

NMAA Commission Meeting
September 7, 2011
9:00 AM
NMAA Office

Welcome – Meeting called to order by Mr. Lawrence Johnson, NMAA Commission Chairperson, at 9:04 a.m. A roll call was conducted by Ms. Mindy Ioane, NMAA Administrative Assistant, and the following members were present.

Mr. Todd Kurth (Small, Area A)
Mr. Keith Durham (Small, Area B)
Mr. Mike Tillman (Small, Area C)
Mr. Phil Sategna (Large, Area A)
Mr. Brian Stacy (Large, Area B)
Mr. Lawrence Johnson (Large, Area C)
Mr. Kenny Barreras (Large, Area D)
Mr. Pete MacFarlane (Non-Public School Rep.)
Mr. Jim Sayre (New Mexico Officials Association Rep.)
Mr. Scott Affentranger (National Association of Secondary School Principals Rep.)
Mr. Don Gerheart (Activities Council Member)

Not present:

Mr. Gary Frazier (Small, Area D)
Mr. Terry Martin (State School Boards Association Rep.)
TBA (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors Association Rep.)
Mr. Thomas Mabrey (New Mexico High School Coaches Association Rep.)

Eleven members present representing a quorum.

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Johnson asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Gerheart made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Tillman seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

Approval of Minutes from May 25 2011:

Mr. Johnson asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 25, 2011 Commission meeting as presented. Mr. Stacy made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Barreras seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

Directors' Report:

Mr. Gary Tripp, NMAA Executive Director, discussed three items during his report: (1) He stated that in honor of the New Mexico Centennial, the first place state trophy will be turquoise instead of blue for the 2011-2012 school year. He asked that the membership submit stories of "positive impact" and "memorable moments" in New Mexico High School sports. (2) The NMAA's support of the Native American Indian Classic to be

held on December 28-30, 2011; and (3) A Golf Tournament to benefit Gene Pino on September 11, 2011, at Arroyo Del Oso Golf Course.

Mrs. Sally Marquez, NMAA Associate Director, discussed three items during her report: (1) The mandatory School Athletics Equity Act submission of data due on August 31, 2011. She thanked all schools for their timely submissions and emphasized the fact that NMAA member private schools must report their data directly to the NMAA. (2) The issues concerning open gyms/practices throughout the state. This subject will be discussed during the November NMAA Commission meeting; and (3) Gave a brief report on the effect of the newly revised eligibility bylaw concerning 180-day waiting period.

Mr. Robert Zayas, NMAA Associate Director, discussed two items on his report; (1) Over 11,000 participants have taken the Life of An Athlete course since its inception, adding that many schools are now making it a required course for all athletic participants; and (2) NMAA Fall Conference to take place on October 9-11, 2011. The required Athletic Directors' annual meeting will be on October 11, 2011, as well as the NMAA Foundation Fall Golf Classic at Desert Greens Golf Course at 1:00 p.m.

Financial Report:

Mrs. Shari Kessler-Schwaner, NMAA Business Manager, presented the current (pending close of the fiscal year) 2010-2011 Sports Financial Reports, inclusive of State Championship attendance reports and briefly discussed the annual audit for the 2010-2011 school year.

Activities Report:

Ms. Kristin Derr, NMAA Assistant Director, presented items discussed during the August 30th meeting of the NMAA Activities Council. Discussion topics included transportation, financial difficulties, data collection, bylaws, eligibility, participation in Southern NM and Alumni Associations. Ms. Derr also discussed upcoming Fall Conference dates of the NMSPA, NMASC and One Act Play Competition.

NMOA Report:

Mrs. Dana Sanchez, NMAA Assistant Director, discussed four meetings that have or will be taking place on behalf of the NMOA; (1) NMOA Executive Board Meeting on July 21, 2011, (2) NMOA State Clinic on July 22-23, 2011, (3) Referee Educational Forum on September 9-10, 2011, and (4) the National Association of Sports Officials Summit in Albuquerque, 2014.

General Action Items

Changes to the NMAA Handbook: (Action Item), (Referendum Item) Mr. Robert Zayas, NMAA Associate Director, presented a proposal to consider revision to the process by which changes are made to the NMAA Handbook, which eliminates reference to the annual meeting. The rationale for the proposal is to eliminate the need for amendments to the Constitution, Bylaws, and Sports Regulations that will be presented and voted upon at the Annual meeting of member schools.

A motion was made by Mr. MacFarlane to accept the proposal as presented as a referendum item. Mr. Gerheart seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

Mr. Thomas Mabrey (New Mexico High School Coaches Association Rep.) entered into the meeting.

Legal Guardianship: (Action Item), (Referendum Item) Mrs. Sally Marquez, NMAA Associate Director, presented a proposal to send a referendum out to all member schools regarding the previously passed Bylaw 6.8; Conditions of Guardianship as follows: *Note: Legal guardianship must be established at least one calendar year before the transfer, in order to be considered for eligibility purposes.* On the initial referendum the item was placed in the Parent-to-Parent section of the bylaw and not in the overall bylaw proposal. A motion was made by Mr. Stacy to accept the proposal as presented as a referendum item. Mr. Durham seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Sanction Show Choir/Host State Competition: (Action Item), (Referendum Item) Ms. Kristin Derr, NMAA Assistant Director, presented a proposal to sanction and facilitate the annual Show Choir Competition. The rationale to sanction Show Choir would regulate the program per NMAA Bylaws as well as allow for more participation by NMAA member school students. Twelve schools submitted letters of commitment to Ms. Derr. The anticipated budget impact is difficult to determine at this time but is thought to have minimal impact on the budget. A motion was made by Mr. Gerheart to accept the proposal as presented as a referendum item. Mr. Durham seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Sports Specific Action Items

