

NMAA COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, November 18, 2009
9:00 a.m., NMAA Conference Room A



- I. The NMAA Commission met on Wednesday, November 18, 2009, for their regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. Lawrence Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Ms. Alissa McCarthy, Administrative Assistant called roll and the following commissioners were present: Debra Ledford (Small Area A), Mr. Phillip Sategna (Large Area A), Mr. Brian Stacy (Large Area B), Mr. Lawrence Johnson (Large Area C), Mr. Sam Olney (Small Area C), Mr. Gary Salazar (Small Area B), Mr. Tom Manning (Large Area D), Mr. Doug Santo (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors Association), Mr. Thomas Mabrey (New Mexico High School Coaches Association), Mr. Jim Sayre (New Mexico Officials Association), Terry Martin (State School Boards Association), and Mr. Don Gerheart (Activities Council), and Mr. Pete MacFarlane (Non-Public School Representative), Mr. Gary Frazier (Small Area D), and Mr. Scott Affentranger (National Association of Secondary School Principals) A quorum was declared and business before the Commission could be conducted.

Present from the NMAA was Ms. Sally Marquez, Associate Director and Mr. Mario Martinez, Associate Director.

Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented and Mr. Sayre seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The minutes from the September 16, 2009 meeting were presented. A motion was made by Mr. Martin to approve the minutes. Mr. Sayre seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Directors' Report – Mr. Tripp stated the fall state championships were a great success. He stated that he wanted Mr. Zayas, Mr. Aragon and Ms. Marquez to speak regarding the fall championships. Mr. Zayas stated that state soccer was a terrific venue. He stated that they sold 9500 tickets which was slightly down from last year, however this year the championships had half of the games as last year. He stated that they had a total of 42 games in three days. He thanked Mr. Kenny Barreras at APS as well as the rest of the APS staff for their hard work during the tournament.

Mr. Aragon stated that the state cross country tournament was a great turn out. He stated it was held at Rio Rancho High School, however there was an issue with the parking at this venue. He stated there was not enough parking and it became problematic. He stated that the NMAA will be looking into other options to accommodate the fans for next years championships.

Ms. Marquez stated the state volleyball that having the tournament at the Santa Ana Star center turned out to be a great venue, however it is more costly to the NMAA for rental of

the facility. She stated that they will be keeping the tournament there next year. She added that there were four courts going at the same time and she received great feedback from coaches. She thanked Rio Rancho and Cleveland High School administration for allowing Class A/AA pool play to be held there.

Mr. Martinez stated that Ticketleap, the official online provider of the NMAA State Championship events, has been a huge success. He stated the NMAA sold tickets online for soccer and volleyball and is considering possibly using it for the big school football championships this year. Mr. Tripp added that Ticketleap is a convenience for spectators with no waiting in lines. He stated that this is available for schools to use during the season and schools will receive a kickback of .25 cents per ticket sold if used during the season.

Mr. Martinez stated that 6-man football championships took place this previous weekend. He stated that Lake Arthur took the 6-man football title this year defeating Hondo High School 72-70. He stated that it was a great venue and a great event for all spectators. Eight-man football is taking place this weekend in Tatum. They will take on the defending state champions, Melrose High School. Class A will also take place this weekend in Hagerman High School taking on Clayton High School. He added that this is the 9th time Clayton High School has been in the championship game and they hope to claim the 1st place title this year.

Discussion Item- Overview of the Board of Directors Goals for 2009-2010

Mr. Tripp stated that he hopes to go over the goals of the Board of Directors every September Commission meeting. He referred the Commission to page 11. He stated the goals for the 2009-2010 school year include

1. Continue the Pursuing Victory with Honor initiative through preseason DVD's, conducting workshops for Member Schools (at their request), education of member school through distribution of reports, implementation of programs such as PVWH True Champions Program and Life of an Athlete.
2. Encourage and promote extracurricular activities
3. Establish agreements with institutions of higher learning to ensure the student athletes are participating in quality facilities
4. Create a template for Title IX and the Equities Act for all member schools in an effort to create awareness to member schools.

Mr. Martinez encourages all member schools to contact Robert and having him come out to their school and present the program Life of an Athlete come to their schools and present to the student athletes of all member schools. He stated this program Mr. Zayas developed is very educational and well developed.

