

**NMAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**Thursday, December 3, 2009**  
**9:30 a.m., NMAA**



- I. The NMAA Board of Directors met on Thursday, December 3, 2009. Mr. Mike Phipps, NMAA Board President, called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

Ms. Jacquelyne Gallegos, NMAA Administrative Assistant, called roll and the following board members were present: Dr. R.L. Richards (Small Area B); Mr. Bill Green (Small Area C); and Mr. Stan Rounds (Large School District II), Mr. Dane Kennon (At-Large Member); Mr. Rick Ferguson (Small Area D); Ms. Janel Ryan (Large Area A); Mr. Lawrence Johnson (NMAA Commission Representative); Mr. Winston Brooks (Large School District I); Mr. Mike Phipps (Large Area B); Mr. Dion Sandoval (New Mexico Board Association Representative); and Dr. James Abreu (Large Area D). Ms. Zita Lopez (Small Area A) was present via teleconference. Mr. Michael Harris (Large Area C) was absent.

Present from the NMAA were Mr. Gary Tripp, Executive Director; Ms. Sally Marquez, Associate Director; Mr. Mario Martinez, Associate Director; as well as other NMAA administrative staff.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Ferguson. Dr. Richards seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

The minutes from the September 30, 2009 and November 10, 2009 NMAA Board of Directors' Meetings were presented. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Rounds. Ms. Ryan seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

- II. *Directors Report* – Mr. Tripp stated he had three issues to report on. The first issue was on the Life of an Athlete program. Mr. Tripp let the board members know that Mr. Zayas would report on this issue.

Mr. Zayas started off by informing the board members that the Life of an Athlete program focuses on the negative effects of alcohol consumption. He stated in the Fall of 2009, with the help of guest speaker John Underwood, he presented the Life of an Athlete program to coaches, athletic directors, athletes, parents and school administrators around the state of New Mexico. He went to Roswell, Las Cruces, Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and Farmington to present the Life of an Athlete program. He stated the program is really picking up and gaining some momentum. The online Life of an Athlete online curriculum is scheduled to launch in June 2010 with the help of Creative Street Institute. He stated he has been collecting

input from kids about what type of online curriculum to include in the Life of an Athlete program.

Mr. Phipps stated that he hoped our athletic directors would buy into this program and encourage the kids to participate in it.

Mr. Johnson stated that the Alamogordo Schools were given a presentation on Life of an Athlete. He stated that we as administrators need to be proactive and help our kids, this means we also need to start with our elementary and middle schools kids, and work our way from the bottom all the way to the top.

Mr. Tripp stated the second issue he was reporting on was the Foundation Bowl-A-Thon which will be held on January 31, 2010. He stated he was challenging the Board of Directors to put together some teams to compete in the Bowl –A-Thon to help raise money for student scholarships.

The last issue that Mr. Tripp wanted to report on was the Fall State Championships. He stated that the Fall Championships have been very successful and the gate receipts have been up compared to last year. He stated that the live video streaming, done through ProView Networks, has been very successful and for one of the state football championship games there were 3,700 people tuned in to the game online. He stated the goal is to get close to 4,000 people viewing the state championships online. He stated that it is a good way to highlight your school by participating in the online broadcasting through ProView Networks.

*III. Overview of Board of Directors Goals* – Mr. Tripp stated that the Board of Directors' Goals for the 2009-2010 school year were approved in June 2009. He stated that he has failed to take to Board Goals to the Commission members. He stated the NMAA is going to make sure that we have more of a strategic alignment with the board goals and we will be to putting them in the forefront.

Mr. Tripp stated at the last Board meeting we tabled an issue that we would like to bring back again. We used the word mandate when describing the Life of an Athlete program for New Mexico student athletes. We feel we have a better solution.

Mr. Zayas stated that a Los Lunas Cross Country Coach presented her own version of the Life of an Athlete program. Los Lunas Schools also put together a petition to make this a required program. He stated that after every Life of an Athlete presentation he asks the group if they feel this program should be required. He stated mostly everyone raises their hand and agrees this program should be required. He stated we could possibly make this required which would result in 37,000 New Mexico student athletes taking this program.

