

NMAA Commission Meeting

November 20, 2024

9:00 AM

Hall of Pride and Honor

Welcome – The meeting was called to order by Mr. Gary Allison, Chairman of the Commission, at 9:00 am. A roll call was conducted by Ms. Jackie Martinez, NMAA Assistant Director, and the following members were present:

Mr. Ben Tensay (Large Area A)
Mr. Gary Allison (Small Area A) - *Chairman*
Mr. Britt Cooper (Large, Area B)
Mr. Dickie Roybal (Small, Area B)
Ms. Karen Nougues (Large, Area C)
Mr. Jory Mirabal (Small, Area C)
Ms. Robbie Robinson (Small Area D)
Mr. Adrian Ortega (Large Area D)
Ms. Taryn Bachis (Non-Public Schools)
Mr. Roy Sanchez (New Mexico High School Coaches Association)
Mr. Scott Affentranger (New Mexico Association of Secondary School Principals)
Ms. Isaac Gamboa (New Mexico High School Athletic Directors Association)
Ms. Mary Hahn (Activities Council)
Mr. Earl James Martinez (New Mexico School Boards Association)
Mr. Adrian Pete (Jr. High/Middle School Committee)
Mr. David Briseno (New Mexico Officials Association)

16 members were present representing a quorum.

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Martinez made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Tensay seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2024, Commission Meeting as presented. Ms. Robinson made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Sanchez seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

NMAA Director's Report:

Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Executive Director, discussed six (6) items in his report: 1) provided a recap of the Fall Championship season and reported on ticket sales numbers – full financial reports will not be ready until the next meeting; 2) stated that the NMAA again took part in the fall regional School Board Association meetings and promoted the importance of the athletic director role to superintendents and board members; 3) reported on the recent Commission/Board elections that took place (Commission Small Area B – Billy Burns of Logan, Board Small Area B – Matt Moyer of Fort Sumner, Board Large Area B – Gene Strickland of Hobbs); 4) welcomed the

NMAA's newest employees, Ms. Julie Sanchez who started last week and Mr. Gary Allison who will start in December – a special election for Small Area A will take place once Mr. Allison officially leaves Springer Schools; 5) thanked Mr. Allison and Mr. Roybal for their service to the NMAA Commission; 6) stated that the monthly Athletic Director meeting for December will also include an eligibility workshop.

NMAA Foundation Report:

Mr. Young discussed two (2) items in his report: 1) provided an update on the NMAA Foundation School Grant/Support program; and 2) stated that the NMAA Foundation Scholarship Application Portal is now open and over \$80,000 will be awarded to students in the spring.

NMAA Activities Report:

Ms. Martinez presented the activities report. She discussed two (2) items on her report: 1) provided a recap of the State One Act Production Competition that took place at Rio Rancho High School earlier in the month; and 2) reported that all other activity state events will take place in the spring.

New Mexico Officials Association Report:

Mr. Carl Vigil, NMAA Commissioner of Officials, presented the officials report. He discussed seven (7) items in his report: 1) provided information regarding the NMOA Executive Board; 2) discussed the start of basketball, clinics/meetings, and new NFHS Rules; 3) thanked athletic directors and assignors for their flexibility and patience in rescheduling district volleyball matches and state football games due to weather; 4) stated that the first assignors meeting for winter sports just took place; 5) reported on state championship officials for volleyball, soccer, and football – thanked all assignors and officials' leaders for their help with each event; 6) provided information regarding officials' numbers for basketball and other winter sports; 7) reported that DragonFly is now being used as a medium for officials to access videos, rules exams, and other training opportunities. Mr. Pete asked for information regarding assistance from the NMAA with camps in the NW area of the state. He also asked for the NMAA to consider travel fees for line judges working the State Volleyball Championships.

General Discussion/Informational Items:

Assigning Coordinators - Mr. Zac Stevenson, NMAA Director of Officials Services and Sports, discussed two items pertaining to assigning coordinators: 1) asked for feedback regarding potential challenges with sub-varsity assignors – the group felt things were okay from the school level; 2) stated that some concerns have been brought to the NMAA regarding additional fees being charged for regular season tournaments – feedback was that this seemed to be an isolated issue. The NMAA will continue to monitor both items.

State Marching Band - Mr. Stevenson reported on the inaugural State Marching Band championships. He thanked Rio Rancho High School for hosting the event and provided information regarding participant numbers, awards winners, and attendance. The date and venue for next year has already been solidified and even more schools are expected to attend. This could lead to potential changes in format and/or location.