II. General Action Items- Consider making Spirit a sport versus an activity beginning with the 2010-2011 school year. (referenda item)

Ms. Marquez referred the Commission to pg. 12. She stated that this was the same action item that the Commission passed at the previous meeting. However the Board of Directors tabled this item until after the Legislative Session was over in an effort to see how much budgets were going to be cut. She stated that several schools have sent in their enrollment numbers and all of them need to count the spirit numbers to be in compliance. She stated that schools also can choose whether to do competition and sideline or just sideline. She stated if a school chooses to only do sideline cheer the numbers for spirit then do not count towards their enrollment.

Mr. Sategna made a motion to accept the proposal. Mr. Martin seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

General Action Items – consider adjusting Bylaw 7.7.3 Unethical behavior or unprofessional behavior engaged in by a coach or other school personnel whereas the Executive Director has the authority concerning the sanctions for the first offense.

Mr. Tripp stated that currently this bylaw does not allow for a variance in sanctions based on the severity of the violation. He stated that the adjustment to the first offense of this Bylaw would allow for the Executive Director to meet with school personnel and sanction according to the degree of severity of the violation. The feedback was in regards to changing the second offense becoming a minimum of a 1 game suspension up to a maximum of suspension of post season play for a coach depending on the severity of the violation. Mr. Johnson suggested that the wording be adjusted to this Bylaw.

Mr. Martin made a motion to table the proposal. Mr. Sategna seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific General Action Items – Consider 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.

Mr. Martinez stated that many schools towards the end of the year have a problem with getting officials to officiate their meets. He stated this is due to the small amount of certified track and field officials. He stated that this would allow coaches from different schools that are certified officials to officiate at the meets their schools are participating in. Ms. Sanchez added that this would help those meets where there are not enough officials.

Mr. Martin made a motion to table the proposal. Mr. McFarlane seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific General Action Items – Consider the state qualifying procedures for Class A 3A for 2009-2010 in the sport of wrestling.

Mr. Tripp stated that these changes are based on the amount of qualifiers per team. He stated that this is done in an effort to help with the shortfall of school budgets.

Mr. Affentranger made a motion to accept the proposal presented. Mr. Mabrey seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific General Action Items – Consider restructuring event limits in the sport of wrestling for 2010-2011 (referenda item)

Mr. Tripp asked the Commission to table this item in an effort to put this under the entire umbrella for game reductions in all sports.

Mr. Martin made a motion to accept the proposal presented. Mr. Gerheart seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

III. General Discussion Item- Activities Update.

Ms. Derr stated that two events took place this fall. Career and Technology conference where over 900 students participated. She stated that number is up by 600 more than last year. She stated that One Act Play took place in Farmington; Bosque took first place in the small school division, and Gadsden took first place in the large school division. She added that All State Music auditions will conclude this week; this includes the best high school musicians throughout the state.

She stated that All State Choir Contest will be taking place February 26-27 at the Albuquerque Academy. Scholastic Publication will be taking place April 10, 2010.

She continued stating that Spirit, Band and Choir registrations can now be don't online. Lastly, Ms. Derr informed the Commission about Skiing becoming an NMAA sanctioned activity. She stated that the USASA organization has agreed to allow the NMAA to piggyback and help in the state championships. She stated that students would have to be a member of the USASA for liability purposes and the cost would be around \$150.00 a participant. She stated that the NMAA is asking for 12 member schools who would want to field a skiing team to fill out a statement form and turn into the NMAA. For more information please contact Kristin Derr at the NMAA.

Commission took a 10 minute recess and re-convened at 10:19 AM

General Discussion Item- Possible reduction of games for 2010-2011

Mr. Tripp referred the Commission to the handout. He began stating that the NMAA held a special Board of Director meeting as the legislative session began; he stated that the Board of Directors decided to table this proposal until the session had ended to see what budget cuts school boards would be facing. He stated that The NMAA held another special board meeting on Tuesday, November 10th to discuss the possibility of reducing game limitations. The final decision will come at the Board meeting held on December 3rd.