Ms. Ryan stated that she wanted to make a comment on this issue. She stated we want to see what response we get when it states the program is strongly encouraged. Then this will allow us to see how effective this was and then decided if it needs to be required.

Mr. Zayas stated he agrees with Ms. Ryan. He stated New Mexico leads the nation in underage drinking in America. He stated this was a chance for our Board of Directors to be a leader in the nation on this issue. He is getting a lot of feedback from parents, students, and the Department of Transportation to launch this online curriculum program. The Department of Transportation has given the NMAA \$400,000 to make this happen.

Mr. Tripp stated that if anyone meets with Dr. Garcia on this, being a leader on the School Equities Act, we truly feel for the Athletic Directors and will try and make it as easy as possible.

Ms. Ryan stated that she wanted to commend Ms. Marquez on her presentations she has been giving around the state.

- IV. *Executive Session* – Mr. Phipps stated there was no need to go into Executive Session; it was not necessary at this time. The Board continued on in regular session.
- V. *General Action Item: Consider adopting a policy on game limitations for the 2010-2011 school year based on surveys and membership feedback.* – Mr. Tom Sullivan, Executive Director of the New Mexico Coalition of School Administrators, stated that at the Legislators special session some of the issues concerning education cuts have not been resolved. He stated there is still an issue on what percentage cut will take place. At the Superintendents retreat we did some brainstorming and tried to help each other make cuts where possible. Interestingly there were Legislatures that took a strong stance and said 0% cuts to education. But if they were going to make cuts they basically said that the .8% sounded like the best deal. Those who fought for schools are really watching schools to make sure there are no cuts in salary, programs, and employees. At 10% which was the initial cut, I would suggest for all of you to agree on a trigger point to decide what you need to save up until a certain percentage cut, and if it is above a certain percentage decide what to cut.

Mr. Phipps stated we all know that in January we are going to have to fight for our kids programs. When I know those programs are invaluable to keeping kids in school. I felt that they feel the same way as us about making cuts in education.

Mr. Sullivan stated there are monies that are being used inefficiently that could be saved.

Dr. Richards asked how far the Legislature was in debt.

Mr. Sullivan state he thought it was around \$340 million and that the whole State budget was \$1.3 billion in debt.

Mr. Tripp stated at the Special Board Meeting, the Board of Directors gave the NMAA a task to come up with three possibilities and proposals to bring to this board meeting. He stated we did take this to the Commission. The NMAA did form an Ad Hoc Committee consisting of ten districts and administrators from

around the state. He stated that we tried to have representation from the entire state. The committee and NMAA worked all day Monday to come up with solutions. The first proposal is to leave everything as is with the exception of wrestling. Proposals 2 and 3 we feel we came up with solutions to fix the problem. In football we can start a week earlier and Basketball can start one week later. We put competition seasons in there. All three proposals change the sport of wrestling. There will be talks about competition dates and seasons. Proposal 1 is what you have in your current bylaws. There are no cuts mandated by the NMAA. Proposal 2 has no game reductions in football, cross country, golf, swimming and diving, tennis, and track and field. There will be three game reductions in basketball, baseball, and softball and two game reductions in volleyball and soccer. In Proposal 3 there will be a 10% reduction in all sports at all levels except for football. But in football there will be the elimination of their preseason scrimmage.

Mr. Tripp stated that he does worry for the NMAA and the State of New Mexico. Football being left alone could cause problems. The state of Florida had legal issues cutting everything by 20% and not football. Proposal 1 and 2 are cleaner than that issue.

Ms. Ryan asked would Proposal 3 be a Title IX issue.

Ms. Marquez answered by stating she has not called the National Federation office to ask them yet.

Mr. Brooks asked what the local issue was.

Mr. Tripp stated the districts will be as conservative as possible. He stated the NMAA is cutting the minimum games possible.

Mr. Rounds asked what we are going to do to keep the masses contained. No one has stepped in to decide what cuts need to be made. We need to contemplate that we need to make cuts. He stated he sees this as a tactical maneuver to decide what we need to do to make everything work. I do not know how to pay the bills if they do not provide me with the money.

Mr. Evans stated the National Federation allows five matches in a day for wrestling. The NMAA staff is proposing we introduce a 32 point format in the sport of wrestling.

