

NMAA COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, September 15, 2010
9:00 a.m., NMAA Conference Room A



- I. The NMAA Commission met on Wednesday, September 15th, 2010, for their regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. Lawrence Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Ms. Jacquelyne Gallegos, Administrative Assistant called roll and the following commissioners were present: Mr. Phillip Sategna (Large Area A); Mr. Lawrence Johnson (Large Area C); Mr. Tom Manning (Large Area D); Mr. Terry Martin (State School Boards Association); Mr. Sam Olney (Small Area C); Mr. Keith Durham (Small Area B); Mr. Don Gerheart (Activities Council); Mr. Jim Sayre (New Mexico Officials Association); Mr. Thomas Mabrey (New Mexico High School Coaches Association); Mr. Pete MacFarlane (Non-Public School Representative); Mr. Doug Santo (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors Association); Mr. Brian Stacey (Large Area B) and Mr. Scott Affentranger (National Association of Secondary School Principals). A quorum was declared and business before the Commission could be conducted. Absent from the meeting were Ms. Debra Ledford (Small Area A) and Mr. Gary Frazier (Small Area D).

Present from the NMAA were Ms. Sally Marquez, Associate Director and Mr. Robert Zayas, Associate Director.

A motion was made by Mr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Sayre to move the Cross Country Addendum Agenda Action Item, to the Agenda right under the Cross Country Sports Specific Action Item. Also, the Volleyball Sports Specific Action Item was removed from the agenda. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously to approve the agenda with the recommended changes.

The minutes from the May 26th, 2010 meeting were presented. A motion was made by Mr. Olney to approve the minutes. Mr. MacFarlane seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- II. *Directors' Report* – Mr. Tripp welcomed everyone to the 2010-2011 school year. He stated he had a few issues to cover.

The first issue was on the seeding and selection process. The NMAA will now be overseeing all seeding and selection processes for all NMAA State Championships. The NMAA added a few criteria that will benefit the students of New Mexico. The NMAA will be including the coaching polls provided by the New Mexico High School Coaches Association. The NMAA needs more volleyball and soccer coaches to participate in the polls each week. The NMAA will also be looking at power ratings later on in the year.

The second issue that Mr. Tripp discussed was the concussion law. The new concussion law was mandated by Senate Bill 1, to every 7th-12th grade coach and volunteer coach. Taking the concussion law course will ensure that a coach is certified in concussion

training. The law also requires a seven day sit out for all sports from any student athlete who suffers from a concussion.

The third issue is that our school superintendents are going through difficult times while trying to balance school budgets. We are not sure at this time if this means cutting down on athletics and possibly cutting down on state tournaments. Superintendents are fearful that when the stimulus money runs out there won't be any funds left after the elections.

One final item that Mr. Tripp wanted to convey on behalf of the NMAA staff was that the NMAA staff is going to try to compare apples to apples. If we make a proposal for baseball we are not going to compare it to basketball. We are not going to compare indoor track and field to outdoor track and field. We are going to try and do what is best for the kids in the state of New Mexico.

Mr. Zayas stated at the July 27th, 2010 NMAA Board of Directors meeting, the board implemented the new alignment and classification proposal. Schools can appeal to the board of directors in June 2011, for a classification adjustment for the 2012-2013, 2013-2014 school years. Proposals will need to be submitted to the NMAA prior to the May 13th, 2011.

Mr. Zayas also mentioned that the Life of An Athlete program is gaining momentum. This course is available to everyone in the nation. Artesia High School currently has 496 students who have participated in the Life of An Athlete course.

III. *General Action Items- Consider requiring non-public schools to report SAEA data*

Ms. Marquez stated the school athletics equity act is alive and well. This is a Public Education Department law, and the PED is in charge of all public schools. All public schools are required to submit their student numbers for SAEA to the PED. Because the NMAA is a member lead organization, the private schools, BIA schools, and charter schools belonging to the NMAA will need to submit their schools' information to the NMAA in order to be consistent.

Mr. Martin made a motion to approve this proposal. Mr. Gerheart seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

General Action Item- Major NMAA Bylaws Adjustments

Bylaw 6.1.2 – Student transferring to follow a coach

Ms. Marquez stated the change is that this bylaw takes effect once a student enters the 7th grade.

