

NMAA Board of Directors
February 19, 2014
9:00 AM
NMAA Hall of Pride and Honor

Welcome - Meeting called to order by Mrs. Janel Ryan, NMAA Board of Directors President at 9:20 a.m. A roll call was conducted by Mrs. Mindy Ioane, NMAA Administrative Assistant, and the following members were present:

Mr. Anthony Casados (Small, Area A)
Mr. Paul Benoit (Small, Area B)
Mr. Mike Chambers (Small, Area C)
Ms. Lesa Dodd (Small, Area D)
Mrs. Janel Ryan (Large, Area A - President)
Mr. T.J. Parks (Large, Area B - Vice President)
Dr. George Straface (Large, Area C)
Mr. Gene Parson (Large, Area D)
Mr. Winston Brooks (Large School District I)
Dr. Crit Caton (At-Large Member)
Mr. Lawrence Johnson (NMAA Commission Representative)
Mr. Dion Sandoval (NM School Board Association)

Not present

Mr. Stan Rounds (Large School District II)

Twelve members present representing a quorum.

Approval of the Agenda:

Mrs. Ryan asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Dodd made the motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Sandoval seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Approval of Minutes:

Mrs. Ryan asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2013 meeting. Dr. Straface made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Casados seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Executive Session:

Mrs. Ryan asked for a roll call vote to enter into Executive Session at 9:18 a.m., for the purpose of discussing pending litigation in the J.D. Isler federal lawsuit. The Board returned to open session at 9:48 a.m. Mrs. Ryan stated that no decisions were made. Discussion concerned the legal matter only.

NMAA Executive Directors' Report:

Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, discussed six (6) items in her report: 1) the Sportsmanship Initiative Committee will implement a statewide student slogan competition this spring, encouraging students to support the sportsmanship initiative; 2) informed the Board that in the sport of basketball there have been numerous complaints about the lack of sportsmanship and incidents during hand shakes after the game; 3) State Wrestling Championships will be held on February 21st and 22nd at the Santa Ana Event Center and State Swimming and Diving will be held at Albuquerque Academy; 4) a very

productive and successful Commission meeting was held on February 5, 2014; 5) Scott Evans, NMAA Assistant Director, along with the Public Education Department have completed a plan that will require all coaches to take a first aid course as part of their coaching license requirement beginning in the 2014-15 school year, and 6) Mr. Evans is also working with Project Heart Start to enable schools to implement that program.

Mr. Benoit exited the meeting.

Financial Report:

Ms. Shari Kessler-Schwaner, NMAA Director of Finance, presented the 2013–14 Fall Sport Reports and the Ticket Sales Report. Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, discussed the newly formed Opportunity Fund that will be set aside and used to give back to NMAA member schools. She will be providing more information, as well as criteria, during the June 4, 2014 Board of Directors' Meeting.

Activities Report:

Ms. Dana Pappas, NMAA Deputy Director, discussed three (3) items during her report: 1) NMASC was held February 13-15, 2014 at EVHS and was a successful event with over 1100 students in attendance; 2) the State Bowling Championships were held February 15, 2014 results as follows:

Class A-AAA: 1st - East Mountain High School, 2nd - Pojoaque High School, and 3rd - Sandia Prep.

Class 4A: 1st - Artesia High School, 2nd - Santa Fe High School, and 3rd - Del Norte High School.

Class 5A: 1st - Rio Rancho High School, 2nd - La Cueva High School, and 3rd - Oate High School; and

3) Upcoming Activities:

DECA – February 20-22

Science Olympiad – February 22

FCCLA – March 6-8

Mock Trial – March 21-22

Scholastic Publications – March 22

Science Fair – April 4-5

English Expo – April 5

ROTC – April 7-12

Music – April 4-5 – 1st Orchestra Contest – Volcano High School

April 11-12 – State Choir – Cleveland High School

April 25-26 – State Band – Atrisco Heritage High School

Chess – April 24-25

Athletic Training Challenge - April 27

NMOA Report:

Ms. Dana Pappas, NMAA Deputy Director, discussed three (3) items in her report: 1) In conjunction with the NMHSCA All-Star team extravaganza (June 1st weekend), will work to standardize the training/evaluation of basketball referees; 2) the NMOA Executive Board meeting held on January 26, 2014, where they discussed a) varsity regional assignors not being active officials, b) the evaluation process, c) revision of the NMOA Constitution, d) physicals, and e) soccer mentoring, training and evaluation pilot beginning in the fall of 2014; and 3) The NASO Summit which will 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 they will be honoring Mr. Land Clark, 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/Informational Items:

Selection/Seeding Criteria (eliminate overall record): Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, asked Board members for feedback concerning the current criteria. Members asked Ms. Marquez to explain the algorithm behind the MaxPreps rankings. Ms. Marquez stated that she would request the information and email the information to the Board when she receives it. Ms. Marquez also reminded the Board that MaxPreps is 1 of 8 criteria points used in the selection and seeding process.