Dr. Richards stated the schools on his side of the state that he represents would like to see some reductions.

Mr. Phipps stated that back about four or five years ago the Legislature wanted to tax the oil and gas companies more because that was where the money was, in doing so we have removed the expansion of drilling. He stated we have created Legislation that has stopped the revenue. He stated he was just guessing that if you cut three basketball games in Gallup, Kirtland, or Espanola, we will be cutting a big chunk of revenue.

Mr. Brooks stated a 10% reduction in activities, and a 10% reduction in athletics does not equate. I feel that we should respect our local Superintendents and Administrators to make good decisions.

Mr. Green stated, representing most small schools, games in fact do cost them. Game cuts at small schools seem like the right thing to do. At our last meeting we made it a point that we needed to look at possible game cuts. If it was going to be a 10% cut, he stated he was going to have to fire some people. He stated he believed in local autonomy.

Mr. Tripp stated our goal within the bylaws is that you take either Proposal 2 or 3 and send out an emergency referendum.

Mr. Green state he would like to make a motion to place these three Game Limitation Proposals on an emergency referendum out to vote and the board adhere to the majority vote. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.

Mr. Kennon asked why the urgency to get this done before the Legislation meets.

Mr. Phipps stated because of game scheduling and this is just to get the input now.

Mr. Johnson stated that everyone is scrambling to get games and if you don't get games on time then it causes some problems. It is not acceptable to not have games scheduled. It is important that we do something now.

Dr. Richards stated that Proposal 1 is local autonomy.

Mr. Rounds asked if this would be an advisory referendum that would be reviewed and acted on by the board at a future date.

Mr. Tripp stated that Proposal 1 is what the current bylaw reads with the exception of wrestling.

Mr. Phipps stated we would gather this information and in January we could announce our decision.

Mr. Martinez stated that he was a little concerned with the direction we were going with this issue. I think the way our bylaws read, it is the Board of Directors job to send it out to referendum and adhere to whatever the results are.

After discussion Mr. Green's motion to send out to emergency referendum seconded by Mr. Johnson was approved unanimously.

*General Action Item: Consider adoption of the policy for extraordinary loss of enrollment whereas a school could potentially be moved to a lower classification.*

– Mr. Martinez asked the Board Members to turn to page 29 of their packets. He stated this was very similar to what he brought forward at the last meeting. A school moving from 5A to 4A would have to have seven schools larger than them

if they moved down in classification. Schools will be moved up or down in the middle of a block. The school would have to come before the NMAA board and present their case and a decision would be made by the Board members.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the adoption of the policy for extraordinary loss of enrollment whereas a school could potentially be moved to a lower classification. Dr. Abreu seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

*General Action Item: Consider approving moving Shiprock Northwest from District 4A to District 6A in the sports of Basketball and Volleyball for the four year block beginning in 2010.* – Mr. Martinez stated at the annual meeting he had a few schools come up to him where schools had been moved from their districts. He stated this change would mean leaving district 4A as a three team district.

Mr. Kennon made a motion to approve moving Shiprock Northwest from District 4A to District 6A in the sports of Basketball and Volleyball for the four year block beginning in 2010. Ms. Ryan seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

*General Action Item: Consider Clovis Christian's appeal to be moved from 8 man football to 6 man football and from Class A Basketball and Volleyball to Class B based on their extraordinary loss of enrollment.* – Mr. Martinez stated he explained the process to Clovis Christian's Administration.

Mr. Kralicek stated in the area of their loss of enrollment they had 77 students last year and now have 43 students this year. The cause of our problem is that we had an increase in tuition of about \$1,000. He stated that many parents did not feel they could pay for this. He stated he just wants equity to play.

Mr. Kennon stated they do fit the criteria.

Mr. Kennon made a motion to approve Clovis Christian's appeal to be moved from 8 man football to 6 man football and from Class A basketball and volleyball to Class B based on their extraordinary loss of enrollment. Mr. Ferguson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

*General Action Item: Consider making spirit a sport versus an activity beginning with the 2010-2011 school year. (Referenda Item)* – Ms. Marquez stated every single school that has come forward to her wants to make Cheerleading a sport in order to gain school equity.

