

NMAA Board of Directors' Meeting

December 12, 2024

10:30 a.m.

NMAA Hall of Pride and Honor

Welcome - Meeting called to order by Mr. Anthony Casados, NMAA Board of Directors President, at 10:30a.m. Ms. Alissa Wesbrook, NMAA Assistant to the Executive Director, conducted roll call and the following members were present:

Mr. Anthony Casados (Small Area A - President)
Mr. Cody Diehl (Large Area A)
Mr. Matt Moyer (Small Area B)
Mr. Gene Strickland (Large Area B)
Mr. Travis Dempsey (Large Area C)
Mr. Lee White (Small Area D)
Mr. Hilario Chavez (Large Area D)
Dr. Gabriella Duran-Blakey (Large School District I)
Mr. Ignacio Ruiz (Large Schools District II)
Mr. Martin Madrid (At-Large)
Mr. Gary Tripp (New Mexico School Boards Association)
Mr. Scott Affentranger (NMAA Commission)

12 members were present representing a quorum.

Not Present:

Mr. David Lackey (Small Area C)

Approval of the Agenda:

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. White made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2024, Board Meeting. Mr. Strickland made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Diehl seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

NMAA Directors' Report:

Mr. Dusty Young, NMAA Executive Director, discussed six (6) items in his report: 1) provided a recap of the Fall Championship season; 2) Thanked ABQ Academy, Rio Rancho HS, Cleveland HS and Bernalillo HS for hosting fall championships; 3) reported on the recent Commission/Board elections that took place; Commission Small Area B – Billy Mr. Burns of Logan will replace Mr. Dickie Roybal of Melrose Schools; Commission Small Area A for Gary Allison is open for special election this month. Board Small Area B – Matt Moyer of Fort Sumner and Board Large Area B – Gene Strickland of Hobbs were reelected. Mr. Martin Madrid, Santa Rosa Schools was reappointed by President Casados to serve as the At-Large Member and Mr. Scott Affentranger has assumed the

role of Commission Chair until September 2025; 4) welcomed the NMAA's newest employees, Ms. Julie Sanchez and Mr. Gary Allison; 5) stated that the monthly Athletic Director meeting will take place on December 18th and will also include an eligibility workshop; 6) Lastly, he asked that everyone keep Mr. Buster Mabrey in their thoughts and prayers as he deals with a health issue.

Dr. Duran-Blakey joined the meeting.

NMAA Financial Report:

Approval of NMAA 990 for 2023-2024 - Ms. Shari Kessler Schwaner, NMAA Business Manager, presented the NMAA 990 for the 2023-2024 school year. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the NMAA 990 for 2023-2024. Mr. Moyer made a motion to approve the NMAA 990 as presented. Mr. Tripp seconded. A vote was made and passed unanimously (12-0).

Ms. Kessler-Schwaner, presented the NMAA Finance Report. She discussed two (2) items in her report: 1) reported on preliminary ticket sales for fall sports; and 2) stated final reports will be given at the next board meeting once all revenues and expenses are reconciled.

NMAA Activities Report:

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

NMOA Report:

Mr. Carl Vigil, NMAA Commissioner of Officials, presented the New Mexico Officials Association Report. He discussed seven (7) items on his report: 1) provided information regarding the NMOA Executive Board; 2) discussed basketball clinics/meetings and new NFHS Rules; he commended Mr. Walt Sanchez for all of his work with these clinics; 3) thanked athletic directors and assignors for their flexibility and patience in rescheduling football games due to weather; 4) stated that the first assignors meeting for winter sports took place with great attendance; 5) reported on state championship officials for volleyball, soccer, and football – thanked all assignors and officials' leaders for their help with each event. They will be watching games to see what they can do to improve things for next year; 6) provided information regarding officials' numbers for basketball and other winter sports; and 7) reported on DragonFly regarding rules exams and training opportunities. Mr. Casados asked about officiating camps at UNM and NMSU and officials attending these to help improve their techniques. Mr. Vigil stated those camps are offered for all officials statewide and information continues to be sent out. Mr. Casados asked if there are currently physical requirements for officials. Mr. Young stated he will talk with other state associations to see if they have physical requirements for officials.

