduction in participants/teams.

Mr. Tripp informed the board that the NMAA staff will conduct statewide visits with David Chavez, Director of CES, to present information to superintendents, athletic directors, and businesses pertaining to the School's Athletic Equities Act. The workshops will begin on September 21, 2010 and will run through October 14, 2010.

**Financial Report:**

Action Item – Ms. Daniels (NMAA Assistant Director) proposed combining of the emergency account and two reserve accounts into one. She explained that both accounts received the same interest rates so there is no advantage of having separate accounts and by combining accounts, they would be easier to manage and track.

She stated that the NMAA Board of Directors would still have full discretion of the \$100k, and have the flexibility to move the \$100k. Balances of the accounts as of July 14, 2010, are \$400k in checking, \$1,652k in reserves, and \$113k in emergency funds. By combining the accounts there will be \$400k in checking and \$1,765k in the reserve account.

Motion was made to combine accounts as presented.

Motion by Mr. Kennon, seconded by Mr. Sandoval

**Motion:** Unanimous  Carried  Failed

Ms. Daniels presented to the board a list of 10 member schools with outstanding invoices for the 2009-2010 school year. She stated that multiple attempts have been made to collect outstanding debt.

Mr. Phipps made the motion to send letters to the superintendents of the delinquent schools informing them that the school will not be eligible for post-season play until debt is paid in full.

Motion by Mr. Phipps, seconded by Mr. Sandoval

**Motion:** Unanimous  Carried  Failed

**Activities Report:** Mr. Zayas (NMAA Associate Director) gave the update for Ms. Derr (NMAA Assistant Director) stating that she took 12 students from across the state to Indianapolis in July to attend the National Student Leadership Conference. The trip was a great success and she plans to have the students give presentations at the next Commission and Board meetings.

## General Action Items

**Action Item – Concussion Protocol:** Mr. Tripp (NMAA Executive Director) described the requirements for Senate Bill 1, passed during the 2010 Legislative session that mandated that the NMAA create concussion protocols and educate New Mexico high school coaches on brain injuries. He explained that in addition to educating coaches- athletes and parents must also be informed of the law.

Several doctors along with the NMAA staff have created brochures for coaches and athletes/parents that must be signed in efforts to educate them on brain injuries. The NFHS has created a free online course, which includes the requirements of Senate Bill 1 for coaches. Mr. Tripp made a proposal to the board that all coaches within the state of New Mexico be required to take the online course which will enable them to receive a certificate of completion. Mr. Tripp presented all information to Representative Keith Gardner to ensure that the legislators were well informed of the NMAA's compliance with Senate Bill 1. Mr. Phipps reminded the board that Senate Bill 1 is an unfunded mandate. A motion was made to adjust bylaws to include the Senate Bill 1 Concussion in Sports protocol.

Motion by Mr. Phipps, seconded by Mr. Green

**Motion:** Unanimous  Carried  Failed

**Action Item – Process for Alignment and Classification Adjustments:** Mr. Zayas (NMAA Associate Director), proposed that member schools who wish to petition for an adjustment in classification for 2012-2013, 2013-2014 school years be required to submit the request in writing to the NMAA prior May 13, 2010. Petitioning schools will then have the opportunity to address the NMAA Board of Directors at the June 9, 2011 meeting. The Board of Directors will approve or deny requests for adjustments at this time. This process will eliminate the multiple appeals presented to the Board during the spring semester and provide consistency to the process. He presented the 80-day counts highlighting the potential schools that could face classification adjustments for the 2012-2013, 2013-2014 school years. A motion was made to approve the Alignment and Classification's request that all petitions be submitted in writing by May 13, 2011 with the Board to hear all of the requests and make adjustments on June 9, 2011.

Motion by Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Mr. Little.

**Motion:** Unanimous  Carried  Failed

## Sports Specific Action Items:

**Action Item – Baseball, Two-Out-of-Three Format:** Mr. Young (NMAA Assistant Director) presented the proposal to implement a two-out-of-three series format for the first round of the state baseball tournament for Classes 3A-5A. He stated that the NMAA staff recommends this format based on the July advisory referendum results. Of the 45 member schools that voted, 33 were in favor of the two-out-of-three format, and only 12 were in favor of a single game format. A motion was made by Dane Kennon to approve the two-out-of-three format.

Motion by Mr. Kennon, there was no second motion. Proposal failed for lack of a second motion.

**Motion:** Unanimous  Carried  Failed

**Action Item – Softball, Implement a Double Elimination Format:** Mr. Young (NMAA Assistant Director) presented the proposal on behalf of Dana Sanchez (NMAA Assistant Director), to implement a double elimination format in all classes for the final field of eight during the state softball tournament. He stated that the first round of sixteen will use a single elimination format. The NMAA staff recommends this format based on the July advisory referendum showing that of the 61 member schools that voted,

31 were in favor of a double elimination format. The NMAA staff feels that a compromise must be made because of the close vote, especially with the possible implementation of the two-out-of-three series in baseball. Proposal failed for lack of a motion.