Mr. Sategna made a motion to approve this proposal. Ms. Bachis seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Bylaw 6.1.3 – Undue influence of a student

Ms. Marquez stated they want to expand on the communication segment to include the following excerpt taken from the Tennessee Association Bylaws:

1. Any student, family or individual that contacts a coach about attending a school where he or she coaches should be informed that they need to contact the principal, admissions department or guidance department if they have an interest in transferring.

2. Any meeting with coaches regarding prospective athletes or their families should be at the request of the family, to the individual(s) responsibility for admissions and should take place at the school.

Mr. Affentranger made a motion to approve this proposal. Mr. Gerheart seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Bylaw 6.2.6 – Grace Period

Ms. Marquez stated a school is allowed up to 7 school days from the end of the grading period to determine student eligibility.

Mr. Olney made a motion to approve this proposal. Mr. Durham seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Bylaw 6.4 – Open Enrollment

Ms. Marquez stated this regulation applies to freshmen only. It cannot be utilized by 10th, 11th or 12th grade students, inclusive of those enrolling in private schools.

Mr. Stacy made a motion to approve this proposal. Mr. Durham seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Bylaw 6.5.2 – Conditions of Eligibility/Ineligibility for Transfer Students

Ms. Marquez stated students designated as transfer students are ineligible for varsity participation for a period of 180 school/365 calendar days as opposed to the present 90 school day regulation.

Mr. Sategna made a motion to approve this proposal. Mr. MacFarlane seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Bylaw 6.5.6A – International Exchange Students

Ms. Marquez stated Foreign Exchange Students are eligible for sub-varsity participation only.

Mr. Durham made a motion to approve this proposal. Mr. Gerheart seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Bylaw 6.5.6B – Foreign Students

Ms. Marquez stated Foreign Students moving to this country without their parents are ineligible for varsity competition for a period of 180 school/365 calendar days.

Mr. Olney made a motion to approve this proposal. Ms. Bachis seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Bylaw 6.6.2b – Did not participate

Ms. Marquez stated they will eliminate the Did Not Participate regulation at the 3A, 4A, and 5A levels only.

Mr. Affentranger made a motion to approve this proposal. No one seconded the motion. The motion failed due to a lack of a second.

Bylaw 6.8.4a – GED/High School Diploma

Ms. Marquez stated a student who leaves high school and is enrolled in or completes a full-time early release post-secondary education/training program (GED or equivalent) is no longer eligible for interscholastic competition. However, if that student without earning a GED returns to high school working towards a high school diploma, he/she will be able to participate in interscholastic competition as long as all other eligibility bylaws are met.

Mr. Olney made a motion to approve this proposal. Mr. Martin seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Bylaw 7.4.1 – Violations for out of season coaching during the school year

Ms. Marquez stated to eliminate stated penalties for a third offense.

Mr. Martin made a motion to approve this proposal. Mr. Olney seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Bylaw 7.4.4 – Open Gym

Ms. Marquez stated student athletes are prohibited from participating in school sponsored Open Gymnasium. If the school facility is utilized by the community's sports and recreation program and open to members of the public, it may be utilized as such by student athletes as well. (The committee felt that in rural communities, the school facility is the only recreational option.)

Mr. Martin made a motion to approve this proposal. No one seconded the motion. The motion failed due to a lack of a second.

Bylaw 7.6.4 – Scrimmage limit

Ms. Marquez stated schools will be allowed to sponsor an alumni game as a fundraiser and not have that game count against their scrimmage limit.

Mr. Olney made a motion to approve this proposal. Mr. Stacy seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. *Sport Specific Action Item- Team Sports: Consider allowing that higher seed to host first round games in the State Championships*

Mr. Zayas stated this came from the sports specific representative ad hoc committee.

Mr. Sategna stated last week the sports specific ad hoc committee had a meeting. What they are proposing is to modify the NMAA bylaws to allow the higher seed to host any first round games in all cases. Presently, the NMAA bylaws allow a district champion, if seeded lower than their opponent, to host the first round game; this is perceived to be unfair to the team receiving the higher seed.

