

ISWA Monthly Meeting

August 3, 2024

Call to Order: Meeting called meeting to order at 2:15 pm by Pat Culp. Meeting held in person.

Attendance: Pat Culp, Jennifer Pierson, Jimmy Tonte, Steve Mathis, Tina Fouts, Jen Ratliff, Lou Silverman, Mark Galka, Linda Robinson, Dalton Halbig, Nick Hull, Roby Webster, Thomas Pompei, Jim Littlejohn, Jason Miller, Melissa Strayer, Jonah Odum, Jean Whetstone, Mark Stevenson, Ryan Parrish, Mary Friedt

Staff: Tina Tonte, JD Minch

Guest: Jared Curcio

Mark Galka presented the ISWA office with posters of the Olympic athletes, including all athletes' autographs.

Secretary: Tina Fouts

- Tina Fouts presented the minutes for June 2024, which were sent in advance through USAW Membership website to review and provide updates.
- Jason Miller made a motion to accept the minutes as presented
- Jean Whetstone seconded the motion
- Motion passed unanimously

Treasurer: Steve Mathis

- Held the annual budget meeting in the morning, prior to the monthly board meeting
- Current monthly financials provided in advance, through USAW Membership website to review
- Provided report (Water Graph) – income – ahead of budget
- Below budget \$24,029 on ISWA Tournaments, breakdown included
- USAW Hosted tournaments – ahead of budget
- ISWA Programs – ahead of budget
- Admin and other – ahead of budget
- Operational Performance – on budget
- Detailed financials provided – but went over much of it in the budget meeting.
- Income from women's duals with the rebate site search (page 2 on income) came out ahead.
- Motion to accept was made by Jason Miller
- Jonah Odum seconded the motion.
- Motion passes unanimously.

Old Business

Open board positions – Section 3 Director, Tournament Equipment Director

- Jennifer Pierson stated that the committee will be getting together to finalize interviews for Section 3 Director and Tournament Equipment Director. We have applicants, and will need to organize.
- Will be posting a job description for a Marketing/Social Media Director, next week. Will be open for several weeks.

Update – Interns

- Jennifer Pierson reported that we had 2 Interns from UIndy sports marketing programs.
- The did an excellent job. Assisted with gear for team trips, inventory and packing for summer trips, helped office staff organize and rearrange garage area. They helped with Women's Duals in Westfield.
- The last several weeks, the worked to inventory and pack leftover gear from trips and helped organize for the awards banquet.
- Looks forward to repeating the program moving forward, possibly using 2 separate start dates.

Trips review

- Pat Culp stated that Jimmy Tonte will get together to review trips.
- Will use more social media next year.
- Dalton Halbig asked if we want to bid on 14U Duals.
- Discussed the fact that it brings in minimal revenue.
- Grants are making a difference for these national tournaments, per Pat Culp.
- She is not sure if we would get anything for this event.
- Discussions around whether this is worth consideration.
- Roby Webster made a motion for the ISWA to bid for 14U Duals.
- Jonah Odum seconded the motion, contingent upon availability of Grand Park.
- Motion passes unanimously.

Miscellaneous Items

Awards Backdrop

- Pat Culp stated that someone needs to take charge of fixing the backdrop – needs more structure/support. Need larger backdrop to fit podium.
- Ryan Parrish will take care of the sign printing if we can get the dimensions.

Folkstyle state

- Pat Culp reported that we have outgrown Warren Central for this event, and they have done some reworking of their IT so we were unable to stream.
- Discussed new venue in Columbus, attached to the mall.
- Have had meetings and tours. They have 8 basketball courts and a football field.
- Nothing signed yet.
- They have guaranteed so many GB of internet.
- They have shown the hospitality area and layout figured out for mats and awards.
- A little more expense for use of the facility (around 20K).
- They have 24 3-row bleachers and enough tables and chairs for mats.
- We will have to rent some more bleachers.
- We have investigated the cost. \$900 for 3-row, 5-row is \$1500 per week.
- Pat is thinking we would need 10 of the 5-row bleachers and they would be put between the mats.
- Jen Ratliff made a motion to move forward with hosting the Folkstyle tournament in 2025 at Nexus Park in Columbus
- Linda Robinson seconded the motion
- Motion passes unanimously
- Roby Webster made a motion to rent an additional 10 bleachers (5-rows) for the tournament
- Jennifer Pierson seconded the motion
- Motion passed unanimously.