Officials Assignments/Exclusions - Mr. Zac Stevenson, NMAA Assistant Director, presented a report pertaining to officials' assignments, exclusions, blocks, and how varsity and/or sub-varsity assignors are involved with these processes, including the

potential to override blocks in certain circumstances. He also stated that the NMAA is working with assignors, officials, schools, and DragonFly to clean up some of the issues that have come up in this area.

NMAA Foundation Report:

Mr. Young discussed three (3) items in his report: 1) provided an update on the NMAA Foundation School Grant/Support program; 2) stated that the NMAA Foundation Scholarship Application Portal is now open and will close on February 1st; and 3) reported on the upcoming Bowl-A-Thon and Golf Classic fundraisers.

General Discussion/Information 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 the 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 on 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.

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:

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

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. b. The remaining 8 teams will play a double elimination tournament. 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. Casados asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Madrid made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Strickland seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Wrestling: Officials Fees - Mr. Owen presented a proposal to amend the 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. Casados asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Moyer made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Strickland seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Tennis: Team 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. Casados asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Tripp made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Strickland seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Esports: Consider Overwatch as Approved Title - Mr. Michael Mascone, NMAA Esports Liaison, 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. Casados asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. White made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed (10-2).

Bylaw 3.11.1: Game Contracts - Mr. Young presented a proposal to clarify that game contracts may only be entered into agreement by athletic administration or a designated athletic coordinator. Bylaw 3.11.1 Contracts/Guarantees shall read only the athletic administrator or legally designated coordinator may enter into contracts, pay guarantees or officials or make final arrangements for events. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Moyer made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Strickland seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Executive Session

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to go into Executive Session at 12:09 p.m. Mr. Ruiz made the motion to enter into Executive Session. Mr. Tripp seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously (12-0).

Yes/For	No/Against	Board Member Name
Yes		Mr. Anthony Casados (Small Area A)
Yes		Mr. Cody Diehl (Large Area A)
Yes		Mr. Matt Moyer (Small Area B)
Yes		Mr. Gene Strickland (Large Area B)
Yes		Mr. Travis Dempsey (Large Area C)
Yes		Mr. Lee White (Small Area D)
Yes		Mr. Hilario Chavez (Large Area D)
Yes		Dr. Gabriella Duran- Blakey (Large Schools District I)
Yes		Mr. Ignacio Ruiz (Large Schools District II)
Yes		Mr. Martin Madrid (At-Large)
Yes		Mr. Scott Affentranger (NMAA Commission)
Yes		Mr. Gary Tripp (New Mexico School Boards Association)

Mr. Gary Tripp left the meeting.

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to exit out of Executive Session at 1:15 p.m. Mr. Strickland made the motion to exit out of Executive Session. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. Mr. Casados stated no action was taken in the Executive Session. A roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously. (11-0).

Yes/For	No/Against	Board Member Name
Yes		Mr. Anthony Casados (Small Area A)
Yes		Mr. Cody Diehl (Large Area A)
Yes		Mr. Matt Moyer (Small Area B)
Yes		Mr. Gene Strickland (Large Area B)
Yes		Mr. Travis Dempsey (Large Area C)
Yes		Mr. Lee White (Small Area D)
Yes		Mr. Hilario Chavez (Large Area D)
Yes		Dr. Gabriella Duran- Blakey (Large Schools District I)
Yes		Mr. Ignacio Ruiz (Large Schools District II)
Yes		Mr. Martin Madrid (At-Large)
Yes		Mr. Scott Affentranger (NMAA Commission)

NMAA Personnel Action Items

Consider approval of NMAA Executive Director Contract

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the Executive Director Contract. Mr. White made the motion to approve the contract for Mr. Dusty Young, Executive Director, effective November 2024 until October 2027, a three-year contract. Compensation shall

be in the amount of \$175,000 a year and that amount is to be dated back to November 1, 2024. Mr. Madrid seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed (10-1).

Consider approval of NMAA Associate Director Contract

Mr. Young stated that per NMAA Bylaw 2.2.2.A.2, it is the responsibility of the Executive Director to recommend employment of the Associate Director position to the Board. Thus, he asked the Board to consider the approval of Mr. Scott Owen as NMAA Associate Director. Mr. Casados asked for a motion to approve the recommendation. Mr. Moyer made the motion to approve the recommendation as presented. Mr. Strickland seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed (10-1).

Consider Adjournment:

Mr. Casados asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:18 p.m. Mr. Strickland made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (11-0).

The next Board Meeting will be scheduled for February 19, 2025