

NMAA Board of Directors

September 23, 2015

9:00 AM

NMAA Hall of Pride and Honor

Welcome - Meeting called to order by Mr. Anthony Casados, NMAA Board of Directors Vice-President, at 10:16 am. A roll call was conducted by Mrs. Mindy Ioane, NMAA Graphic Designer/Special Event Coordinator, and the following members were present:

Mr. Anthony Casados (Small Area A)
Mr. Jaime Widner (Small Area B)
Mr. Bill Green (Small Area C)
Ms. Lesa Dodd (Small Area D)
Mr. Kirk Carpenter (Large Area A)
Mr. Gene Parson (Large Area D)
Mr. Todd Resch (Large School District I)
Mr. Stan Rounds (Large School District II)
Dr. Crit Caton (At-Large Member)
Mr. Terry Martin (NM School Board Association)
Mr. Bruce Carver (NMAA Commission Representative)

Not present:

Dr. Craig Cummins (Large Area C)
Mr. T.J. Parks (Large Area B - President)

Eleven members present representing a quorum.

Approval of the Agenda:

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Rounds made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Dodd seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2015 meeting. Mr. Carpenter made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Dr. Caton seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

NMAA Executive Directors' Report:

Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, discussed two (2) items on her report: 1) The success of the regional meetings that are currently being conducted statewide which give Athletic Directors the opportunity to participate in an open forum type session with her; and 2) announced the annual NMAA / NMADA Fall Conference that will be held October 4-6, 2015 at the Marriott Pyramid Hotel, providing professional development opportunities including a session by Ms. Beth German of German & Associates, LLC about Legal Challenges in New Mexico High School Athletics and the conference keynote speaker, Bob Kanaby, NFHS former Executive Director. Ms. Marquez also reminded members of the required NMAA annual meeting that will be held during the conference on Tuesday, October 6th.

Financial Report:

Ms. Shari Kessler-Schwamer, NMAA Business Manager, presented the 2014-2015 All Sports & Activities Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 and the 2014-2015 Ticket Sales Report.

Ms. Debbie Saunders, Saunders & Associates, presented the Annual Audit Report. Ms. Saunders commended the NMAA and Ms. Shari Kessler-Schwamer for the success of the annual audit.

Fines deposited to Opportunity Fund: (Action Item) Ms. Marquez presented a proposal that would allow funds received from school/coach sanctions to be deposited into the NMAA's Opportunity Fund which is used to provide funding for special programs to member schools. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Parson made the motion to accept the proposal. Ms. Dodd seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

Approval of Executive Director's Contract: (Action Item) Mr. Casados explained that NMAA Executive Director Ms. Sally Marquez was hired in September of 2012 and since then her contract has not coincided with the fiscal year of July 1 through June 30. Following discussion, Mr. Rounds made a motion to approve her contract from September 2015 through June 30, 2018 which would place the contract back on the fiscal year cycle and would run through the next two year block. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed (11-0).

NMAA Activities Report:

Ms. Dana Pappas, NMAA Deputy Director, discussed six (6) items on her report: 1) The Activities Council meeting that was held on September 1st via teleconference. She asked Council members to submit participation numbers to the NMAA office by September 15th for an Activities Participation report; 2) announced that all activities dates are posted on the NMAA calendar on the NMAA website with information for each activity on their respective web page; 3) she informed members that Activities groups have mentioned difficulties in obtaining transportation for state activities due to conflicts with athletics; 4) informed members that the majority of activities take place after Winter Break with the exception of One-Act Play which is at the end of October; 5) state music events will take place at Volcano Vista High School and Cleveland High School, and 6) mentioned that Ms. Marquez has had discussions regarding home school team participation and aligning all sanctioned activities constitutions' with NMAA bylaws.

