

NMAA Commission Meeting
February 5, 2014
9:00 AM
NMAA Office

Welcome – Meeting called to order by Mr. Lawrence Johnson, NMAA Commission Chairperson, at 9:00 a.m. A roll call was conducted by Mrs. Mindy Ioane, NMAA Administrative Assistant, and the following members were present:

Mr. Leonard Velasquez (Small, Area A)
Mr. Wayne Ferguson (Small, Area B)
Mr. Gary Schuster (Small, Area C)
Mr. Dave Campbell (Small, Area D)
Mr. Bruce Carver (Large, Area A)
Mr. Greg Haston (Large, Area B)
Mr. Lawrence Johnson (Large, Area C)
Mr. Kenny Barreras (Large, Area D)
Mr. Pete MacFarlane (Non-Public School Rep.)
Mr. Marc Baca (New Mexico Officials Association Rep.)
Mr. Scott Affentranger (National Association of Secondary School Principals Rep.)
Mr. Thomas Mabrey (New Mexico High School Coaches Association Rep.)
Mr. Don Gerheart (Activities Council Member)
Ms. Vicki Nelms (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors Association Rep.)
Ms. Debbie Coffman (Jr. High/Middle School Rep.)
Mr. Terry Martin (State School Boards Association Rep.)

Sixteen members present representing a quorum.

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Johnson asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Gary Schuster made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Pete MacFarlane seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Lawrence Johnson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2013 Commission meeting as presented. Mr. Kenny Barreras made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Don Gerheart seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Directors' Report:

Mr. Bill Cleland, NMAA Associate Director, discussed four items during his report: (1) the updated Commission Directory placed in the binders (he asked members to notify him if there are any errors); (2) the 2014 – 2016 Classification and Alignment proposal that was voted upon and upheld by the Board of Directors; (3) reminded Commission members to RSVP for the NMAA Hall of Fame Banquet which will be held Thursday, March 13th, 12:00 p.m. at the Marriott Pyramid Hotel (2014 inductees are Art Karger, Ed

Ping, Phil Sategna and Fern Spencer); and (4) the 25/50 year State Basketball Championship Reunion Banquet, March 14th, 11:00 a.m. at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Albuquerque, honoring the 1964 and 1989 State Basketball Champions and Tournament Officials.

Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, discussed four items in his report: (1) NMAA Foundation Scholarship applications were due on February 3, 2014. Recipients will be announced during the week of February 10, 2014; (2) the 2014 NMAA Foundation Bowl-a-Thon held on January 26th raised approximately \$3,000 to support scholarships; (3) the 2014 NMAA Foundation Golf Classic will be held Monday, June 2nd at Tanoan Country Club; and (4) winter State Championship dates: Swimming / Diving and Wrestling Championships, February 21st and 22nd, State Basketball, March 7th-8th and 11th-15th, and State Spirit Championships, March 28th-29th. UNM will be charging \$5 for parking, no discount for car pools.

Financial Report:

Ms. Shari Kessler-Schwaner, NMAA Business Manager presented the 2013-2014 Fall Sports Financial Reports.

NMAA Activities Report:

Ms. Dana Pappas, NMAA Deputy Director, discussed two items on her report: (1)

Spring Activities Events:

NMASC – February 13-15

Bowling – February 15

BPA – February 17-19

DECA – February 20-22

Science Olympiad – February 22

English Expo – February 22

FCCLA – March 6-8

Mock Trial – March 21-22

Scholastic Publications – March 22

Science Fair – April 4-5

ROTC – April 7-12

Music: April 4-5 – 1st Orchestra Contest

April 11-12 – State Choir

April 25-26 – State Band

Chess – April 24-25

Athletic Training Challenge – April 27

and (2) a reminder to submit verification of eligibility forms to the NMAA office as required by NMAA bylaws.

NMOA Report:

Ms. Dana Pappas, NMAA Deputy Director, discussed two items in her report: (1) the NMOA Executive Board meeting held on January 26, 2014, where they discussed: a) varsity regional assignors not being active officials; b) evaluation process; c) revision of the NMOA Constitution; d) physicals; e) soccer mentoring, training and evaluation pilot beginning in the fall of 2014; and (2) the NASO Summit to be held July 27-29 at the Hyatt Regency in Albuquerque, NM. Officiate New Mexico Day will be held during the Summit on July 26th and the Gold Whistle Officiating Gala will be held July 29, 2014, where Mr. Land Clark will be honored, in front of a national audience. Governor Susana Martinez will speak at the Welcome Reception on July 27th. NASO is in the process of selecting scholarship recipients who will be able to attend the Summit free of charge.