Mr. Tripp reviewed the proposal put together by the NMAA and stated that the legislature have done great things for education. He stated that the state eliminated the gross receipts tax for officials; the NMAA cut assessment for schools. He stated that with this proposal he hopes to get two schools from each classification and have them answer three questions. Has their school made cuts in the past 1 ½ years? How have they made cuts in the athletic budget and what has worked for the school regarding the budget cuts from the previous year and a half? He stated he hopes to get the administrators of these schools and have a meeting to discuss this proposal. He stated he then hopes to get ten administrators throughout the state to get feedback on this proposal. The feedback the NMAA receives will be taken back to the Board of Directors meeting on December 3rd.

Mr. Tripp stated the proposal includes ideas such as pushing the start or end date back to promote multiple sport participation for athletes. He stated that this would help with the transition for student athletes getting the proper amount of rest for athletes who participate in a fall and winter sport or a winter and spring sport. No cuts in football as football is a huge revenue maker for most schools and helps to pay for other sports throughout the year. No cuts in Cross Country, Golf, Swimming or Tennis as their limitations are very minimal as it is. Volleyball and Soccer would reduce by two games cutting two varsity games and adding one sub-varsity game in hopes to one day make sub-varsity and varsity level have the same number of games to maximize the use of buses. Cutting one game in basketball as it is a revenue maker for most schools and helps pay for other sports. Baseball and Softball start date would be reduced to 24 games, cutting two games, and lastly, cutting 1 meet from track and field schedules. The Commission agreed to use the proposal from the NMAA as a template to work off of to which additions and eliminations could be made.

General Discussion Item-Alignment and Classification Update

Mr. Martinez stated that the schools are facing problems with a decrease in enrollment after the alignment has already been set for the next four year block. He stated that presently Schools experiencing a drastic decrease in enrollment the alignment can be adjusted after two years. Mr. Martinez referred the Commission to page 17. He stated that some schools are experiencing an extraordinary loss of enrollment from one year to the next. By definition the school losing enrollment would have to lose enrollment to the point that they would fall into the lower classification's numbers. He stated schools experiencing this drastic decrease would have to have a minimum of 25% of the lower classifications schools

be larger than them in enrollment numbers to change the classification of their school before the two years have concluded. If a school experiences a large decrease in enrollment the new enrollment would begin the following year.

Mr. Martinez added that Shiprock NW is moving to District 6 due to geographic changes. He stated because Des Moines moved up in classification Shiprock NW fits between with the district which includes Gallup Catholic

General Discussion Item- NMAA Member schools allowed to run the 1600m Relay at the USA Indoor championships in Albuquerque on February 27-28, 2010.

Mr. Martinez stated that the UNM track and field coach contacted the NMAA office regarding the USA Indoor Championships that is being held in Albuquerque for the next three years. He stated that the coach wanted to get High School track and field athletes involved asking to allow high school athletes run in the 1600m Relay race that will be taking place during the Indoor Championships and not have it count towards their meet limitations. He stated that Mr. Tripp granted a waiver for this year only to allow high school athletes participated without it counting against them in an effort to witness some of the best athletes in the world. He stated the NMAA would evaluate the process after this year and determine whether the NMAA would allow high school athletes to participate the following year.

General Discussion Item- Changes to track and field official certification

Ms. Sanchez stated that the certification for track and field officials has been informal in the past. She stated that the NMOA is hoping to create more standardization. She stated that the NMOA will be adding more courses pertaining to track and field certification for officials, providing more educational classes for these officials.

General Discussion Item- Referenda Results from Fall 2009

Ms. Derr referred the Commission to page 20 of their packet. She stated that all three referenda items passed. 47% member schools voted on item one and three and 57% member schools voted on item two. Changing the Pitching Distance will be effective immediately while changing Bylaw 7.21.1 F and Bylaw 8.2.3 requiring Spirit Coaches to complete the NFHS/AACCA safety education program will be effective for the 2010-2011 school year.

General Discussion Item- Seeding and Selection Survey

Mr. Martinez referred the Commission to page 22 of their packet. He stated that the NMAA conducted an informal survey regarding the options for seeding and selection. Mr. Martinez stated that option 1 is currently ahead which states retaining the process currently in place with very few changes.

- V. Mr. Johnson informed the Commission that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 13, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.
- VI. A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Martin. It was seconded by Mr. Stacy and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m. Mr. Martinez stated that this was Mr. Gary Salazar's last Commission meeting, he thanked Mr. Salazar for his service on the Commission.