

## **NMAA Commission Meeting**

November 28, 2018

9:00 AM

NMAA Office

**Welcome** – The meeting was called to order by Mr. Ernie Viramontes at 9:01 am. A roll call was conducted by Ms. Alissa Wesbrook, NMAA Assistant to the Executive Director, 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. Dave Campbell (Small, Area D)  
Mr. Thomas Mabrey (New Mexico High School Coaches Association)  
Mr. Scott Affentranger (New Mexico Association of Secondary School Principals)  
Mr. Mike Huston (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors Association)  
Mr. Steve Perea (Activities Council)  
Ms. Debbie Coffman (Jr. High/Middle School Committee)  
Mr. Jess Martinez (New Mexico Officials Association)  
Mr. Tony Rubin (New Mexico School Boards Association)

Not Present:

Mr. Al Martinez (Non-Public Schools)  
Ms. Nickie McCarty (Large, Area D)

14 members were present representing a quorum.

### **Approval of Agenda:**

Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Affentranger made a motion to approve the agenda with a modification to move the addendum agenda item as the last item under V – Discussion Items. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (14-0).

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 5, 2018 Commission Meeting as presented. Mr. Campbell made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Host seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (14-0).

### **NMAA Directors' Report:**

Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, discussed five (5) items on his report: 1) a recap of all NMAA Fall Championship Events (soccer, cross country, volleyball, and football); 2) an update on the financial reports & ticket sales for the Fall Championships; 3) a report on the election results for the NMAA Commission – he also thanked two outgoing Commission Members for their service (Ms. Nicki McCarty and Mr. Mike Huston); 4) an update on game selection, timeline, and school interest for Esports; and 5) a report on the NMAA Foundation scholarship program for 2018-2019.

**NMAA Activities Report:**

Ms. Dana Pappas, NMAA Deputy Director, presented the activities report. She discussed four (4) items on her report: 1) a recap of State One Act Play and plan to review this activity/event moving forward; 2) an update regarding future Activity events, with most taking place between the months of February and April; 3) stated that the next NMAA Activities Council Meeting will take place in January; and 4) a report regarding the Student Advisory Leadership Committee and its fall meeting that was held in October.

**New Mexico Officials Association Report:**

Ms. Pappas presented the officials report. She discussed five (5) items on her report: 1) a report on officials' numbers for fall (football was down, volleyball & soccer were up) and winter (basketball, spirit, & wrestling are down, swimming is up) sports. 2) a recap of the office's decision to use a chain crew supervisor that is a registered official for all state football semifinals and finals 3) an update on the Fall & Winter Officials/Coaches Appreciation weeks 4) a recap of the Basketball/Wrestling Symposiums put on by the NMAA/NMOA and in conjunction with the NMHSCA; and 5) an update on the NMOA Baseball & Softball Clinics to be held in January.

**Discussion/Information Items**

Football: Middle/Jr. High School Season - Mr. Rubin discussed the current middle school / junior high football season and possible increases to the number of games allowed in an effort to compete with youth leagues that play many more games. The group felt like the issue was more with the youth leagues playing too many games for kids of that age, and that the current NMAA game limitations for middle school / junior high football are sufficient.

NMOA: Varsity Assignors in All Sports - Ms. Pappas discussed the possibility of the New Mexico Activities Association office selecting Varsity Regional Assignors for officials in all sports. Currently there are varsity assignors in the sports of basketball and football only. This would help to increase the accountability of assignors and allow for better oversight of the process. The group provided positive feedback and the NMAA will bring this back to the Commission at a later date as an Action item if similar feedback is given by the Board.

NMOA: Game Cancellation/Reschedule Policy - Ms. Pappas discussed a proposal for a formal cancellation/reschedule policy of games/events with regards to officials' payments. The proposal would include the home school informing the varsity regional assignor and the NMAA, in writing, at least 24 hrs. in advance of this cancellation unless unforeseen circumstances occur (weather, transportation etc.). The Athletic Director of the host school and the officials assigned are then expected to confirm the rescheduled games with one another at least three days in advance. If this process is not followed correctly, the school would be responsible for all official related fees. The group provided positive feedback for this proposal.

Sports Medicine: Physicals and Consent to Treat - Mr. Scott Owen, NMAA Assistant Director, discussed the possible implementation of a blanket consent to treat form for all student athletes to sign prior to participation. In addition, this could be done in conjunction with a requirement for all students to use the same NMAA physical examination form. These recommendations are supported by the NMAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee. The group provided some positive feedback, but also mentioned that many schools already have their own consent to treat forms on file and may not support additional paperwork since it is already done. The NMAA will collect more input on this topic and report back at a later date.

