

**NMAA Commission Meeting**  
**May 19, 2021**  
**9:00 AM**  
**Zoom**

Welcome – The meeting was called to order by Mr. Ernie Viramontes at 9:00 am. A roll call was conducted by Ms. Alissa Wesbrook, NMAA Assistant to the Executive Director, and the following members were present:

Mr. Ben Tensay (Large Area A)  
Mr. Cooper Henderson (Large, Area B)  
Mr. Jory Mirabal (Small, Area C)  
Mr. Ernie Viramontes (Large, Area C) - Chair  
Mr. Jason Hightower (Small Area D)  
Ms. LeeAnn Moores (Large, Area D)  
Mr. Willie Owens (Non-Public Schools)  
Mr. Thomas Mabrey (New Mexico High School Coaches Association)  
Mr. Scott Affentranger (New Mexico Association of Secondary School Principals) – Vice Chair  
Mr. Larry Chavez (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors Association)  
Ms. Mary Hahn (Activities Council)  
Mr. Daren Jones (Jr. High/Middle School Committee)  
Mr. Jess Martinez (New Mexico Officials Association)

13 members were present representing a quorum.

Not Present:

Mr. Kamau Turner (Small, Area A)  
Mr. Dickie Roybal (Small, Area B)  
Mr. Frank Cordova (New Mexico State School Boards Association)

**Approval of Agenda:**

Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Moores made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Chavez seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (13-0).

**Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2021 Commission Meeting as presented. Mr. Hightower made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Tensay seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (13-0).

**NMAA Directors' Report:**

Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, discussed three (3) items on his report: 1) stated that seven sports seasons have concluded with six still to go for 2020-2021; 2) provided information on possible changes to the NMAA championship trophy; and 3) congratulated Mr. Larry Chavez on his upcoming retirement and thanked him for his service on the Commission and overall support of the NMAA and the youth of New Mexico.

**NMAA Activities Report:**

Ms. Dana Pappas, Commissioner of Officials, presented the activities report. She discussed four (4) items on her report: 1) reported on the communication efforts made to ensure activities liaisons and sponsors were informed throughout this difficult year; 2) stated the NMAA crowned champions in ESports at the end of April and that State FFA and State Bowling will take place in June; 3) provided an update pertaining to the NMAA Student Leadership Advisory Council; and 4) stated that the Annual Activities Council meeting will take place in person this fall.

### **New Mexico Officials Association Report:**

Ms. Pappas presented the officials report. She discussed seven (7) items on her report: 1) stated that 18% of the NMOA's officials opted out this unique year; 2) provided information on the numerous webinars that have taken place throughout 2020-2021 in an effort to engage officials; 3) reported that the State Clinic will be held virtually in July with the Hall of Fame banquet taking place in September; 4) stated that the Referee Educational Forum will be held virtually in August; 5) provided information regarding updates to the NMOA Constitution and Athletic Officials Manual; 6) reported on the election cycle for the NMOA Executive Board and Supervisory Committee; and 7) thanked the assignors and athletic directors for their work in ensuring games were covered throughout this difficult year. Ms. Pappas also answered questions from the group pertaining to Soccer Officials numbers in the Northwest part of the state.

### **Discussion/Informational Items:**

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students - Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, discussed eligibility issues pertaining to 8<sup>th</sup> grade participation that the NMAA has dealt with throughout 2020-2021 and an inquiry from coaches/athletic directors regarding a possible clean slate (scholastic eligibility) for 8<sup>th</sup> graders that do not participate at the high school level for next school year. Feedback included that, starting in the Fall 2021, all scholastic eligibility requirements that were in place prior to the pandemic should again be utilized.

Summer Workouts/Camps for 2021 - Ms. Marquez discussed Summer Workouts/Camps for 2021 and how overnight travels would play in to these activities. Schools may hold summer activities beginning Memorial Day weekend, but due to the fact that Spring Sports are still ongoing and these teams cannot stay overnight, summer workouts/camps also cannot include overnight travel until June 28<sup>th</sup>. Feedback from the group supported this guideline so that spring sports were treated equitable to those that are out of season while also providing a consistent start date for all schools/programs for overnight travel.

Boarding School Eligibility - Ms. Marquez discussed a possible change to the current boarding school rule which allows for immediate varsity eligibility to student athletes when transferring and boarding at the new school. She stated modification to this bylaw would include granting immediate eligibility to out of state students only, and affording New Mexico students immediate eligibility to incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade students as a one-time open enrollment choice. Feedback included support to continue discussions regarding a possible change to these bylaws.

Classification and Alignment: 2022-2024 Block - Ms. Marquez discussed the 2022-2024 Classification and Alignment Block and provided a timeline and information regarding this process.

### **Action Items:**

Soccer: Sites for State Quarterfinals/Semifinals - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to consider, beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, utilizing host school sites (higher seed) for the State Soccer Championships during the 1<sup>st</sup> Round, Quarterfinal and Semifinals. Only the Finals would be held at a centralized location for all classifications (boys and girls). Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Chavez made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Owens seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (13-0).

*Mr. Kamau Turner entered the meeting*

Student Eligibility: Specialized Sports Training - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal where transfer students who enroll in an NMAA-member school after attending a specialized sport training academy or school, shall be ineligible for varsity participation in that sport(s) for 180 school/365 calendar days from the date of their enrollment. Specialized sport training programs include, without limitation, non-school sponsored sports training academies or facilities that recruit participants for specialized training. Specialized sport training programs do not include club or municipal sports teams. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Tensay made the motion to table the proposal so that the NMAA can look at this topic in more detail, especially with remote learning continuing in some capacity throughout the next school year which may impact this issue. Mr. Hightower seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (14-0).

NMOA/Football: Film Requirement - Ms. Pappas and Mr. Young presented a proposal to require NMAA varsity head football coaches to submit film to a film repository hosted by the NMAA office on Hudl. The purpose is to film submission is an avenue for evaluation of officials and for the continued training and education of the NMOA football staff. All NMAA varsity head football coaches will have Hudl accounts provided on the NMOA Football Hudl. Coaches can use the platform to exchange film between on another if they so choose but the intent of the account is for internal use by the NMAA/NMOA staff and the officials. These accounts will be covered on the NMAA license and will not create a financial burden on the individual schools/coaches. Coaches will be required to submit Varsity game film to the NMOA Football Hudl account each week of the season. Film can be raw game footage and need not be clipped. Thursday games- film must be submitted by 1:00 p.m. on Saturday. Friday games- film must be submitted by 1:00 p.m. on Saturday and Saturday games- film must be submitted by 10:00 a.m. on Sunday. If a coach has questions or concerns about a specific play, the play(s) should be flagged within Hudl with an email to the NMAA office describing the concern and asking for a response. The email should include the clip number and any rules reference that pertains to the clip. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Hightower made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Henderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (14-0).

### **Consider Adjournment**

Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:34 a.m. Mr. Tensay made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Moores seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (14-0).