

NMAA Board of Directors' Meeting
June 1, 2023
9:00 a.m.
Hall of Pride and Honor

Welcome - Meeting called to order by Mr. Anthony Casados, NMAA Board of Directors President, at 9:00 a.m. Jacquelyne Martinez, NMAA Assistant Director, conducted roll call and the following members were present:

- Mr. Anthony Casados (Small Area A - President)
- Dr. Kim Mizell (Large Area A)
- Mr. Matt Moyer (Small Area B)
- Mr. Gene Strickland (Large Area B)
- Mr. David Lackey (Small Area C)
- Mr. Travis Dempsey (Large Area C)
- Mr. Lee White (Small Area D)
- Mr. Hilario Chavez (Large Area D)
- Mr. Martin Madrid (At-Large)
- Mr. Scott Elder (Large School District I)
- Mr. Gary Allison (NMAA Commission)
- Ms. Patti Ann Ancell (New Mexico School Boards Association)

12 members were present representing a quorum.

Approval of the Agenda:

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. White made the motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Madrid seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2023, Board Meeting. Mr. Allison made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Election of Board Members:

Election of NMAA Board President & Vice President (2-year term) – Mr. Madrid nominated Mr. Casados for NMAA President. With no other nominees, Mr. Elder moved to elect Mr. Casados by acclamation. A vote was taken, and Mr. Casados was elected as the NMAA Board President for the next two-year term. Mr. Dempsey nominated Mr. Madrid for NMAA Vice President. With no other nominees, Mr. White moved to elect Mr. Madrid by acclamation. A vote was taken, and Mr. Madrid was elected as the NMAA Board Vice President for the next two-year term.

Executive Session

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to go into Executive Session at 9:04 a.m. to discuss financial, personnel, pending/possible legal matters and the Executive Director's evaluation. Mr. Moyer made the motion to enter Executive Session. Ms. Ancell seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Yes/For	No/Against	Board Member Name
Yes		Mr. Anthony Casados (Small Area A)
Yes		Dr. Kim Mizell (Large Area A)
Yes		Mr. Matt Moyer (Small Area B)
Yes		Mr. Gene Strickland (Large Area B)
Yes		Mr. David Lackey (Small Area C)
Yes		Mr. Travis Dempsey (Large Area C)
Yes		Mr. Lee White (Small Area D)
Yes		Mr. Hilario Chavez (Large Area D)
Yes		Mr. Scott Elder (Large Schools District I)

Yes		Mr. Martin Madrid (At-Large)
Yes		Mr. Gary Allison (NMAA Commission)
Yes		Ms. Patti Ann Ansell (New Mexico School Boards Association)

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to exit out of Executive Session at 9:40 am. Mr. Casados stated no action was taken in Executive Session. Mr. White made the motion to exit out of Executive Session. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Yes/For	No/Against	Board Member Name
Yes		Mr. Anthony Casados (Small Area A)
Yes		Dr. Kim Mizell (Large Area A)
Yes		Mr. Matt Moyer (Small Area B)
Yes		Mr. Gene Strickland (Large Area B)
Yes		Mr. David Lackey (Small Area C)
Yes		Mr. Travis Dempsey (Large Area C)
Yes		Mr. Lee White (Small Area D)
Yes		Mr. Hilario Chavez (Large Area D)
Yes		Mr. Scott Elder (Large Schools District I)
Yes		Mr. Martin Madrid (At-Large)
Yes		Mr. Gary Allison (NMAA Commission)
Yes		Ms. Patti Ann Ansell (New Mexico School Boards Association)

NMAA Directors Report:

Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, discussed five (5) items on her report: 1) stated that all athletic and activity state events have concluded and were a success, with exception of FFA which is taking place this week; 2) reported that the NMAA’s annual participation survey was completed and submitted to the NFHS; 3) provided information regarding the inaugural combined awards banquet that will take place in July and will honor individuals from the NMAA, NMOA, NMADA, and NMHSCA; 4) provided dates for all regularly scheduled board meetings in 2023-2024; and 5) thanked the NMAA staff, board, and all event workers that have helped make the 2022-2023 school year a success.

NMAA Financial Report:

NMAA Finance Report - Ms. Kessler-Schwamer, NMAA Business Manager, presented the financial report. She discussed two (2) items on her report: 1) provided box reports for all state championships and stated that spring event information is preliminary and will be finalized later in June; and 2) presented ticket sales information for the full 2022-2023 championship season.

