

NMAA Board of Directors' Meeting
September 8, 2021
10:30 a.m.
Hall of Pride and Honor

Welcome - Meeting called to order by Mr. Anthony Casados, NMAA Board of Directors President, at 11:04 a.m. Ms. Alissa Wesbrook, NMAA Assistant to the Executive Director, conducted roll call and the following members were present:

Mr. Anthony Casados (Small Area A - President)
Mr. Daniel Benavidez (Large Area A)
Mr. Matt Moyer (Small Area B)
Mr. J.R. Null (Large Area B)
Mr. David Lackey (Small Area C)
Mr. Travis Dempsey (Large Area C)
Mr. Lee White (Small Area D)
Dr. Arsenio Romero (Large Area D)
Mr. Scott Elder (Large School District I)
Mr. Ralph Ramos (Large School District II)
Mr. Martin Madrid (At-Large Member)
Mr. Ernie Viramontes (NMAA Commission)
Mr. Terry Martin (New Mexico School Boards Association)

13 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. Benavidez seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (13-0).

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2021 Board Meeting. Mr. Benavidez made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Dempsey seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (13-0).

Board Member Action:

Mr. Casados stated that due to openings, a new At-Large member has been appointed and Board Elections recently took place for Large Area B and Large Area D. He welcomed the new Board Members - Mr. J.R. Null (Large B), Dr. Arsenio Romero (Large D), and Mr. Martin Madrid (At-Large). Mr. Casados then stated that because the terms for the At-Large and Large Area B members were set to expire in December, he would recommend that the Board extend these terms through December of 2024 so that a new election/appointment would not have to take place next month. Mr. Martin made the motion to approve the recommendation. Mr. Viramontes seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (13-0).

NMAA Executive Director's Report:

Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, presented the NMAA Director's report. She discussed three (3) items on her report: 1) welcomed Mr. Null, Dr. Romero, and Mr. Madrid to the Board of Directors; 2) introduced Mr. Zac Stevenson as the new NMAA Commissioner of Officials; and 3) provided an update on how current COVID-19 guidelines pertaining to overnight travel may impact state championship events.

NMAA Financial Report:

Annual Audit Report - Ms. Shannon Gilliland, CPA from Taylor-Roth and Company, presented to the Board of Directors the 2020-2021 Audit Report & Financial Statements.

NMAA Finance Report - Ms. Shari Kessler-Schwaner, NMAA Business Manager, presented the finance report. She discussed two (2) items on her report: 1) provided the sport and activity box reports for the 2020-2021 school year; 2) discussed ticket sales for 2020-2021 state championships.

NMAA Activities Report:

Ms. Tammy Richards, NMAA Assistant Director, presented the activities report. She discussed four (4) items on her report: 1) stated that NMAA recently held its Annual Activities Council Meeting; 2) reported that a variety of in-person and virtual competitions took place during 2020-2021, which included an in-person State Bowling Championship; 3) provided information on the NMAA Fall Conference taking place in person at the end of September which State Activities Directors were also invited to attend; and 4) stated that the first Student Leadership meeting of the 2021-2022 school year will take place in person during the Fall Conference.

NMAA Officials Report:

Mr. Zac Stevenson, NMAA Commissioner of Officials, presented the officials report. He discussed six (6) items on his report: 1) stated that the NMOA Annual State Clinic occurred virtually over the summer with over 500 attendees; 2) provided information on several football camps that took place over the past few weeks in Santa Fe, Las Cruces and Albuquerque; 3) reported on the 15th annual Basketball Referee Educational Forum; 4) stated that new football film requirement is going well; 5) announced that the 2020 & 2021 NMOA Distinguished Service winners and Hall of Fame inductees would be recognized at the NMAA's special banquet at the end of September; and 6) provided an update on officials numbers for Fall sports which are currently seeing a significant decrease from two years ago.

Discussion/ Information Items

PED Liaison Update - Ms. Katrina Sandoval, Deputy Director of the New Mexico Public Education Department, introduced herself as the new liaison to the NMAA from the PED and thanked the NMAA for the educational services provided to students across the state through sports and activities.

Participating at Schools other than those Attended - Mr. Steve Dulfer, parent of a student at Santa Fe Waldorf, discussed the importance and benefits of high school athletics and requested that students be allowed to participate at other member schools in a certain sport(s) if the high school in which they attend does not offer that particular sport(s).