NMOA Officials Report:

Ms. Dana Pappas, NMAA Commissioner of Officials, discussed four (4) items during her report: 1) Gave a recap of the 9th Annual Referee Educational Forum (over 500 officials participated in local camps and camps in Colorado, Arizona and Texas); 2) discussed recruitment/retention strategies, commending Greg Haston (Hobbs), Darren Kelley (Clovis) and Mark Gallegos (Portales) for development of soccer officiating groups in those areas; 3) informed the board that there is a shortage of officials in all sports statewide. She noted that the shortage was of particular concern in football and that the NMAA was having difficulties scheduling officials for football due to the volume of games on Friday nights. She noted that the hardest hit regions were the Northwest and the Southeast and said that assignors have been asked to spread the financial burden for mileage payment among the schools in their region so that no school has to pay mileage for officials from the Central region more than once, and 4) planning has begun for the first ever Baseball Umpire Education Forum in Las Cruces in January which will include developing a baseball training and education committee and will use the same model as other sports.

Mr. Casados commended the officials for their work and asked if officials have lightning meters. Ms. Pappas explained that officials are under the direction of site administrators when it comes to monitoring lightning.

General Discussion / Information Items:

Classification/Alignment: Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, asked the Board for feedback concerning requests to return to five classifications based on the results of a survey she gave to Athletic Directors during the 2014 NMAA Annual meeting last October. She explained that the member schools will need to submit their 40 day counts to the NMAA office on October 14th, the same day as the Public Education Department reporting requirement, in order to be able to present a proposal to the Board on December 8th. The members discussed the pros and cons of returning to five classifications including the results of the survey where 70-80% of Athletic Directors were in support of the change. The Board also allowed comments from Athletic Directors in attendance. Stated advantages of 5 classes were:

Larger districts would mean less travel and reduced travel costs.

Less travel would mean that students would not miss as much school time.

Athletic Directors would have an easier time with scheduling due to larger districts.

One athletic director asked the Board to take into consideration schools at the lower end of each class. It was stated that they cannot compete with schools that have much larger enrollment numbers.

Another athletic director asked the Board to consider removing the multiplier that is currently applied to all private schools.

Board members discussed the possibility that six classes might not be the problem and that the current system might simply require some fine-tuning. They also talked about the fact that New Mexico is a rural state and there will always be travel time associated with interscholastic activities. Board members asked for data to support any change, and absent that, a return to five classes should not be considered at this time. It was stated that the current classification/alignment system should be allowed two more years to play out but a committee should be formed to study classification and alignment prior to discussions about the following block which will begin in 2018-2019.

Open Enrollment Choice/teams moving up in class: Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, asked the Board for feedback regarding the idea of eliminating the open enrollment choice bylaw. Members discussed the fact that it is very hard to regulate and that the choice should be determined at the local level within each school district. Regarding the idea of teams moving up in class, Ms. Marquez explained that currently only 5-6 schools might choose to move up a class in one sport only.

Action Items:

Following a Coach (Bylaw 7.4.4) (Referenda Item): Ms. Marquez read a portion of the current bylaw which states "...if the Student transfers to a school that his/her coach has relocated to within the past year, regardless of the change in the Student's bona fide residence..." and asked the committee to consider a proposal to delete "within the past year." She explained that there should not be a time limit for student-athletes who are "following a coach." These student-athletes should be ineligible if they transfer to "follow a coach" at any time. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Rounds made a motion to accept the proposal. Mr. Carver seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

Licensed school personnel present at all times during contest (Referenda Item): Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to add one sentence to each of the current bylaws listed below that would require appropriate personnel to be present before and during a game/contest/event in order for their students/team to participate.

3.3.1 Coaching License Requirement

Coaches must have a coaching license issued by the State Education Agency and be an employee or have a contractual relationship with that particular school/district (this applies to both voluntary and paid individuals).

3.3.2 Activity Advisor Requirements

Local Activity Advisors for a member organization must be an employee or have a contractual relationship with that particular school/district.