General Discussion/Information Items

Selection/Seeding Criteria: Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, asked the Committee for feedback concerning the criteria currently being used. 1) On the topic of Overall Record members indicated that coaches and administrators may be worried that the number of wins needed impacts the scheduling process; 2) strength of schedule, which is already a part of MaxPreps data; and 3) possibly using the team's record against its classification in the selection process.

Eligibility (2 D's = 1 F): Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, asked the Committee for feedback regarding whether the NMAA should raise GPA eligibility standards to coincide with the NCAA's 2.3 GPA requirement. The idea is to ensure that upon graduation, New Mexico students will be academically eligible. Discussion ensued concerning 1) whether implementation of 2 D's = 1 F is beneficial for all students; 2) use this standard for core classes only; 3) not being able to repeat a class to increase GPA; 4) educating coaches on the NCAA guidelines – note: will have a representative at the Coaches Clinic in July, 2014; 5) whether to consider using semester grades instead of 6-9 week grades for eligibility; and 6) UNM in conjunction with Albuquerque Public Schools is gathering data on how participation in athletic/activities has an impact on student success.

Out of Season Coaching: Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, stated that other states are eliminating the Out of Season Coaching rule because it keeps education-based coaches away from student-athletes. Members discussed how taking away this rule might impact schools / students.

Alternative School Student Participation: Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, told the Committee that students from Alternative Schools want to participate in sports/activities in the same manner as Charter Schools.

Open Enrollment Issues: Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, asked the Committee if open enrollment is a problem that they are experiencing and if it is something that they would like to discuss at the next Commission meeting in May. The members agreed that it is an issue and would like more discussion in May.

FAT Timing Report: Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, told the members of the committee that approximately 50% of Class 3A-5A Schools do not have a FAT timing system. Of the schools that have the system, many do not know how to use it. There are 127 state qualifying meets, 44 of those are FAT timed. The Committee discussed: 1) the cost of a system; 2) the cost of training; 3) possibility of limiting qualifying meets; 4) scheduling all qualifying meets one month later in the season; and 5) possible NMAA assistance with the cost of training.

Professional Development of Coaches: Mr. Buster Mabrey, NMHSCA Executive Director, asked members to give suggestions regarding professional development classes they would like coaches to receive during the Annual Coaches Clinic in July. Suggestions included: 1) communication with staff and parents; 2) a guest speaker (Rod

Olsen, with Coaches for Excellence); 3) education-based athletics; 4) responsibilities of a coach, including the ethical and moral side of coaching; and 5) schedule classes at a later time since there is a large number of contract coaches. Mr. Mabrey also asked for feedback concerning the possibility of offering school memberships instead of individual memberships which would include professional development courses as part of the school membership.

In-town Mileage Payment for Officials: Mr. Bruce Carver, RRPS District Athletic Director, explained to the committee that officials who live in Corrales, Rio Rancho and Placitas are placed in the Albuquerque group, therefore cannot receive mileage pay for games they officiate in Albuquerque. The issue is that many officials from outside the city have to drive a distance to officiate games in the metro area. Rio Rancho Public Schools pays \$13 mileage fee to officials. Mr. Carver asked for feedback concerning an appropriate amount that these officials should receive that would be fair to both the schools and the officials. Suggestions can be e-mailed to Dana Pappas, dana@nmact.org or Bruce Carver, bcarver@rps.net.

Break 10:55-11:00

Increase Jr. High/Mid-School Volleyball Match Limits and Basketball Quarter Minutes: Ms. Debbie Coffman, Jr. High/Middle School Representative, asked the committee for feedback on the opportunity to give athletes more time to develop skills in the sports of volleyball and basketball. The members discussed the pros and cons of increasing volleyball match limits and basketball quarters from 6 minutes to 8 minutes.

Advisory Referenda (Centralized Football Championships): Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, presented the results of the State Football Final Host Sites Centralized Championships Advisory Referendum. 37 schools in favor and 43 schools do not favor. A January survey sent to head football coaches resulted in 59 responses. Results were 33 - 26 in favor of centralized championships. Members discussed the cost associated with hosting the event. Ms. Marquez advised the members not to focus on the cost, but on what is best for the student athletes of New Mexico.