2023-2024 NMAA Budget - Ms. Marquez presented the 2023-2024 Budget. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the budget as presented. Mr. Strickland made the motion to approve. Mr. White seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

NMAA Activities Report:

Ms. Tammy Richards, NMAA Assistant Director, presented the activities report. She discussed six (6) items on her report: 1) provided an update on participation numbers for activities during 2022-2023; 2) stated all activity state events have concluded, with the exception of FFA, which is currently underway; 3) reported that powerlifting was a huge success and will be transitioning to a sport next school year; 4) stated she is currently working on the reimbursement process for all activities; 5) reported that the calendar for events held in 2023-2024 has been updated for most activity groups; and 6) provided information regarding the NMAA Foundation Golf Classic fundraiser and scholarship program that the event supports.

New Mexico Officials Association Report:

Mr. Zac Stevenson, NMAA Commissioner of Officials, presented the officials report. He discussed six (6) items on his report: 1) presented data that was collected during state basketball pertaining to time of possession as compared to shot clock standards used in other states; 2) updated the group on a new NFHS Rule regarding team fouls that will be implemented in high school basketball; 3) provided an update on the online officials education program that is being used by many schools around the state (RefReps); 4) reported on DragonFly and collaborative efforts to improve the platform for New Mexico; 5) stated that regional assignors will be meeting with schools to begin coordinating schedules for the fall semester; and 6) reported that the NMOA State Clinic will be held in July and will conclude with the all-inclusive awards banquet that will be held between the officials and coaches clinics.

Discussion Items

Request to Address the Board – Ms. Luckie Daniels, parent of a Los Alamos HS student, addressed the board with a complaint regarding potential inaccuracies with times/distances in the sport of track & field. She stated that she also had concerns with the process for parents to file complaints on behalf of students with the NMAA and the communication that takes place once a parent has contacted association staff. The Board of Directors stated that any response to her comments, if any, would be communicated through the NMAA's Executive Director.

Request to Address the Board – Ms. Ann Stewart, Los Alamos HS Athletic Director, addressed the board with concerns similar to those of Ms. Daniels. She stated that feedback from other schools supports claims of possible inaccuracies with times/distances at regular season track meets. Los Alamos HS head girls' track & field coach, Ernest Martinez, echoed these concerns and stated that the NMAA should look in to and address these discrepancies as needed. The Board of Directors again stated that any response to these concerns would be sent by the association's Executive Director.

Football: Summer Activity - Mr. Young discussed possible updates to summer activity policies for football that would allow schools the opportunity to use pads and utilize full contact for a limited timeframe. Feedback included concerns with liability, equipment reconditioning, and staffing. The group also discussed current regulations and if schools could still opt out of summer activities if changes were made.

CPR/AED Requirement - Ms. Marquez stated the NMAA is working with the NMPED regarding the state statute that was recently passed which requires CPR/AED for athletic coaches beginning in 2023-2024. Feedback included the concerns with implementation due to timing, funding, and adding another requirement for coaches when schools are already struggling to fill these roles. Board members also stated there are some school districts that will have a very difficult time obtaining the personnel for training.

Classification & Alignment - Ms. Marquez discussed classification and alignment for the 2024-2026 block and the possible use of a "lack of success factor" in the sport of football. Feedback included surveying schools to see if the membership would be in favor of this and looking at how it could impact other sports in the future. She stated the board would vote on the new classification and alignment for the next two-year block at the December board meeting. Mr. Casados suggested a possible work session(s) for the board to discuss this process and possibilities before the vote takes place in December.

Middle School Membership - Ms. Marquez discussed the need for the NMAA to better serve its middle schools and asked for ideas as to how to get them more involved. Feedback included more collaboration between the NMAA staff and middle school athletic directors, along with more formal scheduling meetings.

Bylaw Violations by Coaches – Ms. Marquez discussed recent bylaw violations by coaches that result in sanctions to the team/student-athletes, but not necessarily the individual coach. She asked if this should be reviewed and possibly updated so that more of the punishment lands on the coach. Feedback included some support to explore possible changes and also the feeling that individual school/district administration should be handling these type of situations internally with their programs/personnel.

Track & Field: Weekday Meets - - Ms. Marquez discussed weekday track meets and the burden this can place on schools/students based on the length of the meet and time that the events may end. She suggested that if these meets take place, limitations on the number of entries and/or teams participating should be considered. Feedback supported restrictions on weekday meets, but other suggestions were made that would possibly allow meets to start earlier or take place on weekdays when schools are closed.

Eligibility: Hardships – Bullying - Ms. Marquez discussed recent updates to the definition of a Hardship and adjustments to paperwork that now address bullying, hazing, and harassment in more detail. She stated that these changes will help with consistency when the hardship committee reviews these cases.