The rationale for this proposal is that appropriate school/district personnel must be present with their students at all times for liability purposes. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to accept the proposal. Mr. Widner made a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

Adjustments to Handbook section VIII (Activities) (Referenda Item): Ms. Marquez presented a proposal to delete 8.1.7 B, C, and D of the Home School Student Eligibility bylaw to align Section VIII with Home School State Statute. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to accept the proposal. Mr. Green made a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Widner seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

Adjustments to Handbook Section X (Charter Schools) (Referenda Item): Ms. Marquez discussed current bylaw 10.1.2 NMAA Charter Schools and 10.1.3 Non-NMAA Member Charter School and presented a proposal as follows: Students at NMAA Member Charter Schools are eligible in their home attendance zone school only. Students at Non-NMAA member Charter Schools are afforded an open enrollment choice at the 9th grade. The rationale is to modify the Bylaws in Section 10 to match past NMAA Rulings with regards to Charter School Student's Participation. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Parson made the motion to accept the proposal. Mr. Rounds seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

Scholastic Eligibility at Semester Only (Referenda Item): Ms. Marquez asked to withdrawal this proposal from the agenda after determining that Athletic Directors were not in favor of it.

Mr. Martin left the meeting.

Mid School Football: Competition period/dual participation (Referenda Item): Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, presented a proposal to consider adjusting NMAA bylaw 9.5.A regarding dual participation as it pertains to middle school / junior high football adding: "Exception: Dual participation is not allowed in the sport of football." The rationale for this proposal is that currently NMAA bylaws allow mid school / junior high athletes to participate on both school and non-school affiliated teams concurrently without counting the non-school contests towards the athletes' game limitations. This is a concern in the sport of football as new player safety regulations have been implemented to limit "full contact" time for these athletes. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Rounds made the motion to accept the proposal. Ms. Dodd seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (10-0)

Golf: Coaching tee-to-green only (Referenda Item): Bill Cleland, NMAA Associate Director, discussed presented a proposal to modify NMAA bylaws to state that during competition communication between coach and player is only allowed from tee-to-green. Once the player and his/her golf ball are on the green, no communication

may occur between the player and the coach until the player has completed the hole and exited the green. This item will be implemented in the spring of 2016 if approved. Ms. Dodd made the motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion. Members asked what the penalty would be if a coach does not adhere to the bylaw. Ms. Dodd withdrew her motion and made an amended motion to accept the proposal with consequences described by Mr. Cleland (similar to the spectator rule). Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (10-0).

Tennis: Withdrawn/retired player returning to play (Referenda Item): Mr. Joe Butler, NMAA Assistant Director, presented the following proposal: Team Competition (NMAA 7.21.2.B) In district/state competition after submission of an official lineup a player that retires or withdraws from a match (singles/doubles) may return to play in the same team match in the alternating format (doubles/singles) in accordance with the submitted roster. The rationale for this proposal is that there is no rule presently in place to either allow or prevent a player from returning to play in the second match of a dual match, upon retirement or withdrawal from the initial match. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to accept the proposal. Mr. Parson made the motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Rounds seconded the motion. Members discussed the impact of this proposal and whether there would be any advantage gained. They also discussed the Commission’s vote as well as the fact that this is not allowed nationally. Dick Johnson (La Cueva HS tennis coach) and the tennis sports specific committee felt unanimously that there was no advantage gained by allowing a player to do so. Mr. Casados asked for a roll call vote. The results are as follows:

Yes/For	No/Against	Board Member Name
✓		Mr. Anthony Casados
	✓	Mr. Jaime Widner
	✓	Mr. Bill Green
	✓	Ms. Lesa Dodd
	✓	Mr. Todd Resch
	✓	Dr. Crit Caton
✓		Mr. Kirk Carpenter
✓		Mr. Gene Parson
✓		Mr. Stan Rounds
	✓	Mr. Bruce Carver

Motion fails (6-4).

Executive Session

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session at 11:57 am, to discuss personnel, legal issues, pending litigation (including the transgender bylaw) and budget. Mr. Carpenter made the motion to enter into Executive Session. Dr. Caton seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously (10-0).

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to exit out of Executive Session at 1:11 pm. Mr. Carpenter made the motion to exit out of Executive Session. Dr. Caton seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (10-0). Mr. Casados stated that there were no decisions made during Executive Session.

Consider Adjournment

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:13 pm. Mr. Rounds made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Parson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (10-0).

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, December 8, NMAA Hall of Pride and Honor