

NMAA Commission Meeting
November 18, 2015
9:00 AM
NMAA Office

Welcome – The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bruce Carver at 9:00 am. A roll call was conducted by Mrs. Mindy Ioane, NMAA Graphic Designer/Special Event Coordinator, and the following members were present:

Mr. Gary Schuster (Small Area C)
Mr. Dave Campbell (Small Area D)
Mr. Pete MacFarlane (Non-Public School Rep.)
Mr. Cooper Henderson (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors Association Rep.) via teleconference
Mr. Jess Martinez (New Mexico Officials Association Rep.)
Mr. Scott Affentranger (National Association of Secondary School Principals Rep.)
Mr. Bruce Carver (Large Area A)
Mr. Greg Haston (Large Area B)
Mr. Ernie Viramontes (Large Area C) via teleconference
Mr. Kenny Barreras (Large Area D)
Ms. Jennifer Viramontes (State School Boards Association Rep.)
Mr. Thomas Mabrey (New Mexico High School Coaches Association Rep.)
Mr. Don Gerheart (Activities Council Member)
Ms. Debbie Coffman (Jr. High/Middle School Rep.)

Not Present:

Mr. Todd Kurth (Small Area A)
Mr. Wayne Ferguson (Small Area B)

14 members present representing a quorum.

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Carver asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Schuster made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Gerheart seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (14-0).

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Carver asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2015 Commission Meeting as presented. Mr. Mabrey made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Viramontes seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (14-0).

NMAA Directors' Report:

Mr. Bill Cleland, NMAA Associate Director, discussed two (2) items during his report: 1) Results of the voting for the expiring Board of Directors position for Large Area B (Mr. T.J. Parks, Hobbs, was unopposed) and the expiring Commission positions for Large Area B (Mr. Dale Fullerton, Clovis, was unopposed), Small Area B (Mr. Dickie Roybal, Melrose, won) and Large Area D (a tie between Mr. Wilson Holland, Los Lunas, and Ms. Nickie McCarty, Taos) - per NMAA Board directive, the winner will be determined by a coin flip; and 2) thanked Mr. Wayne Ferguson, Mr. Greg Haston and Mr. Kenny Barreras for their service on the Commission.

Ms. Dana Pappas, NMAA Deputy Director, discussed implementation of a NMAA Student Leadership Advisory Council that will be comprised of ten students representing NMAA member schools. Students will be selected from each of the NMAA Governance Structure areas, similar to Board of Directors representation. Ms. Pappas presented a document that explains the purpose, responsibilities and nomination process. She also presented the Student Leadership Advisory Council nomination form which will be available on the NMAA website.

Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, discussed two (2) items on his report: 1) Announced results of the Fall State Championships in the sports of Soccer, Cross Country, Volleyball, 6-Man and 8-Man football, thanking the Rio Rancho Public School district for use of their facilities in Cross Country and Volleyball; and 2) reminded Committee members that the NMAA Foundation will be awarding 16 scholarships to NMAA member school students (applications are due on February 2, 2016).

Mr. Todd Kurth entered the meeting at 9:10 am.

NMAA Activities Report:

Mr. Bill Cleland, NMAA Associate Director, announced results of the 2015 One Act Production competition which was held October 29-31, 2015 at Cleveland and Rio Rancho High Schools.

Athens Division:

1st - Aztec, 2nd - Sandia, 3rd - Mayfield

Sparta Division:

1st - Hope Christian, 2nd - Corrales International, 3rd - Moreno Valley

General Discussion/Information Items:

Out of Season Coaching (Jr. High/Mid School): Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, asked for feedback regarding the Out of Season Coaching rule. Members discussed if this rule should apply to high schools only and not to middle/junior high schools and if this rule encourages specialization within sports. After discussion, the members concluded that it is in the best interest of middle schools not to apply this rule to them.

Adjust Fall/Winter start/end dates: Ms. Marquez asked the committee for feedback on a proposal to allow the first football game one week earlier or to eliminate the bye week. Mr. Young surveyed football coaches but has not heard from many of them at this time. The committee members discussed the implications of moving back the start date in the sport of football and the problems associated with eliminating a bye week for districts having an odd number of schools. They wondered if basketball could start a week later without any change being made to the football date.

Classification/alignment: Ms. Marquez announced that the NMAA Board of Directors meeting will be held on Thursday, November 19, 2015 at 1:00 pm. She stated that Clayton and Valley High Schools have elected to move up in classification and as a result Deming and Mora High Schools will be moving down in class. The Board of Directors has given the directive to maintain the status quo and to continue with the same guidelines as were used when the current block was determined. Schools that would like to appeal their placement can do so at the Board meeting to be held December 7, 2015 but they must give notice of their intentions by the end of the day, Tuesday, November 24th.

Action Items:

Out of season practice Q & A: Ms. Marquez asked members to consider a proposal to revise the current bylaw 7.4.1 B and the Appendices (definition of practice) to the following:

PRACTICE: A structured period of time in which a coach or other agent of the school conducts activities for members of the school's sports team only. Practice shall not include teams or athletes from other schools.

7.4.1 B

Q26: Can a team practice with another team during the season or out of season?

A26: No. See Appendices: Definition of Practice.

The rationale for this proposal is that schools are conducting "practice" with other schools during the season and out of season which is really scrimmaging.

Mr. Carver asked for a motion to approve this proposal as presented. Mr. Barreras made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. MacFarlane seconded the motion. After discussion, a vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Softball: Number of state qualifying teams: Mr. Scott Owen, NMAA Assistant Director, asked the Commission to consider a proposal to reduce the number of state qualifying teams to 12 (from 16) and therefore bring all 12 teams to the metro area for the state tournament. The top four seeds would earn a bye to the double elimination bracket, the bottom eight seeds would play a single elimination game to get into the double elimination bracket. The rationale for this proposal is that there is a lack of competitiveness of the bottom four seeds, the travel cost/missed school for the bottom four seeds without guarantee of a complete game (10 and 15 run rules), centralized location for first round to reduce travel expenses and the removal of "home of higher seed" first round which would give schools an additional week for make-up games as well as additional flexibility in scheduling. Mr. Carver asked for a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Shuster made a motion to accept the proposal. Mr. MacFarlane seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Consider Adjournment: Mr. Carver asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 am. Mr. Schuster made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Affentranger seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Next Commission Meeting – February 3, 2016 (NMAA)