
14.2 HISTORICAL DATES/PRESIDENTS/EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

- 1911 First Track and Field Day. The three schools participating were: Albuquerque High, Albuquerque Indian School and Menaul School.
- 1913 First Invitational Track Host, held by University of New Mexico. In March the University of New Mexico sent out invitations to various high schools in New Mexico to be their guests at a State Interscholastic Track and Field Meet.
- 1915 First Invitational Tennis Meet held by University of New Mexico.
- 1916 First Basketball Tournament held in conjunction with State Track Meet. Four teams were entered: Alamogordo, Albuquerque, Belen and Tucumcari.
- 1919 First Invitational Basketball Tournament held by University of New Mexico.
- 1921 The Association was organized. The original name was New Mexico High School Athletic Association. The state was divided into four districts. The following men were instrumental in organizing the schools into an Association: John Milne, Albuquerque; James Bickley, Clovis; F.H. Lynn, Las Cruces; and J.D. Shinkle, Roswell.
- 1922 NMHSAA sponsored championships in basketball, tennis and track and field.
- 1925 NMHSAA expanded to 8 districts.
- 1927 First Invitational High School Golf Meet hosted by University of New Mexico.
- 1932 The Association became a member of the National Federation of State High School Athletic Associations.
- 1933 First State Singles Championship in Golf sponsored by the NMHSAA.
- 1934 First Invitational Baseball Tournament hosted by University of New Mexico.
- 1936-39 Gateway Bowl at Artesia, matched East and West teams for mythical Championship in football.
- 1940 NMHSAA added State Championship in baseball.
- 1946 Newspapers started selecting mythical football champions.
- 1949 NMHSAA added competition in the pentathlon, a physical fitness activity.
- 1950 First full time Executive Secretary. The office was in Roswell.
- 1950 NMHSAA divided football schools into three conferences; based on points acquired by compiling records of opponents played, conference champions were named.
- 1951 NMHSAA added State Team Championship in golf.
- 1952 The Association's office was moved to Albuquerque.
- 1953 Football schools organized into 4 conferences with leagues and official champions declared by play-offs. (AA, A, B, C)
- 1953 The Association was expanded to include non-athletic activities. The name was changed to New Mexico High School Activities Association.

- 1953 Coaches and Officials Association separated and each became a separate division of the Activities Association.
- 1954 Music Educators Association and Chess were added.
- 1954 The schools were divided into two conferences for basketball, baseball and track.
- 1955 Speech and Drama added as an activity.
- 1956 First Invitational State Wrestling Tournament sponsored by Albuquerque High School.
- 1957 First official State Wrestling Tournament held at New Mexico Highlands University.
- 1959 The following organizations became members of the Association: Cheerleaders, Future Teachers of America, Student Council and Student Council Sponsors.
- 1960 Cross Country added with the schools divided into two conferences.
- 1960 Two-man Championship in golf added.
- 1960 The State Board of Education ruled that all interscholastic activities be part of the Association and subject to its supervision and regulations.
- 1961 Junior High Division became a member organization.
- 1961 The Association's name was changed to New Mexico Activities Association.
- 1961 Gymnastics competition was added. (Boys and Girls)
- 1961 Future Farmers of America and Future Homemakers of America became members.
- 1963 The schools were divided into three conferences for baseball and track. (AA, A, B)
- 1964 NMAA was incorporated.
- 1964 The schools were divided into two conferences, AA and A-B for golf competition.
- 1964 The schools were divided into three conferences, AA, A and B for Cross Country.
- 1964 The schools were divided into two conferences, AA, A and B for tennis.
- 1964 The schools were divided into three conferences for basketball.
- 1965 The State Science Fair program became a member organization.
- 1967 Distributive Education Clubs of America became a member organization (DECA).
- 1967 The position of Assistant Executive Secretary was created.
- 1968 Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Office Education Association (OEA), (now known as Business Professionals of America BPA), and Vocational Industrial Clubs of America (VICA) became member organizations.
- 1968 The schools were divided into two conferences, AA and A-B, for wrestling.
- 1968 State championship in Decathlon (track and field) added.

