



NMAA State Tournament Officials' Selection & Assignment Process



Baseball

- There is no formal pre-season exclusion process for baseball. However, the NMAA office and its local assignors do take into consideration any problems or concerns coaches or Athletic Directors express to the NMAA in its pre-season and post-season assignment process.
- Umpires must hold a **State Eligible** rating with the New Mexico Officials Association in order to be considered for the NMAA State Championships. Officials with either a **State Eligible** or **Playoff Eligible** rating may work the first round of the state championships.
- Coaches have the opportunity to provide input on the Arbiter throughout the season. This information is the coaches' mechanism for providing input into state umpires.
- Input is received from group leaders and assignors for the selection of umpires in baseball.
- If coaches participate actively in the feedback process, input is weighted evenly among group leader/assignor input and coaches' input. If coaches do not participate, we rely on the input of the assignors and group leaders.
- The NMAA Director of Baseball and Commissioner of Officials give final approval of the state baseball championships umpiring crew.
- At the NMAA State Baseball Championships (quarterfinals through finals):
 - 1) Coaches may exclude two of the umpires from the state pool once selections are made.
 - 2) Assignments for games at the state championships (quarterfinals through championships) are made accordingly:
 - a. If two schools from the same region participate against each other, that contest can be assigned a crew from that region. For example, if two schools from the Southeast region play, they could receive a crew comprised of three umpires from the Southeast region.
 - b. If two schools from different regions participate against each other, that contest can be assigned a crew of umpires from either of the participating regions. For example, if a Central school plays against a Northeast school, the crew could be comprised of umpires from any of the three non-participating regions (in this example, Northwest, Southeast and Southwest).
 - c. If two schools from different regions participate against each other, that contest can be assigned a split crew, comprised of one umpire from each of the participating regions, plus a site neutral umpire. The site neutral umpire would be assigned as the plate umpire. For example, if a Northwest school plays a Southwest school, the first base umpire could be from the Northwest; the third base umpire could come from the Southwest; and the plate umpire would be from one of the three non-participating regions (Central, Northeast or Southeast in this example).
 - d. Officials at the state baseball championships advance to the next round based on performance at the event. Games at the NMAA state baseball championships are evaluated by NMAA approved evaluators/umpires-in-chief.
 - e. Umpires may not work for the same school in back-to-back games. For example, if an umpire works School A's game in the quarterfinals, he/she cannot work School A's semifinal contest.

Basketball

- Coaches can exclude 5% of the officials in each region pre-season. These exclusions are honored in the post-season as well as the regular season.
- Officials must hold a **State Eligible** rating with the New Mexico Officials Association in order to be considered for the NMAA State Basketball Championships. Officials with either a **State Eligible** or **Playoff Eligible** rating may work the First Round of the State Championships. First round contests are assigned by the NMAA office.
- Basketball coaches may submit film to us throughout the season on Hudl for the purposes of evaluation and can send feedback to NMAA Executive Director Sally Marquez via email at sally@nmact.org throughout the season.
- Evaluator input is factored into the selection process. Officials must be evaluated by an NMAA evaluator in order to be eligible for state. This can be done either in person or via film and an official must be evaluated three times to be state eligible.
- Based upon all factors above, varsity regional assignors submit names of officials for consideration for the basketball state championships to the NMAA office.
- The NMAA Director of Basketball and Commissioner of Officials give final approval of the state basketball championship officiating crew.
- At the NMAA State Basketball Championships (quarterfinals through championships), crews may be assigned to contests in any one of three different ways:
 - 1) If two schools from the same region participate against each other, that contest can be assigned a crew from that region. For example, if two schools from the Southeast region play, they could receive a crew comprised of three officials from the Southeast region.

- 2) If two schools from different regions participate against each other, that contest can be assigned a crew of officials from either of the participating regions. For example, if a Central school plays against a Northeast school, the crew could be comprised of officials from any of the three non-participating regions (in this example, Northwest, Southeast and Southwest).
 - 3) If two schools from different regions participate against each other, that contest can be assigned a split crew, comprised of one official from each of the participating regions, plus a site neutral official. For example, if a Northwest school plays against a Southwest school, the crew could have one Northwest official, one Southwest official and one official from any of the other three regions.
- Officials may not work for the same school in back-to-back games. For example, if an official works School A's game in the quarterfinals, he/she cannot work School A's semifinal contest.
 - Officials at the state basketball championships advance to the next round based on performance at the event. Every game at the NMAA state basketball championships is evaluated by an NMAA approved evaluator. Assignments are made by the NMAA Commissioner of Officials, in collaboration with evaluators and varsity regional assignors.

Football

- Coaches can exclude 5% of the officials in each region pre-season. These exclusions are honored in the post-season as well as the regular season.
- Officials must hold a **State Eligible** rating with the New Mexico Officials Association in order to be considered for the NMAA State Football Championship contests. Officials with either a **State Eligible** or **Playoff Eligible** rating may work the first round through the semifinals.
- Feedback is received from coaches on the Arbiter throughout the season. This information is the coaches' mechanism for providing input into playoff officiating crews. Football coaches may also submit film to us throughout the season on Hudl for the purposes of evaluation.
- Games are disseminated by the NMAA office to the five regional assignors. Games are worked by officials from outside of the regions of the two participating schools (unless both schools are from the same region, then the NMAA office has the option of using an in-region crew).
- Officials may not work for the same school in back-to-back games. For example, if an official works School A's game in the quarterfinals, he/she cannot work School A's semifinal contest.
- The NMAA Director of Football and Commissioner of Officials give final approval of the state football playoff officiating crews.

Soccer, Softball, Volleyball, Wrestling

- There is no formal pre-season exclusion process for soccer, softball, volleyball and wrestling. However, the NMAA office and its local assignors do take into consideration any problems or concerns coaches or Athletic Directors express to the NMAA in its pre-season and post-season assignment process.
- Officials must hold a **State Eligible** rating with the New Mexico Officials Association in order to be considered for the NMAA State Championships. Officials with either a **State Eligible** or **Playoff Eligible** rating may work the first round in soccer and softball.
- Coaches have the opportunity to provide input on the Arbiter throughout the season. This information is the coaches' mechanism for providing input into playoff officiating crews.
- Input is received from group leaders and assignors for the selection of officials for these sports.
- In the sports wherein coaches participate in the feedback process, input is weighted evenly among group leader/assignor input and coaches' input. If coaches do not participate, we rely on the input of the assignors and group leaders.
- Final approval/selection of all state crews falls under the authority of the NMAA sport director and Commissioner of Officials.
- In soccer, softball and volleyball, the NMAA utilizes on-site umpires-in-chief/referees-in-chief/evaluators to observe and evaluate officials working the state championships and to determine assignments for subsequent rounds of state.