USAW Memberships

- Pat Culp reported that USAW Athlete cards are going up by \$3.
- The last time USA increased these memberships was in 2021, but we didn't increase ours at that time

- We chose to increase participation in the state tournaments to make it up, since this is a voluntary choice to participate.
- We have to let USA Wrestling know what we are doing regarding the price of athlete memberships.
- Roby Webster made a motion to raise the cost from \$40 to \$45 for athlete cards.
- Ryan Parrish seconded the motion
- Motion passes unanimously
- Pat Culp also reported, for our information only, that the Leadership Card is going up \$13 as reported by USA Wrestling.
- After discussion, Melissa Strayer made a motion to raise the leaders' card to \$65
- Roby Webster seconded the motion
- Motion passes unanimously.

USA Wrestling Updates

- Pat Culp reported that USA Wrestling all time high with Fargo, with 8,000+ wrestlers, expecting over 10,000 next year.
- Misconduct for athletes and coaches was a blip from past years, cameras are everywhere.
- Best part of Fargo is the first 30 minutes before the girls' finals.
- Pat Culp reported that the State Leadership Summit begins on August 15th.
- They have a jam-packed schedule and we will be bringing back a lot of information.
- Beach wrestling is growing.
- Pat Culp talked about the new event management system coming out January 1st.
- They are moving away from track wrestling.
- At the budget meeting, we talked about streaming. We are working on that.
- Do we stay with Track or Flo for ISWA? We don't know yet.
- Indiana is the premier pilot state for the new event management system.
- ISWA has received approval from Flo, who has been negotiating with USA so they cannot do any prior to 12/31.
- Indiana has received approval to run tournaments on the new systems to test.
- Jen Ratliff will train at the annual meeting and September 22nd, all pairers will be coming to the office for training, USA Wrestling will be here.
- We cannot use for boys' tournaments until January 1st.
- The new event management system will affect the cost of running tournaments.
- Registration through track \$31,650 savings for clubs, for using USA wrestling this past year for (51 events) over using track.
- Jim Littlejohn – Girl's folkstyle nationals and tour of America events. All periods start from neutral position. Approved at Fargo, will be voted on at the summit.
- USAW modifications, if approved at the summit, to bring up at the next meeting.
- Jim Littlejohn made a motion to adopt the USA rule specific to girl's modifications for our state tournaments for folkstyle nationals and Tour of America tournaments, and recommend for local tournaments.
- Lou Silverman seconded the motion.
- Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

- Jim Littlejohn presented his resignation from the board. He is recommending that Jared Curcio become his replacement.
- Dalton Halbig made a motion to appoint Jared Curcio to the board, replacing Jim Littlejohn
- Roby Webster seconded the motion.
- Motion passes unanimously.

Review of Policies and Procedures

- Pat Culp stated that it is time for us to review policies and procedures.
- Ben Nicely had started the process when he was with us, but it wasn't completed.
- Tina Fouts has reviewed them and made comments.
- The marked-up copy of the policies and procedures were passed around the room and Pat Culp asked for any comments or changes to be reported to her.
- These do not have to be approved at the annual meeting

Pat Culp also stated that when the office sends board members the electronic copies of disclosures and other items that require signatures, if board members do not comply with signing, that could be terms for being removed from the board.

Review of By-laws for presentation at annual meeting

- Pat Culp reported that we are to review our by-laws every 2 years. We updated these 2 years ago we made an amendment. She has reviewed and sees nothing that needs to be updated at this time.
- These were created in 1978. By-laws state that we can have no more than 30 board members. We have not changed that.
- The board is currently at 26. There are 5 Executive Board Members and Administrative has 12 members and Programs has 9. We are currently split 13-13 between coaches and non-coaches' positions. We want to make sure they stay equal.

Additional Items

Pat Culp reported that Dalton Halbig did a training before Freestyle/Greco State for all coaches to attend. She told Tom Kuisle about it as well as, the training Indiana had that was run by Zach Errett for coaching staff that were going on duals and Fargo. The one weak spot she feels that we have, but that this might need to come from more at a national level, that we have a lot of coaches that don't know when to throw the brick. She has asked that a video be created and posted, to assist with beginners becoming coaches.

Publication

- Lou Silverman made a motion that we only have an online version of the publication and save us more than \$30,000.
- Dalton Halbig seconded the motion
- Discussed other options, perhaps that people could order a hard copy if they wanted to pay for them.
- Tina Tonte will look into options.
- Lou Silverman stated that he would not be opposed to having an option for the athletes to pay to have a printed copy.
- Lou Silverman amended his initial motion to allow for individualized ordering of the actual book, to be paid for by the athlete.
- Motion passes with one opposed.

Spectators' entry to state tournaments

- Jason Miller made a motion for our state tournaments to be \$20 per day for spectators.
- Jen Ratliff seconded the motion.
- Motion passes unanimously.

