Minutes of the USA Wrestling - Ohio Annual Meeting

**September 30, 2018**

Attendees (43): Chris Kallai, Mary Terbay, John Cvetic, Robin Rayfield, Amanda Burr, Jim Bostic, Charlie Smith, Jim Lehman, Wendel Donathan, Jeff Kullman, Chris Kallai, Jr., Keith Carter, Bob Vallarelli, Jason Ashworth, Erik Burnett, Jake Bontatibus, Zach Ison, George Shore, Tracie Shore, Jim Speelman, Rae McDonald, Jon Burr, Mark Gerhard, Rick Davis, Tim Hessing, Gavin Speelman, Adam Coffey, Brad Bournival, Brian Church, Tom Knupp, Nick Mancini, Dominic Mancini, Jack Gillespie, Jonathan Lucas, Jarrod Martin, Brian Hackworth, Brian Franz, Mike Mattingly, Caleb Currier, Jeremiah Webber, Chance VanGundy, Jonathon Lucas, Jeff Martin

Determination of quorum: To have a quorum, at least 25% of the Officers, Directors, and At-Large Board Members (i.e., a minimum of eight) must be present along with representatives from at least 10% of the Chartered Clubs (i.e., a minimum of fourteen). Twenty-two (22) Officers, Directors, and At-Large Board Members were present, and sixteen (16) Chartered Clubs were represented at the beginning of the meeting. Since it was determined that we had a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 9:07 AM.

# Officers and Directors Reports

1. **Chairperson’s report** – Chris Kallai

Chris thanked all the Tournament Directors, mat officials, pairing officials and Coaches for helping this past year.

Highlights from the Chairperson’s report:

* + USA Wrestling has made a commitment to support Women’s Wrestling.
  + Membership was up last year – Ohio had the largest growth in Coaches’ and Athlete cards.
  + SafeSport is required for all coaches, officials, trainers and anyone in contact with the athletes. A background check is required for those listed if 18 or older. SafeSport will be updated every year. Background checks for Ohio, Michigan and Wisconsin are free for 2019.
  + Thanks to all the coaches throughout the year and all those that helped with Fargo and all duals.
  + Some changes that are coming up:
    - Age division names will change. Cadet to 16U, Schoolboys to 14U, Novice to 12U, Intermediate to 10U and Bantam to 8U
    - Fargo will now be 16U and Juniors
    - All 16U matches will be 2 periods of 2 minutes for ALL matches; Juniors will be 2 periods of 3 minutes
    - No low cut singlets allowed
    - 14U and 16U Duals will be the same weekend in June. 16U Duals are in Washington again.
    - Reimbursement for officials will go directly to the official not through the State organization
  + Highlights of the year were available for all to peruse.
  + Membership – SafeSport is now a Federal Law. USAW is looking at keeping the $15 folkstyle athlete card and having a $35 Folkstyle Coach’s card.
  + Fargo will keep “challenge” blocks for all matches
  + Chris Kallai was named State Chairperson of the Year.

1. **Vice Chairperson’s Report –** Robin Rayfield

USAW-Ohio is looking to support coaches and need input from the Coaches’ Council.

Coach’s card has to be purchased prior to the tournament – will not be able to purchase at tournament as a background check (for 18 and older) and SafeSport must be completed. For those that have a valid Coach’s card (Freestyle and Greco and will be verified by tournament), a wristband will be issued so that the coach may be on the floor. You CANNOT coach without a wristband. We will also have a banner which will list the federal law and the requirements to get the card.

Suggest that all clubs send an email to your coaches after Jan 1 to remind them to get the Freestyle/ Greco coach’s card. At Large members must ensure that all adhere to these and to help monitor.

There will be 8 events including State this year. At Large members will receive a stipend when they work 2 qualifiers and the state tournament. Get with Robin to have your presence recorded.

Fargo was a great experience with many favorable comments on the new camp location and timing. There were a few unfavorable comments that the Coaches’ Council will address.

2019 Tournaments

* State 16U and Junior will be May 18 and 19 at Ohio Northern University
* Central Regional will be May 25-27 at Ohio Northern University
* 14U Duals will be June 11-15
* Kids State 14 U and under May11
* Tournament of Champions will be April 27

Greco syllabus will provide an opportunity for coaching development. International Coaches Day will be decided and planned by Coaches’ Council.

