

NMAA Commission Meeting

November 20, 2012

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 Mrs. Mindy Ioane, NMAA Administrative Assistant, and the following members were present.

Mr. Todd Kurth (Small, Area A)
Mr. Wayne Ferguson (Small, Area B)
Mr. Mike Tillman (Small, Area C)
Mr. Dave Campbell (Small, Area D)
Mr. Bruce Carver (Large, Area A)
Mr. Greg Haston (Large, Area B)
Mr. Lawrence Johnson (Large, Area C)
Mr. Kenny Barreras (Large, Area D)
Mr. Pete MacFarlane (Non-Public School Rep.)
Mr. Marc Baca (New Mexico Officials Association Rep.)
Mr. Scott Affentranger (National Association of Secondary School Principals Rep.)
Mr. Thomas Mabrey (New Mexico High School Coaches Association Rep.)
Mr. Don Gerheart (Activities Council Member)
Mr. Anthony Gutierrez (Jr. High/Middle School Rep.)

Not present:

Mr. Terry Martin (State School Boards Association Rep.)
Ms. Vicki Nelms (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors Association Rep.)

Fourteen members present representing a quorum.

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Johnson asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Affentranger made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. MacFarlane seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (14-0).

Approval of Minutes from September 12, 2012:

Mr. Johnson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2012 Commission meeting as presented. Mr. Barreras made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Tillman seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (14-0).

Directors' Report:

Mr. Bill Cleland, NMAA Associate Director, discussed four items during his report: (1) winners in Commission voting were: Mr. Bruce Carver, Large Area A; Mr. Wayne Ferguson, Small Area B; and Mr. Greg Haston, Large Area B; (2) winners in Board voting were: Mr. Paul Benoit, Small Area B; Mr. T.J. Parks, Large Area B; and Mr. George Straface, Large Area C; (3) the 2012 Fall State Championships in the sports of

Cross Country, Soccer and Volleyball - attendance numbers were lower than last year but the action was exciting at all venues and the events themselves were successful; and (4) the CTSO Fall Leadership Conference, where 417 students participated, representing 54 member mid / high schools.

Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, discussed two items during his report: (1) former Executive Director Gary Tripp's reception that will be held on Thursday, November 29, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Albuquerque; and 2) introduced two new staff members, Assistant Directors' Chris Kedge and Scott Owen.

Activities Report:

Mr. Joe Butler, NMAA Assistant Director, gave details of the 2012 One Act Play Competition that was held at San Juan College in Farmington, New Mexico. There were 331 participants from 16 member schools. Aztec High School won the Athens division and Lordsburg High School won the Sparta division.

NMOA Report:

Ms. Dana Pappas, NMAA Deputy Director, discussed the NMAA's webpage being down during part of the State Volleyball Championships. To ensure that individuals would have up-to-date State Championship information, traffic to the NMAA website was diverted to the NMAA Events Facebook page. As a result of that decision, the Facebook page is up to 1195 "likes" and she discussed the demographics of those who visited the site. Ms. Pappas spoke of the NW Region's continued struggle in getting enough officials to cover the region and she discussed the success of the Fall District Basketball Clinics held in various locations statewide.

General Action Items

Physical Fitness and Participant Insurance for JROTC, Bowling, and Rodeo: (Referendum Item) Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, presented a proposal to require JROTC, bowling, and rodeo participants to follow the same physical fitness and insurance regulations as required of athletes in Sections 6.15 and 6.16 of the NMAA Handbook. The rationale for the proposal is as follows: The activities of JROTC, bowling, and rodeo all require participants to physically exert themselves in competition. Because of this, students participating in these activities should go through the same physical examination process as those students that participate in sports. Additionally, participation in each of these activities can result in injury, and therefore students should be required to be covered by accident/injury insurance. Mr. Johnson asked about adding other activities such as band to the proposal. Mr. Barreras made a motion to Table the proposal until it has been presented to the Activities Council in January, 2013. Mr. Carver seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (14-0).

General Discussion/Information Items

Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, asked that the first item, Status of Classification and Alignment, be made the final item of the General Discussion/Information Items.

Football seeding on Saturday night: Ms. Marquez discussed issues concerning football seeding on Saturday night. First, is that it takes place on the same night that the NMAA staff is wrapping up the State Soccer and Cross Country Championships. She explained that in addition to the timing of the seeding, this year two of the games were held the same night and staff had to wait for the results of those games. She also stated that MaxPreps was not updated with results of all Saturday contests, as well as the issue of film exchange no longer being necessary due to the use of the Huddle website by many schools. Commission members discussed the pros and cons of having the seeding meeting conducted on Sunday morning and would like to hear the Football Sports Specific committee recommendations.

Tie breakers in sports without district tournaments: Ms. Marquez discussed issues brought to her attention concerning the use of the tie-breaker rule in the sports of football and soccer. Discussion between the members was in agreement that they like the structure of the tie-breaker and would like to leave it as-is.

1st place playoff game (regular season basketball/volleyball): Ms. Marquez asked if the playoff game for the regular season championship should go to the tie-breaker rule instead of playing an extra game in the sports of basketball and volleyball. After some discussion, Commission members would like to recommend to the Board of Directors that the tie-breaker procedures be utilized to have consistency throughout all sports.

Move Fall sports up one week: Ms. Marquez discussed the prospect of moving the start date of cross country, soccer, and volleyball up one week, thereby allowing State Championships to be completed a week earlier. In addition to possibly helping with issues related to the time change and cold weather, this would also allow students participating in volleyball, cross country, and soccer to participate in Winter sports sooner than they can now. She asked for feedback and discussion on this item.

Alzheimer's Awareness (purple shoelaces): Ms. Marquez asked the members to support Alzheimer's Awareness by having basketball teams wear purple shoelaces during the week of November 26 through December 1, 2012.

Break 10:28 -10:38

Mr. Affentranger left the meeting during the break.

Status of Classification and Alignment: Ms. Marquez discussed the 3 proposals that will be presented to the Board of Directors on Thursday, November 29, 2012. The proposals were created based on survey results from the 2012 Annual Meeting, as well as input received from the membership and NMAA staff. Ms. Marquez emphasized that the proposals are data driven and that a fourth "information item" will also be presented, but it will not necessarily be a formal proposal. She discussed that this item, the "status quo", would not work in creating the upcoming block due to enrollment shifts at various schools. The proposals are as follows:

1. All schools divided into six equal classes.
2. Create classifications based on equal splits above and below 400 students. Schools with enrollment above 400 will be divided into 3 classes and schools with enrollment less than 400 students will then be divided into 3 classes.
3. Districts to consist ideally of 8 teams. Take the top 72 enrollment schools and split them evenly into 5A, 4A, and 3A (i.e. 24 in each class). All remaining schools are then split into 3 additional classes as evenly as possible.

All proposals will be presented with a multiplier and without a multiplier. The multiplier will be based on reported differences in participation rates between public and private schools. Discussion ensued as to whether or not the multiplier should only be applied to schools with enrollment above 150 students. Ms. Marquez requested feedback from the Commission prior to the November 29th Board of Directors meeting.

Mr. Gearhart left the meeting at 11:06 a.m.

Consider Adjournment:

Mr. Johnson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:16 a.m. A motion was made by Mr. Barreras. Mr. MacFarlane seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Next Commission Meeting will be held on February 13, 2013 at the NMAA Office.