

NMAA Commission Meeting

May 25, 2011

9:00 AM

NMAA Office

Welcome – Meeting called to order by Mr. Lawrence Johnson, NMAA Commission Chairperson, at 9:03 a.m. A roll call was conducted by Ms. Mindy Ioane, NMAA Administrative Assistant, and the following members were present.

Mr. Todd Kurth (Small, Area A)
Mr. Keith Durham (Small, Area B)
Mr. Mike Tillman (Small, Area C)
Mr. Gary Frazier (Small, Area D)
Mr. Phil Sategna (Large, Area A)
Mr. Brian Stacy (Large, Area B)
Mr. Lawrence Johnson (Large, Area C)
Mr. Kenny Barreras (Large, Area D)
Mr. Pete MacFarlane (Non-Public School Rep.)
Mr. Jim Sayre (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. Terry Martin (State School Boards Association Rep.)
Ms. Taryn Bachis (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors Association Rep.)

Fifteen members present representing a quorum.

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Johnson asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Tillman seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Approval of Minutes from March 2, 2011:

Mr. Johnson asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 2, 2011 Commission meeting as presented. Mr. Barreras made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Kurth seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Directors' Report:

Mr. Gary Tripp, NMAA Executive Director, discussed seven items during his report: (1) the promotion of NMAA's new business manager, Mrs. Shari Kessler-Schwaner; (2) the NMAA's support of SEED's Native American Basketball Tournament, December 28-30, 2011, promoting education and wellness for Native American youth; (3) his upcoming presentation during the NMSBA regional conference meetings during the fall and winter of 2011. He will cover the topics of Sports Specialization, Coaches Licensure, and Hazing and Bullying; (4) Mr. Tripp acknowledged and thanked the NMAA staff for the successful outcome of the spring state championship events; (5) he will be speaking to

Athletic Directors about a new law to be implemented to stop incidences of hazing and bullying during the annual Athletic Director's Meeting on July 27, 2011. He announced NMPSIA's sponsored grant that will provide videos concerning hazing and bullying that will be available to all NMAA member schools; (6) Mr. Tripp announced a benefit fundraising event in honor of Gene Pino to be held on June 1, 2011 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Albuquerque Hilton Hotel. Mr. Pino was recently diagnosed with ALS; (7) Mr. Tripp acknowledged the positive media coverage commending the overall success of all the NMAA State High School Championships.

Mrs. Sally Marquez, NMAA Associate Director, discussed two items during her report: (1) the NMAA's goal to cut \$330,000 in expenses within the NMAA budget for the upcoming 2011-2012 school year, and (2) the requirement of all NMAA member schools to submit participation numbers via the MVP system in compliance with the School Athletic Equities Act reporting requirement, due August 31, 2011.

Mr. Robert Zayas, NMAA Associate Director, discussed two items during his report: (1) reminder of the new football practice start date, August 1, 2011, and (2) the NMAA Hall of Pride and Honor is undergoing renovations to allow more conference space.

Financial Report:

Mrs. Sally Marquez, NMAA Associate Director, along with Mrs. Shari Kessler-Schwaner, NMAA Business Manager, presented the current 2010-2011 Sports Financial Reports that will be filed with the minutes.

Activities Report:

Ms. Kristin Derr, NMAA Assistant Director, discussed the results of the 2011 Spring Activity events, and the upcoming Activity conferences/ summer events.

NMOA Report:

Mrs. Dana Sanchez, NMAA Assistant Director, presented an Officials registration comparison spreadsheet displaying the number of registrations by sport for the 2010-2011 school year. The report showed that registrations were down 3% in comparison to the 2009-2010 school year. She also presented a 13-year comparison spreadsheet. Spreadsheet will be filed with the minutes.

General Action Items

Consider Revision of NMAA Forfeiture Fees: (Referendum Item) Sally Marquez, NMAA Associate Director, presented a proposal to consider revision of NMAA forfeiture fees (Bylaw 5.1.7 & 3.11.4 B.1.) as follows:

	<u>Football/Basketball</u>	<u>Other Sports</u>
A/B; 6-man, 8-man	\$1000	\$500
AA	\$1500	\$750
AAA	\$2000	\$1000
AAAA	\$3000	\$1500
AAAAA	\$3000	\$1500

Mr. Randy Adrian, NMAA Assistant Director, read the the current Bylaw 5.1.7 B.1. as follows: *Other costs of conducting the contest, as well as lost revenues may be taken into consideration by the Director in assessing the fee owed by the school for failing to meet the obligations of the written or unwritten agreement.*

The rationale for this bylaw change is that minimum forfeiture fees did not correlate with a school's loss of revenue, scheduling inconvenience, and budgetary expenditures when a forfeit occurred. The proposal would help to minimize the loss of revenue to the non-forfeiting team. A motion was made by Mr. Martin to accept the proposal as presented as a referenda item. Mr. MacFarlane seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Consider revision to the process by which changes are made to the NMAA Handbook: (Referendum Item) Mr. Robert Zayas, NMAA Associate Director, on behalf of the NMAA staff, presented two proposals (A and B) to allow the Commission to determine which proposal is best for the membership of the NMAA in regards to the process by which changes are made to the NMAA handbook.