1. **Secretary’s Report** – Mary Terbay

The Minutes of the 2017 USA Wrestling Ohio Annual meeting were approved as amended (2 corrections – one date incorrect and one name misspelled). (**Motion** by Bob Vallarelli; seconded by Chris Kallai Jr.).

**4. Membership Chairperson’s Report** –Jim Bostic

Membership numbers were:

2018 2017

Athletes 5916 5025

Clubs 143 113

Event sanctions 85 66

Officials 41 41

Coaches 645 557

**Membership Chairperson’s Report** – Amanda Burr

MVKWA numbers:

Athletes 2730

Teams 71

Coaches 142

Events 62

1. **MVKWA Director** – Charlie Smith

Thanks to USA National Office and USAW-Ohio for coming up with a better Folkstyle fee structure for both athletes and coaches.

$7000 donated to MVKWA was rolled back to the athletes going to Fargo to help offset expenses.

1. **Coaches’ Council Director** – Jim Lehman

Coaches’ Council (CC) is an impetus for change. Some of which are:

* State tournament in Columbus
* Training camp at a college
* Change to the camp structure and timing
* Restructure of USAW-Ohio officer roles based on style vs. age
* Revising job descriptions for Coaches’ Council Director, National Teams Director, Freestyle Director and Greco Director
* Proposed change to national team selection process

Looking for constant improvement.

1. **Treasurer’s Report** - John Cvetic

John distributed copies of the financial statement comparing the financial position, income, and expenses for fiscal years 2018 and 2019. USAW-OH finished $35K good to budget, due to money not spent and increased card sales. We want to have the money go back to development. Ohio did not attend the Cadet Duals so we did not spend the $4000 allocated. Rudis donated $5000 to Fargo.

The Treasurer’s report was accepted by acclamation **(Motion** by Chris Kallai Jr. and **second** by Keith Carter).

The 2019 budget was also presented. There will be a Folkstyle coaches card with a cost of $35 per card. The Folkstyle athlete card remains at $15 per card. Proposals recommended:

* Have 14U athletes who wrestle at Kids State wrestle for “free” at Central Regional. Entry fee will be paid by USAW-Ohio. (approximately $3500)
* 16U and Junior automatic qualifiers from the State 16U and Junior State tournament will wrestle for “free” at Central Regional. Entry fee will be paid by USAW-Ohio. (approximately $4000)
* Syllabus and working with Ohio RTC have an International Coaches’ Clinic day ($10000 donation to ORTC). This will be open to ALL Ohio coaches to cover Greco and Freestyle. The thought would be to teach all coaches according to the syllabus created for each style.
* Increase dual team contribution from $2500 to $3000 to offset fee for official.

**Motion** by Chris Kallai Jr and **second** by Wendel Donathan to accept the budget as presented with proposals listed; approved by acclamation.

**8. Kids / Schoolboy Director’s Report** – Wendel Donathan

Wendel stated that the Schoolboy Duals coach did a great job with the team. There is growth in the 14U age group with the number of youth clubs increasing. Thanks to Robin for getting the gear ordered and to Bernie for providing a training camp facility for the team.

**9. National Teams Director’s Report** - Jeff Kullman

Jeff thanked his staff and to the Coaches’ Council for helping to create energy towards the development of the best system for each wrestling style at all levels. He is the buffer between Coaches’ Council Director and the coaches. There has been improvement in the operation of the camp and team selection.

An improvement area may be needed in bus logistics. There were 13 All Americans.

**10. Open Director’s Report** –Rae McDonald

UWW was well attended with 196 Greco and over 400 Freestyle.

**11. Women’s Report** – George Shore for Tracie Shore

There were 5 World team members – 2 from Ohio. Thanks for the support to have dual teams in both Oklahoma and Fargo. Fargo was tough – more women went and the director is treating 2018 as a learning/ opportunity for improvement experience. Women need to be kept in the loop by the rest of USAW-Ohio and Women in turn need to keep USAW-Ohio in the loop with their changes/ needs. OAC added a Women’s division

**12. Folkstyle Director’s Report**  - Jon Burr

Great work on getting the Folkstyle coach’s card. Numbers were given by membership.

**13. Greco Director’s Report** – Zach Ison

Combined camp worked well but would like to issue an invitation to Freestyle coaches to attend the Greco camp as well. There were 44 Cadets and 45 Juniors on the National Team with Harry Lester as the camp clinician.