- 1970 Conference designations changed from AA, A, B and C to A, AA, AAA and AAAA.
- 1970 State meet in girls swimming added.
- 1971 50th Anniversary of the Association.
- 1972 Pentathlon competition discontinued.
- 1973 State meets/tournaments in girls' basketball, golf, tennis, track and field, and volleyball added (open conference).
- 1973 The position of Second Assistant for girls' activities was created.
- 1974 Girls volleyball divided into two conferences A-AA and AAA-AAAA.
- 1974 Two-man golf championship discontinued.
- 1974 Future Business Leaders dropped.
- 1974 The Association's office was moved from the University of New Mexico campus and a building was purchased that was located on Thaxton, SE in Albuquerque.
- 1974 Officials Commissioner System for assigning football and basketball officials was created by the schools.
- 1975 Drill Team Association became a member organization.
- 1975 The Assistant for boys' athletics became the State Commissioner for officials.
- 1975 Girls basketball and track and field were divided into two conferences, A-AA and AAA-AAAA.
- 1975 Decathlon competition discontinued.
- 1975 Health Occupations State Student Organization became a member organization.
- 1976 Boys Basketball and boys' Track and Field were divided into four conferences, A, AA, AAA and AAAA.
- 1976 NMAA committee structure revised.
- 1976 Girls softball added (open conference).
- 1976 Future Teachers organization dropped.
- 1977 The schools were divided into four conferences for girls' basketball and track and field, A, AA, AAA and AAAA.
- 1979 Girls state cross country added, two conferences, A-AAA and AAAA.
- 1979 Girls softball divided into two conferences, A-AA and AAA-AAAA.
- 1979 Industrial Arts Association and Athletic Directors Association became member organizations.
- 1981 Drama Association dropped.
- 1981 Girls softball divided into three conferences A-AA, AAA and AAAA.
- 1981 First state championship in soccer, boys and girls (two boys' conferences A-AA and AAA-AAAA, one girls' conference A-AAAA).

- 1981 Girls cross country divided into three conferences, A-AA, AAA and AAAA.
- 1982 State legislation passed to include the New Mexico Activities Association employees in the teachers retirement program (ERA).
- 1983 Formation of an independent football league.
- 1983 Boys Soccer divided into two conferences: A-AAA and AAAA.
- 1987 Six-man football brought under the jurisdiction of the NMAA.
- 1988 The position of Assistant to the Director was created.
- 1990 Assistant Director for Non-Athletic/Academic Activities added.
- 1991 At-large member added to the Executive Committee.
- 1992 The new NMAA offices and Hall of Pride and Honor opened.
- 1993 Format for Girls and Boys Tennis expanded.
- 1994 Expansion of AAA to 6 districts and AAAA to 5 districts.
- 1995 New Mexico High School Coaches Association member added to Executive Committee.
- 1995 Class AA football reduced from 5 districts to 4.
- 1996 New Mexico Officials Association member added to Executive Committee.
- 1996 75th Anniversary of the Association.
- 1997 NMAA Board of Directors succeeds Executive Committee as governing body of the Association as part of a restructuring process.
- 1997 Regions formed in A-AA Baseball, Championships formed in A-AA/AAA Softball and A-AAA Girls Soccer.
- 1998 NMAA structure modified – Board of Directors succeeded the Executive Committee. A Commission, Athletic Council and Activities Council were also formed.
- 1998 Football Districts re-aligned.
- 1999 Board of Directors approves five classifications (A, AA, AAA, AAAA and AAAAA), effective with the 2000-2001 school year. Established four classification categories (primary multiple, multiple, modified merged and merged) as part of a reclassification and realignment effort. Also starts regionals in certain sports.
- 1999 Electronic on-line reporting and recording system implemented for injuries, beginning of school information, voting, season reports, etc.
- 2000 Adopted classification system that divided schools into two tiers (Tier I, A and AA classes) and Tier II, AAA, AAAA and AAAAA classes). Tier II schools (AAA, AAAA and AAAAA) moved to four districts each. Regionals adopted for Tier II schools as well.
- 2003 Alternate governance system adopted.
- 2003 A mandatory one-time assessment fee was given to the member schools to help with budgetary concerns.

- 2004 Creation of new NMAA Bylaws/Handbook.
- 2004 Creation of Sport Specific Committees.
- 2004 The first seeding process adopted and utilized in the sport of soccer.
- 2004 Elimination of the tier system.
- 2005 Seeding process utilized for the first time since the inception of the State Basketball Championship in 1919.
- 2006 Launch of new NMAA Website.
- 2006 No regionals in Class A/AA, format is now first round of state competition.
- 2006 New Mexico Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) position added to the Commission.
- 2006 Pool Play added to Volleyball State Championships.
- 2007 Bowling, NMJROTC, Rodeo and Choir added to the listing of NMAA sanctioned activities.
- 2007 NMAA Foundation created.
- 2009 Board of directors approves six classifications (B, A, AA, AAA, AAAA, AAAAA) beginning with the 2010-2011 school year.
- 2010 Established the Life of an Athlete underage drinking awareness program.
- 2010 Senate Bill 1 introduced mandating brain injury protocols in schools.
- 2010 Spirit classified as a sport.
- 2010 Seeding and Selection assigned to NMAA staff.
- 2011 Varsity ineligibility increased from 90 school days to 180 school days for transfer students.
- 2011 Wooden bats approved for use in Baseball.
- 2012 Max Preps Rankings approved as a seeding and selection criteria.
- 2013 Board of Directors approves a reclassification, which maintains six classifications, but changes class B to class A, effective for the 2014-2015 school year.
- 2014 Football Practice Regulations limiting contact implemented.
- 2014 Compete with Class sportsmanship initiative created.
- 2014 NMAA Opportunity Fund created.
- 2015 Football "Experience" Rule implemented.
- 2016 Established Student Advisory Council.
- 2016 First Aid added to Level 1 and 2 Coaching Licensure.
- 2016 Senate Bill 137 introduced amending SB1 brain injury protocols in schools and extending the scope to non-scholastic athletic entities.

