

## **NMAA Commission Meeting**

May 22, 2019

9:00 AM

NMAA Office

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

Mr. Tim Host (Small, Area A)  
Mr. Larry Chavez (Large, Area A)  
Mr. Cooper Henderson (Large, Area B)  
Mr. Jory Mirabal (Small, Area C)  
Mr. Jason Hightower (Large, Area C)  
Mr. Dave Campbell (Small, Area D)  
Ms. LeeAnn Moores (Large, Area D)  
Mr. Thomas Mabrey (New Mexico High School Coaches Association)  
Mr. Scott Affentranger (New Mexico Association of Secondary School Principals)  
Mr. David Campbell (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors Association)  
Mr. Steve Perea (Activities Council)  
Mr. Frank Cordova (New Mexico School Boards Association)  
Mr. Al Martinez (Non-Public Schools)  
Ms. Debbie Coffman (Jr. High/Middle School Committee)  
Mr. Jess Martinez (New Mexico Officials Association)

Not Present:

Mr. Dickie Roybal (Small, Area B)

15 members were present representing a quorum.

### **Approval of the Agenda:**

Mr. Viramontes requested that two changes be made to the agenda: He asked to move the Forfeitures/ Not Completing Schedules action item to the end of the discussion items and that the Physicals and Consent to Treat Form item be changed to two separate items – one for Physicals and one for Consent to Treat Form. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Henderson made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2019 Commission Meeting as presented. Mr. Henderson made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Mr. Viramontes thanked Ms. Coffman for her service on the Commission and congratulated her on her retirement.

### **NMAA Directors' Report:**

Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, discussed (2) items on his report: 1) a recap of the Spring Championships; and 2) an update on the NMAA Foundation Golf Classic.

**Financial Report:**

NMAA Finance Report - Ms. Shari Kessler-Schwamer, NMAA Business Manager, presented the financial reports for the 2018-2019 State Championships.

Credit Card Fees - Ms. Kessler-Schwamer discussed the increase in schools that want to pay membership dues with credit cards and the fees associated with this that are absorbed by the NMAA. The group felt that these fees should be passed on to the school in the future since they do have an option to pay by P.O. instead of with a credit card.

**NMAA Activities Report:**

Ms. Dana Pappas, NMAA Deputy Director, presented the activities report. She discussed three (3) items on her report: 1) she stated that the majority of the state events for sanctioned activities took place in the spring and information for those could be accessed on the NMAA website; 2) she informed the group that the State Rodeo Championships and State FFA Convention will take place in the coming weeks; and 3) she provided a recap of the State Concert Band and Choir Contests and thanked Cleveland High School for hosting the events. Mr. Young then added a brief report on the inaugural Esports season and state championships.

**New Mexico Officials Association Report:**

Ms. Pappas presented the officials report. She discussed five (5) items on her report: 1) she commended the assignors throughout the state for their work in covering games during the severe officials' shortage; 2) she encouraged member schools to actively recruit former players to help increase numbers; 3) she provided a recap of the selection process for varsity regional assignors for fall and winter sports and gave a timeframe for said selection in spring sports; 4) she stated that there may be a future agenda item regarding an increase in baseball umpires' fees per previous comments made by the NMAA Board; and 5) she provided an update on the various officials' camps and clinics that would take place over the summer, including but not limited to the NMOA State Clinic and Referee Educational Forum.

**Action Item:**

STEM Championships - Mr. Bill McCamley, New Mexico's Cabinet Secretary for the Department of Workforce Solutions, presented a proposal to consider adding the "STEM Challenge" as an NMAA sanctioned activity that would conclude with a state championship event. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Campbell made the motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Host seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

**General Discussion/Information Items:**

Scholastic Eligibility for 8<sup>th</sup> graders - Mr. Young introduced an item that was brought to the NMAA's attention by Mr. Henderson pertaining to scholastic eligibility for 8<sup>th</sup> graders. The topic centered on current bylaws that provide 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 9<sup>th</sup> grade students with a "clean slate", whereas this is not provided to an 8<sup>th</sup> grader unless they are playing at the high school level. The group felt that discussion regarding this item should continue moving forward.

Event Cancellations by Host Schools - Mr. Host introduced an item pertaining to event cancellations made by host schools without notice to visiting schools and the problems associated with this practice. The group discussed NMAA involvement, but felt that host schools should make sure to do a better job of communicating when this does occur.