Classification & Alignment Update - Ms. Marquez discussed the timeline and process for Classification & Alignment of the 2022-2024 block. She stated that the NMAA is waiting for 40-day enrollment numbers for the current school year, and once those are in, enrollment averages will be available for the last three years and that will allow the NMAA to put together proposals for the Board of Directors to consider in December.

Student Eligibility: Specialized Sports Training - Ms. Marquez reported that there has been an increase in students participating at specialized sports academies all over the country and that NMAA eligibility rules currently allow for these students to take a year off from school sports, and then return to any NMAA school based on "Did Not Participate" exceptions. Feedback included support to change bylaws so that these students would only be eligible to play at the school they attended prior to leaving for the academy.

Student Eligibility: Virtual/Online Schooling - Ms. Marquez discussed the increased availability of online schooling and that some students may be living out of state, participating in club sports, but attending NMAA member schools virtually thus making them eligible to participate at those schools.

Tennis: One vs Two Weekends - Ms. Marquez provided information on the possibility of holding State Tennis over two weekends instead of one. This would place the individual and team events on separate weekends. The NMAA will continue to discuss this with the membership.

Basketball: Shot Clock - Ms. Marquez stated the NFHS, by state association adoption, approved a shot clock in the sport of basketball beginning with the 2022-2023 school year. Feedback included concerns over training individuals to operate it and the costs associated with the equipment needed.

Wrestling: Weight Classes - Mr. Scott Owen, NMAA Assistant Director, presented information regarding an NFHS allowance to reduce the number of weight classes in the sport of Wrestling. He stated that New Mexico should consider this due to the high number of forfeits that occur each year.

Wrestling: Classifications - Mr. Owen discussed the possibility of combining Class A-3A and 4A in the sport of Wrestling due to the lack of participation in the A-3A classification. This change could help lessen the number of forfeits while also making for a more competitive State Championship event.

Wrestling: Regional Tournaments - Mr. Owen presented information regarding the possibility of using regional tournaments to qualify athletes for the State Championships. He stated that this is the current process used in Girls Wrestling, and this would help to make a more significant qualifier for all athletes.

Mr. Casados adjourned the meeting at 12:41 p.m. for Lunch.

Mr. Casados reconvened the meeting at 1:15 p.m.

Action Items

Football: Film Requirement Expansion (*Referenda*) - Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, presented a proposal to amend the last sentence of Bylaw 7.15.1.M to read: The NMAA/NMOA HUDL Account will serve as an open library where all varsity game film is stored and can be accessed by coaches, officials and NMAA/NMOA staff. Sanctions for failure to submit game film will be determined by the Executive Director. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Benavidez made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (13-0).

Baseball: Bat Regulations (*Referenda*) - Mr. Young presented a proposal, beginning with the 2022-2023 school year (2023 season), to remove NMAA Bylaw 7.12.6 and edit Bylaw 7.12.1.E to read as follows: Bat Regulations - All legal bats as per NFHS Rules can be used. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Ramos made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (13-0).

Golf: State Qualifying Standards - Mr. Tyler Dunkel, NMAA Assistant Director, presented a proposal to update bylaws in Section 7.16.2 to reflect new qualifying standards for the State Golf Championships. These new standards would include the following: Require that a school must play a minimum of five tournaments as a team and individual golfers must play in a minimum of three tournaments to be eligible to compete in the State Golf Championships. Use of iWanamaker rankings to qualify teams for the State Golf Tournament - other than the District Champion. The District Champion and the next three teams in classifications 4A and 5A and the next two teams in classification A-3A based on iWanamaker rankings will qualify for the State Championships. If a school participates in more than 5 tournaments, only their top 5 events will be used to calculate rankings. The top eight individual golfers in each classification based on iWanamaker rankings that are not already part of a qualifying team will be entered in to the State Championships. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Dr. Romero made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (13-0).

NMHSCA: All-Star Game Format (*Referenda*) - Mr. Buster Mabrey, NMHSCA Executive Director, presented a proposal to edit Bylaw 7.6.22.D to read as follows. Games must be held after the academic completion of the respective school year unless specific games are approved by the NMAA Commission and Board of Directors on a yearly basis. The proposal also included dates for proposed All-Star Games to be held in November, March, and June during 2021-2022. Mr. Casados asked for a

motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Ramos made the motion to approve the proposal. Dr. Romero seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (13-0).