Volleyball: Tournament /Match Limitations - Ms. Marquez discussed current regular season volleyball tournament formats and how these are counted towards overall match limitations when pool play is used. Some concerns have been raised due to many schools utilizing these events that only count as two matches towards limitations, which can lead to more travel, expenses, and time out of the classroom.

Volleyball: Pool Play at the State Tournament - Ms. Marquez stated there has been some discussion on pool play and its role as part of the state volleyball tournament. An NMAA survey showed that more coaches would prefer to qualify 16 teams and no pool play over the current format of 12 teams with pool play. The Commission suggested that pool play has ran its course and is no longer needed, but encouraged the NMAA to continue evaluating this for the future.

Basketball: Replay Update - Ms. Marquez discussed the potential use of replay in the sport of basketball. She reported that the NFHS states specifically what can and cannot be replayed and that if the membership would like to go in this direction, these rules would have to be followed for the NMAA to receive "100% state" status from the NFHS. More information will be collected by staff and the replay committee that was put together and the item may be brought back to the Commission for action at a later date.

Scholastic Eligibility Update - Ms. Marquez updated the Commission on Scholastic Eligibility. Multiple surveys were sent out in regards to the 2.0 GPA and cumulative provision. Although the majority of athletic directors seem to be in favor of a potential GPA increase, the item will be tabled for future action so that the Scholastic Eligibility Committee can reconvene to discuss this, the cumulative provision, and other items. The Commission supported this idea as there were mixed feelings on both items.

Compete with Class Update - Ms. Marquez updated the Commission on the Compete with Class initiative. She stated that the fall did come with several incidents of concern, along with an increase in overall negative incidents in the sports of volleyball and football. She also stated that the membership, especially athletic directors, have responded well to the emphasis on sportsmanship and that the NMAA will continue to work with all involved to promote the Compete with Class program.

Scrimmage Definition/Bylaws - Ms. Marquez asked for input regarding the current language for a scrimmage and how it relates to the number of practices required for student participation. There is some confusion amongst the membership as to how this should be interpreted, and the NMAA will bring back a future action item to provide more guidance in this area moving forward. Overall, the Commission supported the idea that there should be a minimum number of days of practice required prior to participation in a scrimmage.

NMAA Rules Clinics - Ms. Marquez asked for feedback from regarding future Rules Clinics being held in person for all sports as opposed to the online versions currently used. The group supported this idea, but noted that this could cause problems for some districts due to travel and expenses and offered some alternatives to help with these issues. The NMHSCA heavily supported the idea in an effort to enhance professional development opportunities for coaches. The NMAA will continue to discuss this item internally and amongst the membership.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Participation and Enrollment - Ms. Marquez discussed the impact 8<sup>th</sup> grade participation has on certain sports, and inquired as to if enrollment numbers should include 8<sup>th</sup> graders when it comes to classification and alignment should a school district opts to allow them to participate.

State Championships Qualifiers - Ms. Marquez discussed the possible need for an adjustment to the amount of state championship qualifiers in certain sports. In particular, 8-Man Football & Class A-3A Boys/Girls Soccer, where 75% or more teams make the playoffs. The group agreed that this should be evaluated and that a 50% mark for qualifiers might work well.

State Championships Seeding and Selection - Ms. Marquez asked for feedback in regards to the current seeding and selection process. Finish in district play, MaxPreps Rankings, wins against district champs, and tiebreakers to determine placement were discussed. Overall, the group felt like the NMAA staff does a good job with this process since it is all data driven, but that changes when tiebreakers are used could possibly lead to improvement.

Middle School: Transferring to Follow a Coach - Ms. Marquez discussed a possible proposal to amend the student transferring to follow a coach bylaw so that the penalties would be applied to middle school participation as well as 9<sup>th</sup> grade participation. This topic will continue to be reviewed and may be brought forth as an action item in the future.

### **Action Items**

Basketball: Middle/Jr. High Start Dates: Ms. Sally Marquez asked the Commission members to consider adjusting the start date for the Middle School / Junior High School basketball season from Monday of Week #21 to Monday of Week #19, noting that the split season start date would remain the same (Monday of Week #16). Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Campbell made the motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Mirabal seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (14-0).

### **Consider Adjournment**

Mr. Viramontes asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:57 am. Mr. Campbell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Huston seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (14-0).