**14. Freestyle Director’s Report** – Jeff Kullman for Danny Song

Danny is working on the process. Questions he is asking to work on improvements: “Did we send the best team?”, “Did the changes help?”. He has made it clear that staff position is not guaranteed – Head coach will select coaches. Clinician was Tom Ryan and he will come back next year. Look to set up training stations where athletes learn from a consistent voice. There will be a professional development clinic in Spring 2019 which Jeff Kullman will help to co-ordinate. Since 16U duals will be in Washington again, Coaches’ Council is looking to attend Journeyman in Albany, NY as an alternate.

**15. Mat Officials Director’s Report –Bob Vallarelli**

Bob thanked tournament directors and officials for all their help this past year. . Training is available and a clinic can be done on Friday night or during the week. He encourages coaches to push athletes to referee to learn the rules. Officials showing up at 7 am for a qualifier were a big help at the tournaments.

**16. Pairing Co-Director’s Report** – Chris Kallai, Jr. for Debbi Kallai

Chris reviewed the status of pairing officials (2 P1E, 1 P2, 2 P3) and Chris Jr. received his P3 this year. There will be guidelines and training for pairing officials. There is a push to have at least one pairing officials proficient with computers and networks. There will be different levels of testing: mat side, set up and running tables, running TRACK/ FLO, and tournament and trouble shooting. Chris Kallai is on the National Pairing Board.

**17. International Exchange Director’s Report** –Brian Church

2018 was a great year for international participation. The exchange trip to Moscow Russia and Italy went well. Canada Cup was great competition and the Ohio State Fair had many participants from Belarus. The international teammates had a training camp at Westerville. In 2019, he is looking into participating at the Journeyman.

**18. Media / Promotions Director’s Report** –Brad Bournival

Brad suggested that our website list every Ohio All American from the beginning of time. Also there is a need for a media guide for the entire Fargo team. College coaches do look at them. Social media is big and we need to become more active on Twitter and other social media platforms. Tom Knupp will work with Brad to come up with the History for the website.

**19. Fund Raising** – No report

**Election of Officers**

The following **Officers** were elected for **two-year** terms:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Position** | **Nominations** | **Nominated by:**  First  Second | **Close nominations**:  First  Second | **Result** |
| Vice Chairperson | Robin Rayfield | Tom Knupp  Rick Davis | Zach Ison  Tom Knupp | Elected by acclamation |
| Treasurer | John Cvetic | Jeff Kullman  Chris Kallai Jr. | Zack Ison  Keith Carter | Re-elected by acclamation |
| Coaches’ Council Director | Jim Lehman  Keith Carter | Jeff Kullman/ Tom Knupp  Zack Ison/ Jake Bontatibas | Mary Terbay  Bob Vallarelli | Keith Carter was elected |
| Membership | Jim Bostic | Jeff Kullman  Rae McDonald | Bob Vallarelli  Rick Davis | Elected by acclamation |
| **AT Large Directors** |  |  |  |  |
| Northeast | Dominic Mancini  Rick Davis  Chris Kallai, Jr.  Leo K. Saniuk (Jr) |  |  |  |
| Northwest | Mike Mattin  Ross Rayfield |  |  |  |
| Southwest | Mark Gerhard  Jason Ashworth  Jake Bontatibus |  |  |  |
| Southeast | Harmon Sizemore |  |  |  |
| Central  Director | Sam Shalvey  Tim Hessing  Jeremiah Webber |  |  |  |

**Old Business**

1. **Central Regional – Wendel Donathan**

The Central Regional will be held Memorial day weekend again in 2019 at ONU. The numbers were OK in 2018 but we expect them to get bigger in 2019. If we want then we can get for a longer period. Wendel thanked all the people that helped at the tournament – Moeller, women’s team.

For 2019, table workers should have completed SafeSport.

**Motion** by Keith Carter (seconded by Chris Kallai Jr) to allow USAW-Ohio to bid on the Central Regional for 2020 and 2021, if the opportunity arises. Passed unanimously.

1. **Officials Development – Bob Vallarelli**

Incentives will help to develop the officials. Also coaches are encouraged to have their student athletes become officials.

1. **Lucas Marcelli awards – Dom Mancini**

Winners by age division were announced at the State tournament.