Cross Country Qualifying Standards: (Action Item) Mr. Rudy Aragon, NMAA Assistant Director, presented on behalf of the Cross Country Sports Specific Committee a proposal to consider an adjustment to NMAA Bylaw 7.14.2, B.1. to read that each district qualifies the top five (5) teams plus the top six (6) District meet finishers from non-qualifying teams to the State Championships in Class A, AA only. A motion was made by Mr. Sategna to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Tillman seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Track and Field Jewelry Rule: (Action Item), (Referendum Item) Mr. Robert Zayas, NMAA Associate Director, presented on behalf of the Track & Field Sports Specific Committee a proposal to consider not abiding by the new NFHS jewelry rule by adding the following verbiage to the NMAA Track & Field bylaws: *"Competitors shall not wear jewelry; violation shall result in a disqualification from the event."* The reasoning behind the proposal is that the new NFHS jewelry rule does not assist in teaching responsibility and accountability to our student-athletes by providing them with a warning for being in violation of the jewelry rule. A motion was made by Mr. Barreras to table proposal as presented in efforts to allow time for additional research to be conducted on this topic. Mr. Durham seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

General Discussion/Information Items

Update on Board of Directors' Goals: Mr. Gary Tripp, NMAA Executive Director, Discussed the 2011-2012 Board of Directors' Goals as follows:

1. Develop potential bylaws to improve student-athlete achievement and school attendance.
2. Create an equitable standard of eligibility for all students (public, private, home school, cyber, alternative, etc.) to ensure impartiality and fairness.
3. Maintain a sound financial position with a balanced budget, while conducting first class state championships for all students in New Mexico.
4. Ensure equity in regards to public and private school participation.
5. Promote middle school participation.
6. Continue to analyze and promote quality communication practices (cell phone, Internet, NMAA website, MVP, face-to-face, etc.) between the NMAA staff and the membership.

Creating an equitable standard of eligibility for all students (public, private, home school, cyber, alternative, etc) to ensure impartiality and fairness: Mrs. Sally Marquez, NMAA Associate Director, requested a continued open discussion on this topic, stating that issues must be addressed before the upcoming legislative session.

Transfer students, foreign exchange students and JV participation: Mrs. Sally Marquez, NMAA Associate Director, stated that because many small schools do not have JV teams, some foreign exchange students are not able to participate in athletics. She requested feedback on this issue from NMAA member schools.

Payment of district tournament workers: Mr. Lawrence Johnson, NMAA Commission Chairperson, requested an open discussion on how they pay their district tournament workers.

Public & Private Member Schools: Mr. Gary Tripp, NMAA Executive Director, spoke about some of the issues between public and private school sectors adding that the Public/Private ad-hoc committee continues to work towards an equitable outcome.

Future of Alignment and Classification (2014-2015, 2015-2016): Mr. Robert Zayas, NMAA Associate Director, presented four draft proposals for future Alignment and Classification. He also explained the use of a multiplier and discussed that three of the four proposals included a multiplier for non attendance zone schools.

Alignment and Classification Proposed Districts: Mr. Robert Zayas, NMAA Associate Director, presented the actual proposals that will be taken to the Board of Directors for the remainder of the four year block.

Potential Elimination of 8- Man Football (2012-2013, 2013-2014): Mr. Randy Adrian, NMAA Assistant Director, presented the results of a 6-Man/8-Man Football survey concerning the elimination of 8-man football, which was sent to the Athletic Directors of

those schools. He discussed combining 6-man and 8-man football into one 6-man classification. As a result of the survey and extensive discussion on the subject, it was determined that 6-Man and 8-Man will stay as is for the remainder of the four-year block.

Allowing a student-athlete from the same school district to play at another member school in that same district if the school does not have a sport: Mrs. Sally Marquez, NMAA Associate Director, stated that discussion concerning this topic will continue to be addressed in future meetings.

The hospitality room at State Championships; will be stocked with snacks and drinks only. Meals will not be provided due to cost saving measures: Mrs. Sally Marquez, NMAA Associate Director, stated that this was necessary as a cost-cutting measure.

Future Media Policies and Procedures: Mr. Robert Zayas, NMAA Associate Director, presented an Associated Press document titled, "Court: No First Amendment Right to Stream Live Games."

SafeTeen New Mexico: Mrs. Dana Sanchez, NMAA Assistant Director, presented an informational brochure on the nonprofit organization. SafeTeen is currently determining how their program can help the NMAA member schools.

First Round home games at a neutral site if schools are more than 250 miles apart: Mr. Mike Tillman, Navajo Prep Athletic Director, asked the Commission to discuss the issues of higher seeded schools being allowed to host 1st round games at a neutral site during the State Championships, citing the cost of travel expense of the lower seeded team.

Athletic Trainer's Letter of Concern: Mr. Gary Tripp, NMAA Executive Director, discussed a letter of concern he received from an athletic trainer concerned with the new August 1st start date of football.

Future Commission/Board Openings: Mr. Robert Zayas, Associate Director, announced the December 31, 2011 expiration of the following terms for the Commission: Mr. Gary Frazier; Small Area D, Mr. Phillip Sategna; Large Area A, and Mr. Pete MacFarlane; Non-Public School Representative. Board of Director terms that are expiring on December 31, 2011 are: Ms. Janel Ryan; Large Area A, and Mr. Buddy Little; Small Area D.

Consider Adjournment:

Mr. Johnson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:56 a.m. A motion was made by Mr. Kurth. Mr. MacFarlane seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Next Commission Meeting Date will be November 16, 2011 (NMAA)