Mr. Rounds made a motion to approve making spirit a sport versus an activity beginning with the 2010-2011 school year. Mr. Kennon seconded the motion. A vote was taken and carried with 11 votes for and 1 vote against.

VI. *Sports Specific Action Item – Track and Field: Consider allowing track and field coaches to serve as meet referees.* – Mr. Martinez stated around Track and Field District time, there is a need for track and field officials. It becomes very difficult

to find officials. This would allow three coaches who are certified Track and Field Officials to act as the governing meet officials and make decisions amongst their committee.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve allowing Track and Field Coaches to serve as meet referees provided that at least three coaches from three different schools are NMAA/NMOA certified Track and Field officials. Dr. Abreu seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

*Sports Specific Action Item – Wrestling: Consider the state qualifying procedures for Class A-3A for 2009-2010.* – Mr. Evans stated you previously approved the 4A and 5A state qualifying procedures. We put off Class A-3A due to their dynamic situation.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the state qualifying procedures for Class A-3A for 2009-2010 in the sport of wrestling. Mr. Ferguson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

VII. *General Discussion and Information Items: Activities Update* – Ms. Sanchez stated that CTSO had a conference in Albuquerque and approximately 900 students were in attendance. This number was up from last year, where 600 students attended.

One Act Play was held in Farmington. In the Sparta Division Bosque won for the small school division and Gadsden won for the large school division.

The music festival will be held at UNM, June 6-9, 2010.

State choir will be held at Albuquerque Academy this year and will take place in February.

Skiing as an activity has been brought to the attention of the NMAA. We would need to hear from twelve schools showing interest in making skiing an actual activity.

*General Discussion and Information Items: Seeding and Selection process for the future.* – Mr. Martinez stated at the annual meeting we did have a meeting by classification. There were four options that were discussed about seeding and selection. Option one was to leave the current process in place. Option two was to have the NMAA do the seeding and selection. Option three was to let the computer decide. Lastly, option four was to use the predetermined selection process.

Ms. Martinez stated that under the current process or seeding and selection in football the first, second, and third place teams all played in their respective state championship games.

Ms. Marquez stated in volleyball the first and second seed played in each of the five classifications state championship games.

*General Discussion and Information Items – Officials Report and PVWH Report–* Ms. Sanchez stated there are a total of 953 officials this year which is up from 861 last year. The winter sports are showing the same trend in officials. We seem to be gaining more officials as the year progresses.

Ms. Sanchez stated in the sport of football there were no coach ejections. In volleyball there were no coach ejections. In boys' soccer there were five coach ejections and in girls' soccer there were also five coach ejections.

Ms. Sanchez stated that the NMOA would be coming up with more clinics for Track and Field. She stated currently the NMOA offers clinics at the NMHSCA clinic in January and at the NMOA annual clinic in July. She stated the NMOA would be working on improving the officiating in Track and Field.

*General Discussion and Information Items: NMAA member schools allowed to run the 1600m Relay at the USA Indoor National Championships in Albuquerque on February 27-28, 2010.* – Mr. Martinez stated UNM requested from the NMAA that high school Track and Field athletes be allowed to participate in a 1600m Relay at the USA Indoor National Championships. They requested to have the race waived from the 10 regular meets that the athletes are already allowed during the season. Mr. Tripp granted the membership schools a one year waiver which will allow the athletes to compete in the meet and not have it count against one of their regular season meets.

*General Discussion and Information Items: Fall State Championships Update–* Mr. Phipps stated that the volleyball tournament at Santa Ana was a great success and a great venue for the kids to play. He thanked APS for their support with the Soccer State Championships. He also thought the APS soccer complex was a great venue for the soccer state tournament.

VIII. *Addendum Agenda: The possibility of new football programs being allowed to start their program in the 8 man division without any post season capabilities for a minimum of two years. (Billie Murrell, Principal of Pecos High School)* – Mr. Martinez stated that due to the weather Mr. Murrell was not in attendance. He will hold off on this issue until the next meeting when Mr. Murrell can be in attendance to present.

IX. *Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 27, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. at the NMAA.*

X. *Consider Adjournment*

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Kennon. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ferguson. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.