Proposal A, consider revision to NMAA Bylaw 2.7 with the following language: *"Amendments to the Constitution, Bylaw, and Sport Regulations must appear on the NMAA Commission agenda as a 'Discussion/Information' item prior to it being placed on the following Commission agenda as an 'Action' item. In order for the 'Action' item to appear on the Board of Director's agenda, it must receive a favorable vote from the Commission."*

Exception: *The Board of Directors may act to authorize a referenda on an emergency basis or place items on the Board agenda at any time through the year with the approval of the NMAA Executive Director and/or NMAA Board of Director's President.*

The rationale is the need to slow the pace of change. Requiring that all "Action" items be heard by the commission as a "Discussion/Information" item prior to the item being placed on the following commission agenda as an "Action" item will ultimately lead to more Commission input, feedback, and will increase the amount of time it takes for change to occur.

Proposal B, consider revision to NMAA Bylaw 2.7 with the following language:

Exception: *The Board may act to authorize a referenda on an emergency basis at any time through the year with the approval of the NMAA Executive Director and/or NMAA Board President. In such cases, notice through the Annual Meeting process would not be applicable.*

The rational for this proposal is by having the NMAA Executive Director and/or NMAA Board President determine what is or is not an "emergency" item would slow the pace of change in regards to changes to the NMAA handbook.

A motion was made by Mr. Scott Affentranger to accept Proposal A with the additional wording on the referendum to state: *if not otherwise stated, Bylaw changes will be implemented on July 1 following the current school year.* Mr. MacFarlane seconded the motion. Discussion ensued, and Mr. Affentranger withdrew his motion.

A motion was made by Mr. Frazier to table the proposal, allowing time for a sub-committee to study this issue and bring to the Commission at a later date. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. A vote was taken and tabled unanimously (15-0).

**Sub-Committee members are Mr. Kurth, Mr. Evans, Mr. Barreras, Mr. Affentranger, Mr. MacFarlane*

Break: 10:35 a.m. to 10:47 a.m.

Consider revision of NMAA Bylaw 7.10 (Games/Events Interrupted): (Referendum Item) Mr. Robert Zayas, NMAA Associate Director, presented the following changes to Bylaw 7.10 as a response to questions by member schools as to whether a game that is interrupted by conditions which make it impossible to continue play (i.e. lightning, darkness, power outage, etc.) can be rescheduled. The proposed changes will create a defined policy for when games can be rescheduled from the point of interruption.

A motion was made by Mr. Sategna to accept the proposal as presented as a referenda item. Mr. Gerheart seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Consider revision of NMAA Lightning Policy by referring to the NFHS Lightning Disturbance policy in all NFHS rule books in place of having a New Mexico specific policy: (Referendum Item) Mr. Robert Zayas, NMAA Associate Director, presented the proposal to utilize the NFHS Lightning Disturbance policy to create more consistency and provide easier access to the lightning policy by officials during games; eliminating confusion amongst member schools, coaches and officials. A motion was made by Mr. Brian Stacy to accept the policy as presented as a referenda. Mr. MacFarlane seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Sports Specific Action Items

Spirit: Ms. Kristin Derr, NMAA Assistant Director, presented a proposal on behalf of the Spirit Sports Specific Committee to consider the implementation of a standard team entry fee for regular season spirit competitions of \$5.00 per athlete, not to exceed \$100 per team. (Referendum Item)

The NMAA staff has concerns pertaining to standard entry fees for other sporting events as well (i.e. invitational tournaments, out of state tournaments, etc.). A motion was made by Mr. Martin to table this item to allow additional discussion of this proposal. Mr. Sayre seconded the motion. A vote was taken and was tabled (13-2).

Wrestling: Mr. Corey Anderson, Cleveland High School head wrestling coach, presenting on behalf of the Wrestling Sports Specific Committee, proposed adjusting 5A wrestling state qualifying from 14 entries to 16 entries by adding 2 "wild cards." A motion was made by Mr. Affentranger to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Sategna seconded the motion. A vote was taken and did not pass (2-13).

Mr. Corey Anderson, Cleveland High School head wrestling coach, presenting on behalf of the Wrestling Sports Specific Committee, proposed to adjust the wrestling event limits point system to change 2 day multi-school events with no or limited elimination from 6 points to 5 points. Mr. Johnson asked for a motion to accept the proposal as presented. No motion was made. Item died due to a lack of motion.

Tennis: Mrs. Sally Marquez, NMAA Associate Director, presenting on behalf of the Tennis Sports Specific Committee, asked the Commission to consider the addition of two at-large team selections to the Class 4A and 5A state boys and girls tennis championship bracket; bringing the total of teams to 12. A motion was made by Mr. Barreras to table the item as presented. Mr. Affentranger seconded the motion. A vote was taken and was tabled unanimously (15-0).