- 2017 Educators Rising becomes a sanctioned activity.
- 2017 Baseball Pitch Count regulation implemented.
- 2017 Senate Bill 38 introduced amending SB137 to include annual student-athlete brain injury training.
- 2017 New NMAA logo introduced.
- 2017 New NMAA website launched.
- 2017 Board of Directors approves a contraction of classes from six to five (A, AA, AAA, AAAA, AAAAA) in all sports but football beginning with the 2018-2019 school year.
- 2018 Scholastic eligibility requirements revised to include a no “F” policy and semester grade checks beginning with the 2018-2019 school year.
- 2018 ESports becomes a sanctioned activity.
- 2019 STEM Challenge becomes a sanctioned activity.
- 2019 Girls Wrestling becomes a sanctioned sport.
- 2020 Pool Play removed from the Volleyball State Championships.
- 2020 First Girls’ Wrestling State Championship held.
- 2020 Covid-19 pandemic forces the cancellation of all Spring Sport State Championships as well as the Spirit State Championships for the 2019-2020 school year. The pandemic also forces the adjustment of all 2020-2021 sports calendars.
- 2020 Powerlifting approved as an activity on a temporary basis due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 2021 Covid-19 pandemic forces the postponement of all sports until March of 2021. Abbreviated seasons were completed in all 13 sanctioned sports and State Championships were held in every sport but football, which held bowl games. The final State Championship events finished the final weekend in June.
- 2022 NMHSCA All-Star Games approved to be held during the school year.
- 2022 Out-of-Season Coaching regulations amended to provide more local authority to schools/districts.
- 2022 Undue Influence and recruiting regulations expanded.
- 2022 Powerlifting elevated to sanctioned sport beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.
- 2023 Sportsmanship bylaws expanded to address egregious acts of unsportsmanlike conduct by fans and/or teams.
- 2023 Travel rings approved as the mechanism for contest Official mileage and per diem fees.
- 2023 Amateurism rules expanded to allow students to use their name, image or likeness for commercial endorsements, provided there is no school, school team, or NMAA affiliation.
- 2023 Senate Bill 450 introduced mandating CPR/AED certification for coaches.

NMAA PRESIDENTS

The New Mexico Activities Association has been led by a succession of public school superintendents in the role of president. These interscholastic leaders, selected in a variety of methods over the past 77 years, have served without remuneration, and made a commitment to the philosophy of interscholastic education and the goals of the Association. They have represented school districts of widely varying sizes from all regions of the state.

1921-1922	Addison Moore, Albuquerque
1923	Unknown
1924-1925	Charles Redick, Gallup
1926	W.L. Trimble, Raton
1927	Charles Redick, Gallup
1928	F.H. Lynn, Deming
1929-1932	Unknown
1933	J.O. Shinkle, Roswell
1934-1935	George "Blanco" White, Carlsbad
1936	J.P. Steiner, Portales
1937-1939	Glenn Ream, Albuquerque
1940-1946	R.P. Sweeney, Santa Fe
1947-1948	W.J. Robertson, Las Vegas
1949-1950	Paul Deaton, Roswell
1951-1953	Glenn McCracken, McCurdy
1954-1960	Kenneth Kostenbader, Silver City
1960-1965	Ray Lofton, Ft. Sumner
1965-1975	R.E. Karlin, Central
1975-1983	William Slade, Tularosa
1983-1989	Ross Black, Lovington
1989-1990	Edward Ortiz, Santa Fe
1990-1992	Jesse Gonzales, Las Cruces
1992-1997	Pal Austin, Clayton
1997-1998	Joe Lopez, Cuba
1998	Michael Grossman, Belen
1999-2001	Michael Dorame, Tularosa
2002	James Magee, Aztec
2002	Sue Cleveland, Rio Rancho
2003	Jack Wiley, Clayton
2004	Neil Nuttall, Clovis
2005	Harry Hayes, Bloomfield
2006-2012	Mike Phipps, Artesia
2012-2014	Janel Ryan, Farmington
2014- 2021	TJ Parks, Hobbs
2021-Present	Anthony Casados, Chama Valley

NMAA EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

The New Mexico Activities Association has for nearly five decades, employed an executive director to provide its administrative leadership. The position has been filled by seven (7) individuals who have made long-term commitments to the organization and the mission of interscholastic activities in perspective.

1950-1951	Morris Ward, Roswell
1952-1974	U. G. Montgomery, Albuquerque
1974-1986	James Odle, Albuquerque
1986-2003	Dan Salzwedel, Albuquerque
2003-2004	Karen Honeycutt, Albuquerque (interim)
2004-2012	Gary Tripp, Rio Rancho
2012- Present	Sally Marquez, Albuquerque