Eligibility (2.3 GPA): Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, asked the Board for feedback regarding whether the NMAA should raise GPA eligibility standards to coincide with the NCAA's 2.3 GPA requirements. The idea is to ensure that upon graduation, New Mexico students will be academically eligible. Members indicated they have mixed feelings on the topic. Ms. Marquez will present study findings provided by UNM that will have answers to many of the concerns.

Alternative Schools student participation: Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, told the members that students from Alternative Schools have asked about participating in sports/activities in the same manner as Charter School students, with open enrollment during the 9th grade year.

Open Enrollment issues: Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, told the members that she would look into state law concerning open enrollment and asked members for feedback.

FAT Timing report: Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, told Board members that approximately 50% of Class 3A-5A Schools do not have the FAT timing system. Of the schools that have the system, many do not know how to use them. There are 127 state qualifying meets, 44 of those meets are FAT timed. Board members discussed the cost of FAT timing and the possibility of using the Opportunity Fund to assist with the cost of training on the system.

NMAA Governance Structure: Mr. Bill Cleland, NMAA Associate Director, discussed the governance structure of both small and large classes, including the number of schools in each area and how this impacts the voting process when electing representatives to the Commission and the Board. He asked the members if representation/voting should be based on geography or district alignments. He will present a restructured proposal at the June Board meeting.

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 attained 59 responses. Results were 33 – 26 in favor of centralized championships. The members discussed the pros and cons of hosting a centralized football championship.

Football – Higher seed vs. 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, 30-29 were in favor of the higher seed hosting during all rounds. Mr. Young answered questions concerning past history.

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, regarding concussions

and player safety. The NFHS Football Rules Committee strongly recommends that each state association implement its own policy.

Baseball Class A Tournament format: Mr. Daniel Benavidez and Mr. Mark Archuleta, Tierra Encantada, asked the Board to consider a double elimination format for the 2014-15 school year. Board members asked Mr. Benavidez to present a proposal to the Baseball Sports Specific Committee in order to bring the issue forward.

Sports Specific Action Items:

Football: Consider adjustment to mercy rule (Referenda Item): Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, asked the Board members 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.

Mrs. Ryan asked for a motion to accept this proposal as presented. Mr. Brooks made a motion to keep the current bylaws pertaining to the football “mercy rule”. Mr. Parson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the proposal failed (11-0).

Wrestling: District dual meets (Referenda Item): Mr. Scott Owen, NMAA Assistant Director, asked the Board to consider a proposal that would require each district member school to compete against all others in a dual meet format competition. The results of district dual meets will determine:

1. District championship and runner-up teams.
2. District trophies/awards, Directors Cup (all sports) points, etc.
3. Champion coach represents district on the state seeding committee for districts with two or three teams, champion and runner-up coach represents 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. Mrs. Ryan asked for a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Dr. Straface

made a motion to accept the proposal. Mr. Casados seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

Wrestling: District dual meet competition points: (Referenda Item): 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 utilize the 0.5 points. District duals held in any other format (triangular, quad) would count as stated in bylaw 7.24.1 D of the NMAA handbook. Mrs. Ryan asked for a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Chambers made the motion. Mr. Casados seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

Wrestling: Individual records requirement for State Qualifying (Referenda Item): 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 \$250.00. Mrs. Ryan asked for a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Chambers made the motion to accept the proposal. Dr. Caton seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

General Action Items

Classification/Alignment – small school football for the 2014-16 block: Mr. Bill Cleland, NMAA Associate Director, presented the Small School Football alignments for the upcoming 2 year block. Mrs. Ryan asked for a motion to approve the district alignment as presented. Mr. Chambers made the motion for approval. Dr. Caton seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

Classification/Alignment – Foothill wrestling appeal: Mr. Michael Robertson, Principal, and Brandin Schumann, Foothill Wrestling coach, asked the Board to allow Foothill to be placed into District 2 for the 2014-2016 block as it is difficult to travel long distances since they have restrictions placed on them by virtue of the fact they are a correctional facility. Mrs. Ryan asked for a motion to accept the appeal. There was no motion. Appeal died due to lack of a motion.

Consider Adjournment

Mrs. Ryan asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:08 p.m. Mr. Chambers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Dodd seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

Next Meeting Date: June 4, 2014