Seeding & Selection - Mr. Mabrey & Mr. Young discussed seeding & selection and some of the concerns that have been brought to them by coaches and athletic directors over the last few months. This included the interest in changing criteria so that only a rankings system was used, or that the current criteria were updated to include some sort of strength of schedule component. After discussion, the group provided feedback that this topic should continue to be reviewed and possibly a committee formed to consider potential changes moving forward.

Out of Season Coaching - Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, discussed the issues regarding out of season coaching and possible need to revamp NMAA bylaws to keep up with current times. Mr. Mabrey supported potential changes on behalf of the NMHSCA. The group agreed that discussion about out of season coaching bylaws should continue and that a committee should be formed to formulate ideas for the membership to review.

Regular Season Event Fees - Ms. Marquez reintroduced the fees associated with numerous regular season events and the concerns behind this practice. The Commission felt that fees should continue so that expenses from serving as host are covered, but that these events should not serve as fundraisers. Because of this, the group recommended that an action item be taken to the Board which would require regular season event fees be paid directly to the school's athletic/activity fund and not to booster clubs.

Standardizing Districts - Ms. Marquez discussed current district tournament formats from around the state and the possible need for standardization. The group felt that this should be left up to the individual districts.

State Championship Qualifiers - Ms. Marquez discussed state tournament qualifiers and how some sports/classifications may need to have these numbers lowered. The group felt that this should be considered for the future as the new classification & alignment block for 2020-2021/2021-2022 is implemented.

Golf: Two Classifications - Ms. Marquez discussed the limited number of teams that qualified for state in Class A-3A Golf. She stated that this would be reviewed at the next NMAA Golf Sports Specific Committee Meeting.

Classification & Alignment: Timeline/Process - Ms. Marquez informed the Commission of the timeline in regards to classification and alignment for the 2020-2021/2021-2022 block. More information regarding this process would be brought to the Commission & Board in September.

Football: Third Party Summer Camps - Ms. Marquez discussed allowing athletes in the sport of football to attend one full padded, full contact camp with their high school coach(es) during the summer. The camp would have to be put on by a third party, not a member school, and also be approved by the NMAA. Mr. Mabrey and Mr. Young spoke on behalf of this proposal for football coaches and provided information each received during a recent meeting of the National High School Football Coaches Alliance & USA Football Conference. A proposal outlining this potential bylaw change will be placed as an action item at a future Commission Meeting.

Sportsmanship/Compete with Class Update - Ms. Marquez stated that she felt the membership was making progress in regards to sportsmanship and that the NMAA will continue its efforts in promoting the Compete with Class initiative to ensure this momentum is sustained.

Spirit: State Event - Ms. Marquez asked for feedback on the future of the State Spirit Championships due to the severe lack of sportsmanship displayed during and after the 2019 competition. Feedback included sanctioning schools that show bad sportsmanship and the possibility of returning Spirit to an activity. She will discuss this with the Board of Directors before a final decision is made.

Forfeitures/Not Completing Schedules - Ms. Marquez reintroduced an item pertaining to the increase in forfeitures and schools not completing their schedules. The group discussed the item in length but it was felt there is no immediate solution for this problem.

**Action Items (cont'd):**

NMHSCA Soccer All Star Game - Mr. Mabrey presented a proposal to consider allowing the NMHSCA to host an All Star Game for Soccer during the school year. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Host made the motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Perea seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Amateur Status (Referenda) - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to amend Bylaw 6.18.7, Non-School Sponsored Events, whereas in non-school sponsored events the awards a participant may receive and still retain amateur status shall be determined by the NCAA guidelines for that specific sport. For golf and tennis, amateur status will be determined by the national governing body. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Perea made the motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Chavez seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