Baseball: Mr. Kenny Barreras, Albuquerque Public Schools District Athletic Director, presenting on behalf of the Baseball Sports Specific Committee, proposed to consider mandating the use of wood/composite wood bats in the sport of baseball for the 2011-2012 school year. (Referendum Item)

The rationale is as follows: In 2012, the NFHS will begin implementing new bat standards on aluminum bats. All aluminum bats must adhere to BBCOR certification. This change will mean that schools/athletes now need to purchase new BBCOR bats for the 2011-2012 school year. Mr. Tillman made a motion to accept the proposal as presented as a referenda item, with the addition of the words, "as a one year experiment at the high school level." Mr. Fazier seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

General Discussion/Information Items

NMAA Referenda Results: Mr. Robert Zayas, NMAA Associate Director, presented the results from the April 22nd referenda. The results were as follows:

- 82 NMAA member schools were in favor, while 4 member schools opposed the changing/modifying of NMAA bylaw to standardize the pool play pay scale for volleyball officials to \$15.00 per pool play match.
- 66 NMAA member schools were in favor, while 2 member schools opposed the changing/modifying of implementing the NMAA Soccer Bylaw to read, "*Sub-varsity games are considered an official game at the end of regulation, regardless if the game is tied.*"
- 77 NMAA member schools were in favor, while 5 member schools opposed the changing/modifying of the selection process for football playoff officials as follows:

- 1) Varsity Regional Assignors will provide a list of eligible officials (at all positions) to the NMAA office prior to August 15th of each year.
- 2) The list of eligible white hats (Referees) will be sent to coaches by the NMAA office on August 15th.
- 3) Coaches will rank "acceptable" white hats in order of preference. They must list a minimum of eight preferred white hats, with minimally one coming from each region. This list is due back to the NMAA office no later than October 1st of each year.
- 4) Prior to each playoff contest, if there are no common officials between two coaches, the NMAA Assistant Director in charge of football will contact the coaches to see if they can agree on a white hat. If there is no agreement, the NMAA office will select the crew for that contest.
- 5) Due to coaches picking multiple acceptable white hats, the NMAA office will have more control of game dissemination/distribution.
- 6) If a coach does not submit a list by the October 1st deadline, he/she has no input into playoff assignments.

Private/Public Member Schools: Mr. Gary Tripp, NMAA Executive Director, informed the board of the creation of a Private/Public School Committee to discuss and resolve issues brought before the NMAA.

Student Participation and Missed Classroom Instruction: Mr. Gary Tripp, NMAA Executive Director, discussed a high number of academic ineligible students due to the large amounts of school time missed to participate in the sport of golf. The topic will be discussed with the NMAA Board of Directors during the June 9, 2011 meeting.

Alignment and Classification (June 9th Appeals/Future): Mr. Robert Zayas, NMAA Associate Director, presented the appeals form and the future timeline for alignment and classification as follows:

Summer 2011: NMAA Staff development of potential alignment and classification process and procedures.

Fall 2011: Board review of potential alignment and classification process and procedures.

December 2011: Board approval of alignment and classification process and procedures.

Fall 2012: Utilize 80-Day enrollment count for 2014-2015, 2015-2016 block.

2013-2014: Scheduling for the 2014-2015.

There will be approximately 20 appeals during the June 9th Board of Director's meeting.

2011-2012 NMAA Calendar of Events: Mr. Robert Zayas, NMAA Associate Director, informed the Commission that the calendar will be available solely online during the 2011-2012 school year, resulting in a savings of \$5,000. He stated that the Board and Commission meeting dates will be determined during the June 9th Board of Directors meeting.

Life of An Athlete Update: Mr. Robert Zayas, NMAA Associate Director, stated that approximately 7,300 individuals have taken the course nationwide, with over 5,000 of those being from New Mexico.

Coaches Education: Mr. Scott Evans, NMAA Assistant Director, presented a proposal to add First Aid and CPR education to Coaching Licensure. Mr. Evans will present the information during the Mandatory Athletic Director's meeting in July, 2011.

Ejection Process for Students and Coaches (2011-2012). Mr. Randy Adrian, Assistant Director, presented the 2010-2011 ejection totals for the school year. Ejection essays written by students will now be the responsibility of the School/Athletic Director and not the NMAA.

Amateur Status: Sally Marquez, NMAA Associate Director, presented an NFHS survey concerning school/team/booster club gifts and policies from various states, for review. This item will be placed on the next Commission agenda for further discussion.

NMAA Foundation Golf Tournament: Mr. Gary Tripp, NMAA Executive Director, presented information regarding the NMAA Foundation Golf Tournament to be held on May 26, 2011 at Desert Greens Golf Course in Albuquerque.

Consider Adjournment:

Mr. Johnson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:40 p.m. A motion was made by Mr. Barreras. Mr. Stacy seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (15-0).

Next Commission Meeting Date will be determined at the June 9th Board of Directors meeting.