Higher Seed versus Past History: Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, discussed the results of a survey sent to head football coaches in January. Out of 59 responses, 30 are in favor of the higher seed hosting during all rounds. It was suggested that if the higher seeded team hosted in all rounds, perhaps the vote on Centralized Championships would be different.

Football - 48 Minute Rule: Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, asked for feedback concerning the 48 minute rule. The responses were: 1) it is hard to track and hard to enforce, 2) safety of kids playing both JV and Varsity games in one week, 3) create a rule that can be tracked such as playing time by quarters or limit the amount of games during a specified time period that an athlete can play in, and 4) concerns for the small schools that a change could potentially eliminate JV teams in some schools.

Football – Practice Regulations: Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, presented a practice regulations proposal that would be added to Section 7 of the NMAA handbook, specifically regarding concussions and player safety. The NFHS Football Rules Committee strongly recommends that each state association implement its own policy.

Small School Football for 2014-15/2015-16 block: Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, presented a document describing the proposed districts for Class 2A, 8-Man and 6-Man football that will be presented to the Board of Directors on February 19, 2014.

Sports Specific Action Items

Football: Consider adjustment to mercy rule: (Referenda) Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, asked the committee to consider a proposal to adjust the current NMAA Football Bylaws pertaining to the “mercy rule”. At the various 11-man football levels, coaches across the state feel that the running clock is sufficient, but that the 50 point mercy rule is not necessary and should be removed. At the 6 & 8-man levels, coaches do feel that the 50 point mercy rule is needed and that the running clock rule should be extended. The current proposal brought forth by the football sport specific committee reads as follows:

***11-man:** When a team is ahead at the end of the 1st quarter by 35 or more points or becomes 35 or more points ahead in the second quarter and beyond, the clock will not stop during out of bounds, incomplete passes or first downs. The clock only stops for timeouts or scores. If the point differential becomes less than 35 points, regular timing resumes.*

***6 & 8-man:** When a team is ahead at the end of the 1st quarter by 35 or more points or becomes 35 or more points ahead in the second quarter and beyond, the clock will not stop during out of bounds, incomplete passes or first downs. The clock only stops for timeouts or scores. If the point differential becomes less than 35 points, regular timing resumes. A game is ended at halftime or during the second half if a team is 50 or more points ahead.*

Mr. Johnson asked for a motion to bring forth the proposal for discussion. Mr. Carver made the motion to discuss this proposal. Ms. Nelms seconded the motion. After discussion, Mr. Johnson asked for a vote concerning the 11-man proposal. The proposal passed (15-1).

Mr. Johnson then asked the Commission members to vote on the 6 & 8-man proposal. The proposal passed (15-1).

Softball Sports Specific Discussion Item: Mr. Scott Owen, NMAA Assistant Director, asked the committee for feedback regarding a proposal to amend the current 26-game limit to include a game/tournament combination format. Other states that use this system are Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma. Colorado is the only other state in our section that

uses straight game-limits. The proposal will follow the UIL’s structure of 18 game + 2 tournament combo with substitution clause as follows:

1. One tournament for three games
2. Three games for one tournament
3. Only able to substitute for one extra tournament – caveat with three to four scheduling options.
 - a. 18/2 = 26
 - b. 21/1 = 25
 - c. 15/3 = 27
 - d. 24/0 = 24

The rationale for this proposal is that it would create flexibility in scheduling, alleviates the need to track tournament games and maintains equitability.

Wrestling: District Dual Meets: (Referenda) Mr. Scott Owen, NMAA Assistant Director, asked the committee to consider a proposal that would require each district member school to compete against all other district schools in a dual meet format competition.

The results of distract dual meet competition will determine:

1. District championship and runner-up teams.
2. District trophies/awards, Directors Cup points, etc.
3. Champion coach represents district on the state seeding committee for districts with two or three teams, champion and runner-up coaches represent district on seeding committee for districts with more than three teams.
4. District individual tournament would serve only as a state qualifier with no team score kept.

The rationale to this proposal is that the trend among coaches is to maximize the number of individual matches with little regard for team competition. This trend negatively affects a school’s fan base by isolating its athletes to a schedule predominantly focused on individual tournaments, most, if not all, hosted by another school. This proposal will help to create a team-specific component with team and district significance. Mr.