Action Items

Sportsmanship / Compete with Class - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to update the Crowd Control Bylaw to include specific penalties for egregious acts of unsportsmanlike conduct. Bylaw 7.7.4 Crowd Control and Unsportsmanlike Conduct shall read as follows: A school is responsible for the conduct of its team, coaches, students, and fans at any interscholastic event in which the school is participating. The basic responsibility for crowd control lies with the host administration who are required to provide an administrator or administrator's designee to be in attendance. It is also recommended that the visiting school provide an administrator or administrator's designee for any potentially contentious contests. In both situations, the administrator and/or administrator's designee cannot be a coach participating in the event. The Executive Director may invoke penalties upon a member school for actions, which violate the principles of "Compete with Class." These actions include, but are not limited to, hindering the normal progress of an event, creating situations that may lead to the restriction or discontinuance of interscholastic competition, or endangering or threatening the personal safety of any individuals involved. Unsportsmanlike conduct by coaches, students, and/or spectators may cause the school or individual to be placed on probation or suspension for 180 school days/365 calendar days (See also 7.6.23).

A. Team/Fan Suspension from Athletic Activities for Unsportsmanlike Conduct

1. Any time an egregious act of unsportsmanlike conduct by a team participant, including a coach, occurs two or more times during the same season, at the same school, in the same activity, the team will be suspended from participation in that activity for the remainder of the season.
2. Any time an egregious act of unsportsmanlike conduct by a non-team participant occurs two or more times during the same season, at the same school, in the same activity, all school spectators will be suspended from attendance in that activity for the remainder of the season.
3. Unsportsmanlike conduct is defined in the NMAA Handbook as non-compliance with sport specific rules and NMAA policies, including behaviors incompatible with "Compete with Class" and the interscholastic educational objective. Examples of egregious unsportsmanlike conduct by participants, coaches, or spectators include but are not limited to, fans entering the playing surface to engage in acts of violence or abuse, constant verbal attacks on officials, attacking other fans, coaches physically or verbally attacking officials, players fighting other players during post game handshakes, or student sections verbally chanting inappropriate or demeaning comments towards individuals, teams, or officials.
4. In the event the second act of misconduct occurs when there are no contests left in the current season, the penalty may be applied to the next season in the same activity. The NMAA will notify the school that the team and/or individual/spectators has been placed on warning after the first offense.

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Dr. Mizell made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Strickland seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Amateurism / NIL - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to update Amateurism bylaws to provide clarity on when amateur status is lost and the means in which student-athletes can utilize their name, image and likeness. In New Mexico we have a state statute that only applies to college. We are updating our bylaws so that it applies to the high school level. Bylaw 6.18.3 Loss of Amateurism Status shall read as follows: An amateur athlete forfeits amateur status in a sport by: A. Competing for money or other monetary compensation. B. Receiving any award or prize of monetary value. C. Capitalizing on athletic fame by receiving money or gifts of monetary value in affiliation or connection with activities involving the student's school team or school. 1. This provision is not intended to restrict the right of any student to participate in a commercial endorsement provided there is no school team, school, or NMAA affiliation. 2. The student is prohibited from appearing in the uniform of the student's school and may not utilize the marks, logos, etc. of the school, or NMAA as part of any endorsement. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Madrid made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Strickland seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Video Taping Policy: Telescopic Poles/Cameras - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to regulate the use of telescopic camera/video poles during NMAA sanctioned events. Bylaw 7.7.9 Video Recording/Telecasts/Radio Broadcasting Consent Rule/Procedures (D) shall read as follows: Telescopic camera poles shall be always banned and shall only be utilized by approved media or school personnel.

Telescopic camera poles shall not be permitted on the players' sideline or inside the spectator seating area. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Elder made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Strickland seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Eligibility: Appeals Process - Ms. Marquez discussed potential changes to the appeal process that would include a new step where the petition would be reviewed by an independent third party. This would be a retired judge that could look at all facts pertaining to the situation and provide a neutral ruling. She stated that the NMAA hoped to have a formal proposal in front of the board for this meeting, but that details still need to be finalized before action can be taken. Because of this, Mr. Casados asked for the board to consider tabling the item. Mr. Dempsey made the motion to table the item. Mr. Strickland seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Eligibility: 8th Grade Participation - Ms. Marquez discussed a proposal that would clarify the circumstances in which an 8th grade student may participate in high school athletics outside their attendance zone high school. Bylaw 6.4.1.A.2 shall read as follows: An eighth-grade student who participates in high school athletics, at any level of competition, will make his/her Open Enrollment Choice at the eighth-grade level. 8th grade students must participate at their home attendance zone public high school unless one of the following exceptions is applicable:

- a. Students enrolled in a K-12, 6-12 or other combined member school are eligible to participate at the school in which they are currently enrolled.
- b. Students are eligible to participate outside their home attendance zone public high school if it can be verified that:
 - i. The student has been enrolled consecutively in that school's feeder system since elementary school.
 - ii. The student is an out-of-state transfer that has been enrolled consecutively in that school's feeder system since their initial enrollment in New Mexico.

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. White made the motion to approve the proposal. Dr. Mizell seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Consider Adjournment:

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:27 a.m. Mr. Allison made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Elder seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2023 (NMAA)