3<sup>rd</sup> Party Filming (Referenda) - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to amend Bylaw 7.7.9.B so that it would read as follows: Radio broadcasting, telecasting, or video streaming a regular season contest is prohibited without the consent of the host school. This does not prohibit use of film and tape for sports clips by media representatives. Video recording is allowed. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Campbell made the motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Perea seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Participation in 25% of Regular Season (Referenda) - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to amend Bylaw 7.6.5 so that it would read as follows: Students must participate in a minimum of one quarter (1/4) of the varsity contests to be eligible for post season. A player who sustains an injury that precludes participation in one quarter of varsity contests during regular season may participate in post season competition provided the student has been on the team roster throughout the season. Sub-varsity athletes may be brought up for post season play without playing in ¼ of varsity contests. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Ms. Moores made the motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Mabrey seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Participation: Class 4A/5A (Referenda) - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to consider allowing, in Class 4A and 5A only, if an 8<sup>th</sup> grader is playing a sport offered also by their middle school, they may not be moved up to play that sport at the high school level until the completion of that middle school season. At the discretion of the school Athletic Director, 8<sup>th</sup> graders may participate in sports at the high school level if that sport is not offered at the middle school level. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Campbell made the motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Perea seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Eligibility: Legally Separated Parents (Referenda) - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to amend Bylaw 6.7.4 so that it would read as follows: If the Student's parents separate, and are not divorced, and one parent remains in the attendance zone where the Student had previously been attending school, the Student's residence is that of the Parent who did not move. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Henderson made the motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Host seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Ejection Policy: Fighting (Referenda) - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to amend the ejection policy so that it now included a section specific to Battery. This would include the following: Battery is defined as the use of force against another resulting in harmful or offensive contact. Sanctions include suspension from 15% of the sports game limitations, which would be rounded up to the nearest whole, completion of the the NFHSLearn Sportsmanship Initiative, attend a meeting with the NMAA Executive Director, a local sanction by the local school athletic director and approved by the NMAA, if necessary. Any subsequent ejection would result in the athlete being suspended from all athletic participation for 180 school/365 calendar days from date of suspension. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Chavez made the motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Perea seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

NMAA Online Rules Clinics: Dates for Review (Referenda) - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to make an adjustment to NMAA Bylaw 3.6.1 (and other places throughout the handbook) that would move up the deadlines for all head coaches to complete the district clinic in person or online at [www.nmact.org](http://www.nmact.org). Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Host made the motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Perea seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Rosters and Schedules: Deadlines for Posting (Referenda) - Mr. Tyler Dunkel, NMAA Assistant Director, presented a proposal to move up the deadline dates for schools to post their schedules and rosters to MaxPreps. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Mirabal made the motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Perea seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Consent to Treat Form (Referenda) - Mr. Scott Owen, NMAA Assistant Director, presented a proposal whereas, prior to participation, written parental consent must be on file with the school and provided on the NMAA's Consent to Treat Form. This would go onto effect for the 2019-2020 school year and allow qualified medical professionals (QMP) to provide sports medicine services. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Ms. Moores made the motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Perea seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Physical Exams: NMAA Pre Participation Evaluation Form (Referenda) - Mr. Owen presented a proposal requiring students to use the NMAA approved pre-participation evaluation forms for their sports physical. The date of implementation would be April 1, 2021. Physical Examination Forms provided by the NMAA would include three parts. 1.) Emergency Information 2.) Annual Pre-Participation History Form and 3.) Annual Pre-Participation Physical Exam Form. Mr. Viramontes made the motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Host seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Wrestling: Girls State Championships - Mr. Owen presented a proposal to sanction a girls wrestling division at the NMAA State Tournament beginning next school year (2019-2020). Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Martinez made the motion to approve the proposal as presented. Ms. Moores seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed (13-2).

Soccer: Ties during Regular Season Tournaments (Referenda) - Mr. Chris Kedge, NMAA Assistant Director, presented a proposal to consider elimination of NMAA Soccer Bylaw 7.17.1 H. which pertains to regular season tournament matches. The removal would allow for wins/losses to be credited to a school's record when the match ends in a shootout. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Host made the motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Chavez seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Baseball: Official Scorer (Referenda) - Mr. Young presented a proposal to consider adding NMAA Baseball Bylaw 7.12.1 K which would require the home team (host school during invitational tournaments) to provide an official scorer for all varsity contests. The official scorer would only be responsible for runs scored and pitch counts for both teams. The official scorer would not be allowed in the dugout and would have to be 18 years of age or older. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal. No motion was made, proposal dies.

Baseball: Pitch Count tracking/Reporting (Referenda) - Mr. Young presented a proposal to consider adjusting NMAA Baseball Bylaw 7.12.1.D.2 which pertains to pitch count reporting. This would require coaches to report the pitch count to MaxPreps within 24 hours of the conclusion of the game. If this is not done, the first offense would be a warning and the second offense would result in a suspension for the next game. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Henderson made the motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Mabrey seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

### **Consider Adjournment**

Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:56 p.m. Mr. Henderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Perea seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).