Ms. Bachis made a motion to accept this proposal. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific Action Item-Baseball: Consider the implementation of a two-out-of-three format at the State Baseball Championships

Mr. Foster, Artesia High School Head Baseball Coach, stated the baseball coaches would like to implement a two-out-of-three series format for Classes 3A-5A during the first round of 16 of the NMAA State Baseball Tournament.

As with any sport, there is a certain culture involved with baseball. All playoff series from the collegiate level on allow for some sort of double elimination/best of series play. This allows for the best overall team in baseball to advance throughout the postseason. By making the first round a 2 out of 3 series, it will be certain that the best overall team will advance, instead of the team with the best individual pitcher. This can only help the sport and make sure the final 8 teams that travel to Albuquerque are the best 8 teams in the state.

Additional expenses will be incurred for some schools should this format be adapted. The Baseball Coaches Association explained how these costs are minimal and how they can be offset.

Mr. Sategna made a motion to accept this proposal. Mr. Manning seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific Action Item- Softball: Consider the implementation of a single elimination first round of 16 and a double elimination round of 8 at the State Softball Championships
Ms. Sanchez stated this proposal came from the softball sports specific committee and the NMAA staff as a compromise to the double elimination tournament. The proposal is to implement a double elimination format in all classes for the final field of eight during the state softball tournament. The first round of sixteen will use a single elimination format. She stated this is more about allowing the kids more time to play and participate.

Mr. Martin made a motion to accept this proposal. Mr. Gerheart seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific Action Item- Football: Consider the implementation of spring practice
Mr. Adrian stated this proposal came from the football sports specific committee. Beginning in May 2011, the football sports specific committee is proposing that in the sport of football, NMAA schools would have the option to participate in spring football practices. Schools would be permitted to have ten (10) practices in a fifteen (15) day period, to begin on the Monday following the conclusion of the Spring state championship events. The practices would consist of three (3) in shorts and seven (7) days in full pads. Coaches would not be able to have any "football" related contact (only weight room activities) with their athletes in the month of June and no seven-on-seven games would be allowed during the summer.

Mr. Martin made a motion to accept this proposal. Mr. Manning seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific Action Item- Cross Country: Consider the adjustment in qualifying standards for Class A/AA District 1 as a result of new teams being added
Mr. Aragon stated the proposal was an adjustment to NMAA bylaw 7.14.3.B. This was due to an increase in the number of schools recently placed in District 1 of Class A-AA Cross Country. The proposal called for an adjustment in the number of teams from that district qualifying to the State Cross Country Championships from 4 to 5 teams and the number of runners from District 1 teams who do not qualify for the state meet from 6 to 10. This adjustment would align District 1 with District 2, which has the same number of schools.

Mr. Martin made a motion to accept this proposal. Mr. Affentranger seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific Action Item- Cross Country: Consider increasing each participating school's allowable number of varsity runners for the district cross country meet from seven to nine.

Mr. Aragon stated the proposal was to increase the number of allowable runners at the district meet from seven to nine. This allows coaches to make more objective decisions for state.

Mr. Martin made a motion to accept this proposal. Mr. Sayre seconded. The motion passed unanimously

Sport Specific Action Item- Basketball: Consider increasing the state tournament roster from 12 to 13.

Mr. Gilmore, Hobbs Head Boys Basketball Coach, stated the proposal was to increase the district and state tournament roster from 12 to 13 uniformed players, while maintaining the 20-person limit on the bench. This allows a coach flexibility to bring two additional uniformed players for tournament experience.

The Commission modified the proposal from 13 uniformed players to 14 uniformed players.

Mr. Stacy made a motion to table this proposal. Mr. Durham seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific Action Item- Track and Field: Consider an exception for indoor track and field during the outdoor track and field season.

Mr. Clarke, Cibola Assistant Track and Field Coach, stated the proposal was that the New Mexico Activities Association should not regulate, sanction or in any way be involved with indoor track and field. Indoor track and field would be the realm of the parents and individual athletes and not that of the NMAA member schools. Any indoor meet competition (either prior to the official start date or during the outdoor season) would not count against the individual athlete's outdoor meet limitation.