Mr. Elder left the meeting.

Track and Field: Fully Automatic Timing - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal that beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, consider an adjustment to NMAA Track Bylaw 7.22.1.L to read as follows: All schools will be required to use Fully Automatic Timing (FAT) for all state qualifying track and field meets. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Martin made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Madrid seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Track and Field: Hytek Requirement - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to consider an adjustment to NMAA track Bylaw 7.22.1.K.1 to read: It shall be required that track and field meet personnel submit all state qualifying meet results to the NMAA designated platform (MileSplit) by means of Hytek Software. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Madrid made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Viramontes seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Out-of-Season Coaching: Contact on Saturdays (*Referenda*) - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to amend Bylaw 7.4 Out-of-Season coaching to read: During the off-season, a coaching staff is allowed 7.5 hours of total contact time per week, Monday through Saturday, and only when school is in session, to work with student athletes grades 8-12. Sports Specific and sports specific conditioning classes are to be included within this allowable timeframe. This provision applies to all school coaches, paid and volunteer. This rule prohibits coaching these individuals on any team (school or non-school sponsored) out of season during the school year. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Benavidez made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Lee seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously. (12-0).

Out-of-Season Coaching: Middle/Jr. High Schools (*Referenda*) - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to amend the out of season coaching rule to provide middle school coaching staffs their own 7.5 hours of contact time. Bylaw 7.4 amended to read: During the off-season, each school's coaching staff is allowed 7.5 hours of total contact time per week, (during days when schools is in session only) to work with student athletes grades 6-12. Sports Specific and sports specific conditioning classes are to be included within this allowable timeframe. This provision applies to all school coaches, paid and volunteer. This rule prohibits coaching these individuals on any team (school or non-school sponsored) out of season during the school year. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Moyer made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Lee seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Scholastic Eligibility: 8th Grade Clean Slate (*Referenda*) –Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to amend Bylaw 9.4 and reserve the scholastic eligibility clean slate rule only for incoming 9th graders who have not already participated in high school athletics. 9.4 Interscholastic Eligibility Scholarship would read as follows: A. A Student first participating at the sixth or seventh grade level may compete without reference to his/her immediate or previous scholastic record. The end of the first semester establishes the scholarship requirements for this Student. B. An eighth grade Student competing in interscholastic sports at the high school level has made his/her open enrollment choice. The Student's eligibility to participate shall be determined by the semester grading period immediately preceding participation. C. A ninth grade Student who has not previously competed in interscholastic sports at the high school level has his/her open enrollment choice. The Student may compete without reference to his/her immediate or previous scholastic record in eighth grade (last semester). The end of the first semester in 9th grade establishes the beginning of the scholarship requirements for this Student. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Moyer made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Ramos seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Executive Session

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to go into Executive Session at 2:22 p.m. to discuss financial, personnel, pending/possible legal matters. Mr. Viramontes made the motion to enter into Executive Session. Mr. Lee 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, Board President (Small Area A)
Yes		Mr. Daniel Benavidez (Large, Area A)
Yes		Mr. Matt Moyer (Small Area B)
Yes		Mr. J.R. Null, (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		Dr. Arsenio Romero (Large Area D)
Yes		Mr. Ralph Ramos (Large School District II)
Yes		Mr. Martin Madrid (At-Large)
Yes		Mr. Ernie Viramontes (NMAA Commission)
Yes		Mr. Terry Martin (New Mexico School Boards Association)

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to exit out of Executive Session at 3:01 p.m. Mr. Casados stated no action was taken in Executive Session. Mr. Moyer made the motion to exit out of Executive Session. Mr. Martin 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, Board President (Small Area A)
Yes		Mr. Daniel Benavidez (Large, Area A)
Yes		Mr. Matt Moyer (Small Area B)
Yes		Mr. J.R. Null, (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		Dr. Arsenio Romero (Large Area D)
Yes		Mr. Ralph Ramos (Large School District II)
Yes		Mr. Martin Madrid (At-Large)
Yes		Mr. Ernie Viramontes (NMAA Commission)
Yes		Mr. Terry Martin (New Mexico School Boards Association)

Consider Adjournment:

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:02 p.m. Mr. Martin made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Benavidez seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2021