Consultant & Staff Reports

- **Law & Legislation – Steve Pugliese**
 - Not present. No report.
- **Sports Medicine – Nicole Moss**
 - Not present. No report.
- **Technology – Chris Pruitt**
 - Not present. Some notes in Tina Tonte’s report.
- **Olympic Wrestling Styles Consultant – Zach Errett**
 - Not present.
 - Pat Culp reported that he held a zoom meeting or team leaders and coaches for our team trips.

- **Membership Staff – JD Minch**
 - Current Athletes – 11,826
 - Current Wrestling Leaders – 1,625
 - Current Clubs – 219
 - Sanctioned Events – 126
 - Annual report has been submitted and briefly discussed in this meeting.

- **State Services - Staff – Tina Tonte**
 - ISWA State Services email reminders went out that annual reports are due today. Please email office@iswa.com.
 - Currently collecting Trip reports and Cleaning up Annual Reports.
 - Friendly reminder Conflict of Interest/Whistleblower electronic sign is past due. If you need the link, please email that request to office@iswa.com.
 - July has been busy with interns working with Team IN Gear, 14U/16U National Womens’ Duals event hosted in June.
 - Much of July was spent on Team IN Fargo invoices and communications with team leaders and the 2nd Award Banquet.
 - Special thanks to Jennifer Pierson for assisting with guiding interns, preparing Team IN gear and preparing for the awards ceremony.
 - Currently we have 265 RSVP and emails continue to come in. Next year we will create a google form for this process.
 - For those who plan to attend doors open for staff at 7 am. Please arrive by 7:30 am to help set up food, awards, sign in (Tina Fouts offered to help here).
 - Doors open at 9 am, and the ceremony begins at 10. Cleaning up after the event in the auditorium and foyer would be appreciated.
 - Annual Meeting prep will begin Monday with a zoom meeting for the committee.
 - Jennifer Pierson will be emailing those on the committee.
 - Lastly, emailed Jen Ratliff Club Organizer Guide to preview printing for annual meeting. Would like to get those updates after the summit to allow print time.
 - Spoke with Chris Pruitt and Pat Culp about offering training to our board about the features and importance of using ISWA Emails aka Office 365, including a secure share drive and Teams.
 - Annual Meeting notice has been emailed. More details will be emailed once detail is provided.
 - Spoke to 3XGear about offering clubs a team singlet set drawing again for attendance at the annual meeting.

- Please review your webpage for any updates or changes needed during the 2024-2025 Season transition.
- Looking forward to the Summit education this month.

Directors Reports

Vice Chair– Administration – Jennifer Pierson

- Worked with office for Fargo, annual meeting, and awards ceremony.
- Will be meeting with the annual committee on Monday and tournament committee will schedule for next week for tournament bids.

Tournament Director – Roby Webster

- Moving folkstyle to Columbus and will need a lot of help for Westfield next year.
- Will need to put fencing up around our mats and will require proper wristbands on the mat.
- This is a safe sport issue.
- All board members will be required to assist in keeping people out without appropriate bands.

Hospitality Director – Linda Robinson

- For tomorrow, will need help to bring stuff to the school in the morning.
- Looking or a new food vendor for food services for next year.
- Asking for a stipend for national events that USA does not pay for, for Candace, Charlotte, and Lauren for \$75.
- Lou Silverman made a motion for hospitality staff for \$75 per day for national events they work hospitality for.
- Dalton Halbig seconded the motion.
- Motion passes unanimously.
- Scholarship – all college information has been received. The last 3 scholarships have been forwarded to Steve Mathis for payment. She will email athlete when they have been sent.

Pairing Officials Developmental Director – Jennifer Ratliff

- Working on training for USA bracketing.
- Would like to look at levels of pairing, tests are becoming outdated.
- Would like to promote more like the mat officials do, reviewing performance.
- Will set up guidelines.

Indiana Representative to National Pairings – Jean Whetstone

- Has a couple of tournaments lined up for fall.
- Presented her resignation from her position on the board as of 8/31/24.

Equipment Director – Jonah Odum

- Gear finished off with Fargo, no major issues.
- Appreciate interns' hard work.
- Will look at sending a survey for gear packets.
- Coaches' talked about shorts, but they were asking about shorts to be added to coaches' packet. They will be different than athletes, if shorts are added.
- Will keep sizes for polos for future orders. Let him know if your size changes.
- Long sleeves available at \$20.
- Kids nationals – we had 5 national champs, 41 All-Americans. 22 National champs and 163 All-Americans in last 4 years.
- Nick Feldman was here (Rudis athlete for Ohio state), for a free clinic at Franklin.