Lawrence Johnson asked for a motion to proceed with discussion on this proposal. Mr. Haston made the motion to proceed with discussion. Mr. Ferguson seconded the motion. A discussion ensued and a roll call vote was taken as follows:

Yes	No	Commission Member
✓		Mr. Leonard Velasquez (Small, Area A)
✓		Mr. Wayne Ferguson (Small, Area B)
✓		Mr. Gary Schuster (Small, Area C)
✓		Mr. Dave Campbell (Small, Area D)
	✓	Mr. Bruce Carver (Large, Area A)
✓		Mr. Greg Haston (Large, Area B)
Abstain		Mr. Lawrence Johnson (Large, Area C)
	✓	Mr. Kenny Barreras (Large, Area D)
	✓	Mr. Pete MacFarlane (Non-Public School Rep.)
	✓	Mr. Marc Baca (New Mexico Officials Association Rep.)
	✓	Mr. Scott Affentranger (NASSP Rep.)

✓		Mr. Thomas Mabrey (NMHSCA Rep.)
✓		Mr. Don Gerheart (Activities Council Member)
	✓	Ms. Vicki Nelms (NMADA Rep.)
✓		Mr. Terry Martin (State School Boards Association Rep.)
	✓	Ms. Debbie Coffman (Jr. High/Middle School Rep.)

The proposal passed (8-7).

Wrestling: District dual meet competition points: (Referenda) Mr. Scott Owen, NMAA Assistant Director, asked the members to consider a proposal to assign 0.5 points to “stand-alone” district dual meets. Currently single dual meets count for 1.0 point against the 32 point competition limit. This proposal would assign 0.5 points to stand-alone district dual meets to incentivize coaches to utilize the stand-alone meet to help promote district competition and rivalries as well as aid in fan appeal and school spirit. Only “stand-alone” district dual meets would use the 0.5 points. District duals held in any other format (triangular, quad) would count as currently stated in bylaw 7.24.0.D of the NMAA handbook. Mr. Lawrence Johnson asked for a motion to proceed in discussion of this item. Mr. Haston made the motion. Mr. Ferguson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0). Note: Mr. Johnson stepped out of the room during discussion and vote.

Wrestling: Individual records requirement for State Qualifying: (Referenda) Mr. Scott Owen, NMAA Assistant Director, presented a proposal that would require each state qualifying wrestler to have a complete individual record uploaded to the NWCA/Track Wrestling online platform for state seeding purposes. Rationale for this item is that it will expedite the state seeding process, remove gamesmanship, increase transparency and promote the sport and its participants. Any school failing to provide a complete individual record for any of its state qualifying athletes would incur a monetary fine of \$250. Mr. Martin asked for a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Barreras made the motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Affentranger seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

General Action Items

Jr. High/Middle School Football Start Date: Change to match the high school date: (Referenda) Ms. Debbie Coffman asked the committee to consider a proposal that would change NMAA bylaw 9.8.4A. to allow junior high/middle school football programs to start the season at the same time high school programs do. Currently the high school season starts on Monday of Week #6 of the NMAA calendar but the junior high season starts on Monday of Week #7. The rationale for this proposal is to eliminate confusion with schools and football programs. Mr. Lawrence asked for a motion to proceed with discussion. Mr. Carver made the motion to proceed. Mr. Mabrey seconded the motion. After discussion a roll call vote was taken as follows:

Yes	No	Commission Member
	✓	Mr. Leonard Velasquez (Small, Area A)
	✓	Mr. Wayne Ferguson (Small, Area B)
	✓	Mr. Gary Schuster (Small, Area C)

	✓	Mr. Dave Campbell (Small, Area D)
	✓	Mr. Bruce Carver (Large, Area A)
	✓	Mr. Greg Haston (Large, Area B)
Abstain		Mr. Lawrence Johnson (Large, Area C)
	✓	Mr. Kenny Barreras (Large, Area D)
	✓	Mr. Pete MacFarlane (Non-Public School Rep.)
	✓	Mr. Marc Baca (New Mexico Officials Association Rep.)
	✓	Mr. Scott Affentranger (NASSP Rep.)
	✓	Mr. Thomas Mabrey (NMHSCA Rep.)
	✓	Mr. Don Gerheart (Activities Council Member)
	✓	Ms. Vicki Nelms (NMADA Rep.)
✓		Mr. Terry Martin (State School Boards Association Rep.)
✓		Ms. Debbie Coffman (Jr. High/Middle School Rep.)

The motion failed (13-2).

Consider Adjournment

Mr. Johnson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:52 p.m. Mr. Schuster made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Gerheart seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Next Commission Meeting – May 21, 2014 (NMAA)