Mr. Durham made a motion to deny this proposal. Mr. Stacy seconded. The motion failed.

Sport Specific Action Item- Track and Field: Consider restricting the number of individual entries per event during a district track and field meet.

Mr. Turner, Peidra Vista Head Track and Field Coach, stated the proposal was to make district track meets use identical scoring as the state meet.

Mr. Gerheart made a motion to approve the proposal as amended so that the scoring of the district meet would follow the NFHS guidelines for scoring purposes. Mr. Martin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific Action Item- Track and Field: Consider limiting the individual entries at the district track and field meet

Mr. Turner, Peidra Vista Head Track and Field Coach, stated the proposal was that teams are not restricted to less than the number of places awarded per event. An example would be if the district awards six places, they must be allowed to enter a minimum of six athletes.

No Motion was made to accept this proposal. Motion failed due to no motion being made to accept this proposal.

Sport Specific Action Item- Spirit: Consider removing the 80%/60% participation and DVD requirements from the previously approved Spirit as Sport format

Ms. Derr stated that after the Connecticut court case the OCR decided this should not be a requirement for Spirit. This particularly being due to the fact that it is not a requirement for any other sports to participate in a State Championship event.

Mr. Satagna made a motion to accept this proposal. Mr. Durham seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Sport Specific Action Item- Spirit: Consider changing the required number of competitions and the competition limitation for Spirit per recommendations from the OCR and member school's legal counsel

Ms. Derr stated the format was compliant with the OCR. To be consistent with what we would look for in a sport is to increase the required minimum and maximum number of competitions. There would be a minimum from the NMAA to qualify for state. The NMAA staff stated they would have a specified number of minimum and maximum competitions for the board to approve at their September 29th meeting

Mr. Olney made a motion to accept this proposal. Mr. Sayre seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Commission took a 10 minute recess and re-convened at 12:10 PM

V. *General Discussion Item- Activities Update*

Ms. Derr stated the State Rodeo Competition took place in June. Dora High School was named the Rodeo State Champions. The Scholastic Publications held their first meeting this past weekend. The National Student Leadership Conference was held in July. The NMAA Activities Council will start working on putting a student advisory council together for the state of New Mexico.

General Discussion Item- Home School Referenda Results

Mr. Tripp stated that the results on home school participation came in. The referenda was not approved by the membership; home school students can continue to participate in varsity sports.

General Discussion Item- Fall Conference Update (October 10-12)

Mr. Zayas stated the conference will take place at the Marriott Pyramid hotel. The NMAA has arranged for Chris Noll, from Doherty High School in Colorado Springs to be the keynote speaker at the conference. The Leadership Training Courses (LTC) will be offered on Sunday, October 10th, 2010. The opening general session and lunch banquet is scheduled for October 11, 2010, while the mandatory annual meeting of member schools is scheduled on Tuesday, October 12th, 2010.

General Discussion Item- Establishment of a sub-committee to examine consequences for coach ejections.

Ms. Sanchez stated this came from the June board meeting. There was a summary, pertaining to ejections, sent out from the National Federation of State High School Associations. There were 42 states that responded to the survey; providing national

ejection data. There will be another meeting with the subcommittee to put something together for the November and December meetings.

General Discussion Item- Tip off Classic Information

Mr. Tripp stated that the girls Tip Off Classic game will be held at the newly renovated Pit on November 19. The Tip Off Classic will include two games; Santa Fe Indian School girls will play the Gallup High School girls at 6:00 PM. The boys Tip Off Classic game will be between Espanola High School and Gallup High School, scheduled to tip off at 7:30 PM. Every ticket will cost \$10.00.

General Discussion Item- MVP 2.1 Update

Mr. Cleland stated that the MVP 2.1 is a work in progress and it is slowly getting better. The developers are making changes on a weekly basis. The NMAA is working with the developers to determine the most important items to complete for the benefit of the membership.

- VI. Addendum Agenda (Cross Country Sports Specific Action Item was taken care of in the regular agenda.)
- VII. Mr. Johnson informed the Commission that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 17th, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.
- VIII. A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Martin. It was seconded by Mr. Olney and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.