Middle School Cross Country - Ms. Martinez provided information for the NMAA's inaugural Middle School Cross Country Meet. She reported on school and student participant numbers, race winners, attendance, overall successes of the event and thanked St. Pius X HS for hosting the event. Mr. Young stated that the event was very well received by the membership and that the NMAA will continue to explore the addition of middle school events in other sports.

Commission Officers - Mr. Young stated that due to Mr. Allison's departure from the Commission, the Chairperson seat will become vacant and per NMAA bylaws, Vice Chair Scott Affentranger will assume the role until a new chair is elected. NMAA legal counsel recommended that the Commission determine if a special election should occur in February of 2025 to determine the new chair, or if Mr. Affentranger should assume the role until the next regular election set for August/September of 2025. Feedback from multiple members was to have Mr. Affentranger assume the Chairperson role through the next election and that a special election for a temporary Vice Chair take place at the February meeting.

Action Items

Softball: State Tournament Format - Mr. Scott Owen, NMAA Assistant Director, presented a proposal to amend the State Softball Tournament format to complete both the First Round and Quarterfinals at the home of the top seed in each quarter bracket.

7.18.4 State Tournament Information: (underlined language added)

A. Dates Week #45 Seeding and First Round and Quarterfinals for all Classes 4A-5A. Week #46 Consolations, Semifinals, Finals for all Classes 4A-5A.

B. Qualifying Information 1. In all classes, the District Champion advances to the NMAA State Tournament. The remainder of the field will be filled with at-large selections.

C. Tournament Format 1. Class A/2A & 3A – Twelve (12) teams advance to the NMAA State Tournament. a. Top 4 seeds earn an automatic bye into the double elimination bracket. b. Bottom 8 seeds will play a single elimination "play-in" game. c. The remaining 8 teams will play a double elimination tournament. d. The top seed in each quarter bracket will host the First Round and Quarterfinals during Week #45. e. All remaining state games will be conducted at NMAA designated sites during Week #46. 2. Class 4A & 5A – Sixteen (16) teams advance to the NMAA State Tournament. a. The first round of 16 will be single elimination held at the home of the higher seed. b. The remaining 8 teams will play a double elimination tournament at an NMAA designated site. c. The top seed in each quarter bracket will host the First Round and Quarterfinals during Week #45. d. All remaining state games will be conducted at NMAA designated sites during Week #46.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Martinez made the motion to approve the proposal. Ms. Bachis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed (14-2).

Wrestling: Officials Fees - Mr. Owen presented a proposal to amend regular season wrestling officials' fee schedule by increasing the per hour rate by \$5 and removing the 8-hour tournament cap.

5.2.2 OFFICIALS' FEES – CURRENT Wrestling \$60/official – Duals, Tris and Quads – \$60 for 1st dual, \$25/hour after 1st dual (max of 4 schools) \$100 Minimum (up to 4 hours) – Tournaments (5 schools or more) – \$25/hour for every hour over 4, up to a max of 8 hours (\$200 max for the day) \$250/day – State Meet Referee(s)
5.2.2 OFFICIALS' FEES – PROPOSED Wrestling \$65/official – Duals, Tris and Quads – \$65 for 1st hour, \$30/hour after 1st hour (max of 4 schools) \$120 Minimum (up to 4 hours) – Tournaments (5 schools or more) – \$30/hour for every hour over 4 \$250/day – State Meet Referee(s).

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Affentranger made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Gamboa seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Tennis: State Tournament Seeding - Mr. Owen presented a proposal to seed the top 6 teams with the remaining 6 teams selected drawn in and to separate district teams in the first round. Mr. Allison asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Bachis made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Sanchez seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Esports: Consider Overwatch as Approved Title - Mr. Young presented a proposal to consider the adoption of Overwatch 2 as an approved Esports title at the high school level beginning with the 2025-2026 school year. Mr. Allison asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Martinez made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Mirabal seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Bylaw 3.11.1: Game Contracts - Mr. Young presented a proposal to clarify that game contracts may only be entered into agreement by school administration or a designated athletic coordinator. Bylaw 3.11.1 Contracts/Guarantees shall read only the administrative head or legally designated coordinator may enter into contracts, pay guarantees or officials, or make final arrangements for events. Mr. Allison asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Ortega requested an amendment to the proposal to change "administrative head" to athletic administrator. Mr. Roybal made a motion to approve the amended proposal. Mr. Gamboa seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Consider Adjournment

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Tensay made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:18 a.m. Mr. Sanchez seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (16-0).

Next Commission Meeting - February 5, 2025