



NMAA OFFICIAL BALLOT
SENIOR HIGH REFERENDUM
September 19, 2019



Due Date: October 3, 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.

Foreign Student / International Student Exchange Participant Bylaw 6.8.2.A

This proposal would adjust bylaws so that directly placed foreign exchange students will be eligible at the sub-varsity level only.

6.8.2.A (new verbiage is bolded)

A. International Student Exchange Participant:

*Eligible immediately if the Student is participating in a formal program sanctioned through the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET) **and is not directly placed by the CSIET program. Directly placed foreign exchange students will be eligible at the sub-varsity level only.** Students who receive a foreign exchange waiver are eligible to participate in NMAA sanctioned athletic events for a period of one calendar school year. If they return for a second year to the host school or any other member school, they are ineligible to participate in NMAA sanctioned athletic events.*

Rationale: Directly placed foreign exchange students have not been through the regular foreign exchange program for placement. This process could lead to "recruitment" or "shopping around" for a school and/or athletic program.

☐

We Favor

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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 October 3, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

*This ballot, with both signatures affixed, must be received in the NMAA office by 4:00 p.m. Please fax completed referenda to Mindy loane at (505) 923-3114. **Please note that if either signature above is missing, the ballot will not be counted.** Contact Dusty Young (dusty@nmact.org) if you have any questions regarding this referendum.*



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Membership Bylaw 2.3.4 – Activity Organizations

This proposal would adjust membership bylaws pertaining to the sanctioning/addition of activities. NOTE – this would be an amendment to the NMAA Constitution, thus it will require approval from a 2/3 majority of voting schools.

2.3.4 Activity Organizations (new verbiage is bolded)

Activity organizations may be admitted to the Association if 10% of the membership's high schools agree to participate (See Bylaw 4.2.1) and if approved by the Commission and Board of Directors. A copy of their constitution and bylaws must be submitted. Activity organizations have no vote in the election of officers for the Association.

Rationale: The current verbiage listed in Bylaw 2.3.4 does not reflect a vote of approval from the NMAA Commission/Board.

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Bylaws 7.4.2 & 7.4.3 – Undue Influence

This proposal would add an additional sanction for undue influence violations. Similar to out-of-season coaching violations, a \$2,500/\$5,000 fine would be assessed to the school for the coach's actions

Bylaws 7.4.2 & 7.4.3 (new verbiage is bolded)

7.4.2 Violations for Out-of-Season Coaching During the School Year **and/or Undue Influence by a Coach*

*Violation of **either of these rules** will result in the following sanctions:*

First Offense: The member school will be fined \$2,500.00, which must be paid by the member school prior to its participation in any further contests in that particular sport. The coach, who is in violation, will be instructed to adhere to this rule.

Second Offense: The member school will be fined \$5,000.00, which must be paid by the member school prior to its participation in any further contests in that particular sport. The NMAA will also contact the Public Education Department Licensing Division and inform them of the offending coach's "unethical practices" in connection with his or her coaching license.

**7.4.3 Undue Influence of a Student*

*The use of any of the following inducements by any person directly or indirectly associated with a student or school, including adults and parents, to secure or encourage the attendance of a student for athletic purposes constitutes undue influence, resulting in ineligibility for all high school athletic participation for 180 school days/365 calendar days. **If a coach is directly associated with undue influence, the member school will be fined \$2,500/\$5,000 (See Bylaw 7.4.2).***

Rationale: Although we have a strong undue influence rule and are taking steps to penalize recruiting both directly and indirectly, the bylaw has sanctions posed upon the student-athlete only. This addition will sanction the member school for the coach's actions.

☐

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