Schoolboy Patrick Reincke

Cadet Riley Ucker

Junior Matt Cover

**NEW Business**

1. **Tournament Directors meeting update – Robin Rayfield**

State tournament will by May 18 and 19; Kids State May 11. Question concerning wrestling Freestyle first and then Greco to conform with Fargo. It was decided to stay with Greco first due to the large numbers in Freestyle and concern as to when Greco would really start.

1. **Automatic qualification for State tournament – Jim Lehman**

It was proposed to increase the number of automatic qualifiers to the 16U and Junior State tournament from the OHSAA State tournament and the OAC tournament. Currently we automatically qualify the top 2 from each weight division from each tournament. The proposal is to allow all placers to automatically qualify. John gave some numbers to give the magnitude of numbers : top 8, 336 athletes; top 4, 168 athletes; top 3, 103.

**Motion** by Bob Vallarelli and **second** by Rick Davis to automatically qualified the top 3 from each tournament. Automatic qualification paperwork must still be completed. Passed unanimously.

A further recommendation was presented to automatically qualify every participant in the State Duals to our State tournament. After discussion it was decided to table this for a year.

1. **Job Description updates – Jim Lehman**

Jim reviewed some of the changes proposed by the Coaches’ Council to the following job description: National Teams Director, Freestyle Director, and Greco Director. Since they are part of the Coaches’ Council and there is a Coaches’ Council Director on the Executive board, the requirement for a meeting with the board has been removed. The Women’s coach is incorporated under the Freestyle Director to ensure that the Women are considered in camps, training, etc.

National Teams Director has an administrative side to it. Freestyle and Greco Directors with their respective head coaches and staff decide camp and clinicians.

**Motion** by Keith Carter and **second** by Bob Vallarelli to ensure that Women’s Director position report into the organization via the Freestyle Director. Passed unanimously.

1. **Petition Process – Jim Lehman**

Jim presented some proposed changes to the Petition Process. He stressed that the process is not just for the Elite but there were two goals:

1. Best team to win and

2. Development for future teams.

The team leader role is not one which makes the decision as to who is on the team unless petition list is exhausted. The changes were divided into four categories: timing, automatic qualifiers, criteria and cost.

*Timing*

Proposed: Move the team selection/ petition meeting to the conclusion of the Central Regional. Discussion: Greco Director and leaders would like to keep the existing timing (after our state tournament). Jim mentioned that the budget includes money to compensate for hotel rooms and meals if petition selection members have to stay an extra day. Teams would be posted on Monday after the Central Regional by a specific time. The automatic qualifiers to Fargo will be posted the day of the state tournament so that those individuals will know.

**Motion** by Jim Lehman and **second** by Bob Vallarelli to select the national team and hold the petition meeting after the Central Regional for one year. Passed.

*Automatic qualifiers*

Jim proposed changing the number of automatic qualifers per weight class as follows:

# in weight class Current

=/< 8 1

9-11 2

12 =/ > 3

# in weight class Current

< 8 1

8-12 2

12 > 3

Discussion centered around changing all weight classes to automatically qualify the top 2 and 16+ brackets to automatically qualify 4. The selection committee is committed to finding the best team. With 4 being automatically qualified, this takes away any developmental spots.

**Motion** by Keith Carter and **second** by Tim Hessing to automatically qualifier the tope 2 placers in each weight class to the national team and to keep the 3 automatic qualifiers for the larger brackets (>/ = 12). Passed.

*Criteria*

Jim proposed that any returning All American automatically qualify for an open spot.

**Motion** by Jim Lehman and **second** by Keith Carter to have any returning All American automatically qualify for an open spot on the national team. Passed unanimously.

*Cost*

The petition form currently requires a $50 fee and must be in the hands of USAW-Ohio National Teams Director or his designee 1 hour after weigh-ins for that style at the State tournament. If there is a medical reason, then supporting documentation is required. The $50 goes into the general Fargo fund. Discussion concerning raising the fee to something higher to reflect the amount of money that qualifier attendees put out to wrestle and try for the national team.

**Motion** by Wendel Donathan and **second** by Bob Vallarelli to raise the cost of the petition application to $100 national team. Motion failed – cost remains the same.

1. **Officials compensation proposal – John Cvetic**

John discussed the officials’ payment for the Duals teams. There is a $700 penalty if Ohio does not send an official. During the budget portion of the meeting, we raised the stipend to each Dual team $500 to offset the officials compensation for attending that event.

