



Upon direction of the Board of Directors, the New Mexico Activities Association is asking member schools to vote on the issue below. Please read through the entire referendum before selecting your response. Thank you for your participation in the governance of your organization and for your support of interscholastic activities.

### NEW - Game Cancellation/Reschedule Policy for Officials' Pay

This proposal would put a written policy in place for games that are cancelled/rescheduled without notification to the assignor/officiating crew.

PART A: In the event games are cancelled or rescheduled (dates or times), it is the home school's responsibility to inform the Varsity Regional Assignor or sub-varsity assignor and the NMAA, in writing, at least 24 hours in advance unless unforeseen circumstances occur (i.e., weather, facility, transportation issues). Failure to make this notification will result in the school being responsible for the payment of contest officials. This includes the game fee and mileage/meal/per diem, where applicable.

PART B: The AD, Athletic Coordinator or Athletic Secretary for the host school AND the officials assigned are expected to confirm scheduled games with one another approximately three days in advance of each contest.

**Rationale:** There is currently no written provision in the NMAA Handbook that covers this incident and it seems to recur more often now than in years past. With the shortage of officials, we need to make sure we do not have officials assigned to games that do not exist so they can be given a different assignment.



We Favor

We Do Not Favor

### This box must be completed by all member schools.

Print Name of Official Voter	Signature of Official Voter
Print Name of Superintendent/Head of School	Signature of Superintendent/Head of School
School	District/Classification

### Due date is March 12, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.



#### NMAA OFFICIAL BALLOT SENIOR HIGH REFERENDUM

February 26, 2019



### Due Date: March 12, 2019

Upon direction of the Board of Directors, the New Mexico Activities Association is asking member schools to vote on the issue below. Please read through the entire referendum before selecting your response. Thank you for your participation in the governance of your organization and for your support of interscholastic activities.

### Middle School / Junior High Bylaw 9.3.R – Student Following a Coach

This proposal would clarify that students who transfer to follow a coach at the middle school level will be ineligible for high school participation for both the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade school years. (Erased language is stricken; New language is underlined.)

9.3.R: The transfer/residency requirement is implemented as a means to discourage recruitment and reduce the opportunity for undue influence. Beginning with the summer prior to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade, if a student participates on a non-school team (i.e. AAU, American Legion, club settings, summer program, etc.) that is affiliated with or coached by a coach associated with that same sport at a school other than the one the Student attends or has attended, and then transfers to that school, regardless of change in bona fide residence, it will be assumed that the Student has been recruited to attend that school or transferred to that school for athletic reasons, and the Student will be ineligible for all high school athletic participation for 180 school days/365 calendar days <u>both the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade</u> in the Student's bona fide residence, it will be assumed that the Student days and he/she will be ineligible there for all high school athletic participation for 180 school athletic participation for 180 school days/365 calendar days <u>both the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade</u> and he/she will be ineligible there for all high school athletic participation for 180 school days/365 calendar days/365 calendar days <u>both the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade</u> and he/she will be ineligible there for all high school athletic participation for 180 school days/365 calendar days/365 calendar days <u>both the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade</u> and he/she will be ineligible there for all high school athletic participation for 180 school days/365 calendar days <u>both the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade</u> school years.

**Rationale:** Students who follow a coach while in middle school can currently sit their 180/365 penalty at the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level by making their 8<sup>th</sup> grade open enrollment choice thus retaining four years of varsity eligibility. This has become a loophole for schools who allow 8<sup>th</sup> grade participation and has not helped deter students from following a coach. The intent of the rule has always been to rule students who follow a coach ineligible for a year once officially enrolled in high school.



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Scholastic Eligibility Bylaw 6.2.1 – Cumulative Provision (10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

This proposal would adjust scholastic eligibility bylaws so that the cumulative provision could only be used for students in grades 10-12.

6.2.1 (new verbiage is bolded)

c. Cumulative provision

1. A student who is ineligible at the end of a semester may utilize the cumulative provision.

2. Only semester grades can be used, and all semester grades starting with the 9th grade year must be utilized. (The cumulative provision cannot be used for 9<sup>th</sup> or middle school/junior high Students.)

**Rationale:** The intent of the cumulative provision is for a student-athlete to gain eligibility by using multiple semester grades. It was not intended for 9<sup>th</sup> graders with only one semester of grades.

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## Section 14 (Appendices) of NMAA Handbook – Scrimmage Definition

This proposal would adjust the definition of a scrimmage within Section 14 of the NMAA Handbook.

Scrimmage (new verbiage in bold) – A practice competition between two (2) or more schools where time and score are not kept, admission is not charged, and paid officials are not used (officials must work without pay, are beginning or registered officials, and are secured locally). A team or individual is allowed one (1) scrimmage day per sport which must occur prior to the school's first game/match/contest in that sport. **Participants must meet minimum practice requirements before scrimmaging.** The pre-season scrimmage does not count toward game limitations.

**Rationale:** This update clarifies that there is a "days of practice" requirement prior to an individual participating in a scrimmage.

We Do Not Favor

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#### NMAA Rules Clinic Bylaw 3.6.1 (and in other areas of NMAA Handbook)

This proposal would adjust bylaws so that required NMAA Rules Clinics would be hosted either inperson or online. This will be done so on a rotational basis by sport so that coaches will not have to attend an in-person clinic every year.

3.6.1 (and in other places throughout the handbook) – Deadline for all head coaches to complete the district clinic **in person or** online at www.nmact.org **depending on the sport**.

\*NEW VERBIAGE IS BOLDED

**Rationale:** Since going to online rules clinics exclusively, we have seen a breakdown in communication between coaches and officials. In-person rules clinics will better ensure an understanding of NMAA rules and points of emphasis while also enhancing the professional relationship between both parties. Mandatory in-person rules clinics will occur every other year on a sport by sport basis.

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