

NMAA Commission Meeting

November 20, 2019

9:00 AM

NMAA Office

Welcome – The meeting was called to order by Mr. Ernie Viramontes at 9:00 am. A roll call was conducted by Mrs. Alissa Wesbrook, NMAA, and the following members were present:

Mr. Tim Host (Small, Area A)
Mr. Larry Chavez (Large, Area A)
Mr. Dickie Roybal (Small, Area B)
Mr. Cooper Henderson (Large, Area B)
Mr. Jory Mirabal (Small, Area C)
Mr. Ernie Viramontes (Large, Area C)
Mr. Jason Hightower (Small, Area D)
Ms. LeeAnn Moores (Large, Area D)
Mr. Dave Campbell (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors Association)
Mr. Thomas Mabrey (New Mexico High School Coaches Association)
Mr. Scott Affentranger (New Mexico Association of Secondary School Principals)

Not Present:

Mr. Al Martinez (Non-Public Schools)
Mr. Daren Jones (Jr. High/Middle School Committee)
Mr. Jess Martinez (New Mexico Officials Association)
Mr. Steve Perea (Activities Council)
Mr. Frank Cordova (New Mexico School Boards Association)

11 members were present representing a quorum.

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Mabrey made a motion to approve the agenda with a modification to move the first action item (Baseball Umpires' Fee Increase) to be heard as the first discussion item. Mr. Mirabal seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2019 Commission Meeting as presented. Mr. Chavez made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Moores seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

NMAA Director's Report:

Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, presented the director's report. He discussed five (5) items on his report: 1) provided an update on the Fall Championship season; 2) stated that the NMAA Foundation's scholarship application/nomination process is now open and will run through February 1st; 3) reported on the recent Board of Directors (Mr. Anthony Casados, Mr. David Lackey, and Ms. Dana Sanders were all re-elected) and Commission (Mr. Jory Mirabal and Mr. Ernie Viramontes were re-elected & Mr. Brandon Gurule was elected to take over for Mr. Tim Host) election results. 4) reported that the NMAA staff has visited over 90 high schools so far this year with its goal to visit all 160+; and 5) announced the 2020 NMAA Hall of Fame inductees - Mr. Tom Manning, Dr. Crit Caton, and Mr. Ernie Viramontes.

NMAA Activities Report:

Ms. Dana Pappas, NMAA Commissioner of Officials, presented the activities report. She discussed two (2) items on her report: 1) stated that the One Act Play regionals are underway and that the finals will take place in January; and 2) provided an update on current and future work that is being done by the NMAA Student Leadership Advisory Council.

NMAA Officials Report:

Ms. Pappas presented the officials report. She discussed four (4) items on her report: 1) reported that the fall numbers for officials were up slightly and that winter numbers were similar to that from last year; 2) stated that the basketball rules clinics for coaches and officials have concluded and were very well received; 3) provided an update on the upcoming baseball and softball officials clinics set to take place in January; and 4) reported that the 2020 NMOA State Clinic dates have been set and former NHL Officiating Director, Terry Gregson, will serve as the event's keynote speaker.

General Discussion/Information Items

Baseball Umpires' Fee Increase - Ms. Pappas informed the Commission that the proposal to increase officials' fees for baseball will be taken to the Board of Directors for action in December and will match those given to basketball officials. This increase would be for the 2020-2021 school year. The Commission still strongly supported this proposal.

Bylaws Committee Work - Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, provided an update on the work that has been done by the Bylaws Committee over the last year. She also gave a recap of survey results from the Fall Conference and online follow up. The items discussed included scholastic eligibility (cumulative provision & clean slate), out of season coaching during the school year, summer regulations, and the possible of using other means to determine the classification of schools in future years. The Commission thought that the NMAA should continue to look at the possibility of updating summer regulations. Ms Marquez stated they would also continue to look at other states and their processes for classification and alignment.

District Tournaments - Ms. Marquez discussed district tournaments in the sports of volleyball and basketball. She stated that taking the regular season district champ and district tournament champ can cause some issues in volleyball since only 12 advance to state. The possibility of taking two teams from one district based on automatic bids can leave deserving teams out of the playoff field. The Commission provided positive feedback for the elimination of the volleyball district tournament. The group also felt like the NMAA should look at playoff games that are currently held in both volleyball and basketball to determine regular season district champs. Ms. Marquez stated that she would take the elimination of the volleyball district tournament to the sports specific committee and then to the Board of Directors for possible action at their next meeting.

Out of Season Coaching for Wrestling - Ms. Marquez discussed out of season coaching in the sport of wrestling and the possibility of it becoming a year round sport due to the unique nature of wrestling and limited number of qualified coaches across the state. The Commission provided positive feedback pertaining to this issue, but also stated that similar arguments could be made for other sports so the topic should continue to be reviewed.

J-1 Visa to F-1 Visa - Ms. Marquez informed the Commission that the staff was looking at the possibility of adding language to eligibility bylaws pertaining to a student going from a J-1 visa (foreign exchange) to an F-1 visa (foreign student).

8th Grade Participation - Ms. Marquez discussed 8th grade participation in Classes 4A-5A, brought up again by the middle school committee, to allow for 8th graders to participate at the high school level only once the middle school season has completed. If a school does not offer a certain sport, they are able to participate right away at the high school level in that sport. The Commission provided some positive feedback on this issue and Ms. Marquez stated she would take it back to the Board of Directors for consideration.

State Soccer Tournament Format - Ms. Marquez discussed the current state soccer format and feedback received from coaches regarding rest time and the possibility of splitting the event across three days over two weekends. Feedback from the Commission included keeping the current format due to increased costs to traveling teams and loss of school time.

Classification and Alignment Update - Ms. Marquez updated the Commission on Classification and Alignment for the next two-year block. She stated that a proposal will be taken to the Board of Directors for consideration on December 4th with appeals to be heard on December 11th.

Action Items

Administrative Presence during All Contests - Ms. Marquez presented a proposal that would add the following verbiage to Bylaw 7.7.4 (Crowd Control): An administrative (administrator or certified designee) presence is required at all contests. Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Affentranger made a motion to table the proposal. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

Consider Adjournment

Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 a.m. Mr. Host made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously. (11-0).