**Motion:** Unanimous  Carried  Failed

### **General Discussion/Information Items**

**Discussion Item – Baseball, Removal of Baseball Protests:** Mr. Young (NMAA Assistant Director) presented the results of the referendum sent to member schools showing that of the 69 schools who voted, 47 were in favor of removing the protest rule in the sport of baseball. Baseball will no longer have protests.

**Discussion Item – Soccer Yellow Card:** Mr. Zayas (NMAA Associate Director) presented the referendum results concerning a proposed bylaw change which would have stated that an athlete who accumulates a THIRD yellow card in post-season play (inclusive of all games during the state championships) will be required to sit out the next game; failed by a referendum vote of 36 -19.

### **Discussion Item – Investigation Protocol:**

To meet one of the Board goals (established at the Board retreat on June 2, 2010) Mrs. Marquez (NMAA Associate Director) presented an investigation protocol to be utilized by the NMAA staff when an investigation is warranted. The NMAA staff will allow the member school to conduct its own investigation when a possible violation has occurred. The member school will be required to submit a written report to the NMAA, detailing who conducted the investigation, when it was conducted and the outcome and how the situation will be corrected if needed. The NMAA staff will then have the opportunity to accept the member school's findings or continue the investigation. The NMAA staff can open and conduct an investigation with the president of the Board of Director's approval.

**Discussion Item – Seeding & Selection Process for the 2010-2011 School Year:** Mr. Zayas (NMAA Associate Director) presented to the process for seeding and selection for the 2010-2011 State Championships. As a result of the June 3, 2010 Board vote, the NMAA staff will be seeding and selecting teams during the 2010-2011 state championships. Mr. Zayas noted the additions to NMAA bylaw 7.11.2, which includes head to head, New Mexico High School Coaches Association poll, and member school input, which will be submitted by the head coach prior to the seeding.

**Discussion Item – Home School Committee:** Mrs. Marquez (NMAA Associate Director) presented a draft form created by the Home School Committee detailing the eligibility requirements for interscholastic athletics/activities for home school students. This form was discussed in detail during the committee meeting with the desire to create a checklist for member schools to use. This committee will be an ongoing committee with the focus on creating a "level" playing field for all students.

Mr. Phipps requested that the document continue to be edited and refined, then brought to the September Board of Directors meeting as an action item. Mr. Phipps requested that a referendum be sent to the member schools to vote on one of the three items:

1. Leave home school eligibility as it currently is.
  2. Only allow home school students to participate at the Junior Varsity level.
- or-
3. Allow home school students to play in regular season, but not allow them to play during post season play.

This referendum will determine how they feel about the participation of home school participants; concerning a “level” playing field. This is to also include activities participation.

At this time, Mr. Phipps requested to hear comments from the audience from those who wished to do so. Mr. Richard Romero (Superintendent of Robertson schools) introduced student Yolanda Garcia, a senior at Robertson High School who spoke about the demands of her senior curriculum and her thoughts on an uneven playing field created by home school participation.

**Discussion Item – Transgender Policy:** Mr. Tripp (NMAA Executive Director) stated that gender will be determined by the gender stated on the participant’s physical form and will be stated in bylaws.

**Discussion Item – Preseason DVD:** A preseason DVD will be distributed to the Athletic Directors during the 2010 Mandatory A.D.’s meeting on July 28, 2010. This DVD is required to be shown during the preseason athletic meetings.

**Discussion Item – Title IX Reporting Software:** Mr. Tripp (NMAA Executive Director) stated that the NMAA is working on a Memo of Understanding with the Public Education Department to create Title IX reporting software as a result of Senate Bill 432 (School Athletics Equity Act). School Title IX coordinators and Athletic Directors can use this software to input all data that will be used by the PED. The Board also discussed that this Senate Bill is an unfunded mandate.

**Discussion Item – Life of An Athlete:** The NMAA will host a press conference on July 28<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the Albuquerque Hilton Hotel to officially announce the launch of [www.lifeofanathlete.com](http://www.lifeofanathlete.com). The focus of this program is to teach athletes, parents, and coaches about the dangers of alcohol related to an athlete’s athletic performance. The NMAA staff has been working with USA Today to feature the program in the July 28<sup>th</sup> edition.

**Discussion Item – Sub-committee for Ejection Consequences:** Mr. Zayas (NMAA Associate Director) spoke on behalf of Mrs. Dana Sanchez (NMAA Assistant Director) stating that per the direction of the NMAA Board of Directors at the June 3, 2010 meeting, the NMAA will establish a sub-committee to examine consequences for coach ejections. In addition, the sub-committee will look at possible sanctions for schools that have an extreme amount of ejections or negative incidents during a given school year.

**Consider Adjournment:**

Motion by Mr. Kennon, seconded by Mr. Benoit. 6:00 p.m.

**Motion:** Unanimous  Carried  Failed

*Next NMAA Board of Directors Meeting will be held on September 29, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. (NMAA)*