1. **Officials Compensation and Incentive – Bob Vallarelli**

Bob presented the compensation/ incentive proposal for 2019 and following years. He recapped what is currently in place and proposed a few changes.

Officials would like to add the USAW-Ohio State Duals tournament to the list of local sanctioned tournaments that officials get credit towards their active status.

**Motion** by Bob Vallarelli and **second** by Wendel Donathan to allow the USAW-Ohio State Dual tournament to the list of local sanctioned tournaments that count towards active status. Motion passed unanimously.

The rest of the compensation package is as follows: For local qualifiers, $7/ 16U and Junior athlete / style will go the officials for compensation. This will cover hotels, mileage and working compensation. It behooves head officials to know how many officials will be “assigned” and therefore compensated and how many fall into the “unassigned” category. To be compensated, the officials must show up at the tournament by 7:30 am to assist.

State tournament compensation will be a flat fee per day. Hotels will be provided by the Tournament Director with a 4 day notice of need of room. Mileage will come from the lump sum payment (no additional funds for mileage). To be compensated the official must be at the tournament by 7:30 am to assist.

1. **Bobby Douglas – Rae McDonald**

Bobby Doulas would like to work with Ohio to do some evaluation clinics to help improve the wrestling here. The potential is huge in Ohio. Bobby will work on a business plan to Save Wrestling in 2020. John cautioned that the business plan must fit in with our 501(c) status. John asked to review when completed.

1. **16U (Cadet) match times**

National tournaments have moved to having the 16U athletes wrestle 2 two minute periods on both sides of the bracket.

**Motion** by Bob Vallarelli and **second** by Jim Bostic to follow the national change. Motion passed unanimously.

1. **International Duals**

There will be International Duals in Albany NY on April 13 and 14. It was decided that Eric Burnett, Jack Gillespie and Jeff Kullman look into the feasibility of attending this tournament for the Cadet dual team.

1. **Fargo camp sponsorship**

Pure and Clean (a skin defense company) would like to sponsor the Fargo camp. Rae was instructed to find out what they would like to do/ contribute and present it to the Executive board.

1. **Local Qualifiers – Keith Carter**

Keith discussed the idea of how to allow qualifiers to sanction a tournament and / or how to penalize that qualifier (tournament director) if they do not follow all the items identified in the contract documents to run a qualifier. Some of the items include: having a certified trainer, having a working / functional PA system, not having event sanctions, club charters and / or contract in by due dates. In other words, it has to run well. Violation of any item will result in a $200 fine per infraction.

How each tournament did or if there are any tournaments that need to be discussed will be brought up at the General meeting. At the meeting, if there are violations, the voting attendees will vote to suspend a tournament in violation for one year. At the end of the year, the tournament director can ask to have his tournament re-instated or to be removed from the list.

**Motion** by Jack Bontatibus and **second** by Zach Ison to adapt the above proposal. Motion passed unanimously.

See next page for list of State tournaments and qualifiers.

Next general meeting will be Sunday, October 13, 2019.

**Motion** by Bob Vallarelli and **second** by Tom Knupp to close the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 2:25.**Scheduling of 2019 USA Wrestling - Ohio Tournaments**

The following tournaments are **TENTATIVELY** scheduled for the 2019 season (pending confirmation of dates, completion of paperwork, and receipt of fees).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Event** | **Location** |
| April 14, 2019 | Ohio State Dual Tournament | Ohio Northern University |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| April 6, 2019 | GR/FS Qualifier Tournament | Westerville South HS |
| April 13, 2019 | GR/FS Qualifier Tournament | Northwest HS |
| April 20, 2019 | GR/FS Qualifier Tournament | Dublin Coffman HS |
| April 27, 2019 | GR/FS Qualifier Tournament | Uniontown Lake HS |
| May 4, 2019 | GR/FS Qualifier Tournament | Carroll HS |
| May 11, 2019 | GR/FS Qualifier Tournament | Elyria HS |
|  |  |  |
| May 11, 2019 | GR/FS Qualifier Tournament and Ohio Kids State Tournament | Elyria HS |
| May 18, 2019 | Sandy Cageao Ohio Greco State Tournament | TBD |
| May 18-19, 2019 | Sandy Cageao Ohio Freestyle State Tournament | TBD |
|  |  |  |