Mat Officials Developmental Director – Dalton Halbig

- Awards
 - Cindy Mosconi – State Official of the year
 - Elijah Anthony – Branden Whalen/young official of the year
 - JD Minch – Lifetime Achievement
- Tournaments
 - State up from 23 year prior to 36 this year, a lot of that growth is young and new officials. Also had the addition and partnership with Indiana Tech Women’s program. Would like to look at working with other colleges as well.
 - 16 first year officials
 - Fully staffed at duals events, still a lot of overlap from same officials working same events or more than one event in a year.
 - Fargo had 11 mat officials, 1 operations official, and 2 trainers.
- Goals
 - Growth and development of young officials working with Jim Tonte on a program.
 - Standardized weekend spread of events through the year.
 - Clubs supporting officials financially to be at their events.
 - Restructure compensation for national events.
 - Work on distribution of local tournaments.
 - Work better with getting folkstyle folkstyle officials and education.

Folkstyle Referees Developmental Director – Jim Littlejohn

- State that when a club submits their bids, they should list their licensed officials.
- Jared Curcio will be taking his place and advised him of committees that he was involved in.
- Award for Folkstyle official of the year is Jerry Ingalls.
- Submitted his resignation as of 8/31/24.
- State he owes a lot of who he is to the ISWA.

Logistics Director – Melissa Strayer

- Stated this was a busy summer.
- Touched base with team leaders and they said things went well.
- Next year, only tournament moving locations is Junior boys duals.
- 16U duals boys worked well with flights.
- Heartland booked for the year.
- Will start folkstyle state now that we know where it is.
- Had a few pricing issues for hotels in Indianapolis. Part of this was due to timing of other events in the Indianapolis area.
- Looking forward to next year.

Section 1 – Mark Galka

- Annual report is in.
- Several double and triple crown winners this year.
- Clubs holding camps during the summer.
- Will be contacting the clubs for annual meeting to spread out tournaments.
- Had 5 new clubs in his section.
- Getting close to 40 clubs.

Section 2– Mary Friedt

- Getting a hold of clubs regarding the annual meeting. Will notify clubs of Pre-bid process.

Section 3 – Vacant

- No report.
- Jennifer Pierson noted that an annual report has been turned in.

Section 4– Mark Stevenson

- Annual report is in.
- Tournament were pretty well spread out in his section.

Section 5 –Payton Halbig

- Not Present. No Report.
- Mary Friedt reported on the nominating committee. The slate for the vote at the annual meeting is as follows:
 - Pat Culp, State Chair
 - Vice Chair – Programs – Jimmy Tonte
 - Vice Chair – Administration – Jennifer Pierson
 - Treasurer – Steve Mathis
 - Secretary – Tina Fouts

Vice Chair – Jim Tonte – Programs

- All annual reports are in, except 2

State Coaches Director – Danny Struck

- Not present. No report.
- Jimmy Tonte reported that Danny has been noticed outside of our circle.
- Annual report was emailed to me, and forwarded to the office.

Cadet/Junior Director –Jake O’Neill

- Not present. No Report.
- Was reported that he will be stepping down from the board.

Olympic Styles Development Director – Nick Hull

- Report is in.
- Overall, we placed 6th behind Pennsylvania, California, Illinois, and Ohio at Fargo.
- Good things on the horizon.
- Working well as a team

Kid’s Director – Jason Miller

- Annual report is in.
- Hotels are booked for Heartland.

Regional Training Center Director – Josh Curry

- Not Present. No Report.
- 2024 Annual report was emailed to me and forwarded to the office.

Team Leader Director – Thomas Pompei

- Trips went well.
- There were 10 different trips.
- Fargo had record numbers.
- Recruitment guide went out to college coaches.

- Will keep trying to improve on this.
- Will need to try to find a couple of new team leaders this year.
- Was voted onto the USA board of directors as college coach representative.

Women's Director – Jason DeLois

- Not Present.
- Sent in recap of Fargo.
- Had 10 Fargo All Americans in women's.
- Numbers were record numbers, performance on point.
- Had 1 national champ – placed 5th overall.
- Per Pat Culp, Jason has stepped aside as women's director.

Cultural Exchange Director – Lou Silverman

- Annual report has been submitted and will begin working on securing trips for next year.

Folkstyle Developmental Director – Ryan Parrish

- Pat Culp asked him to put together a flyer to grow middle school wrestling.
- Would like some to read through it.
- Had the privilege of being a team lead this year (a couple).
- Staff made trips as smooth as could be.

Jason Miller motioned that we adjourn the meeting.

Ryan Parrish seconded the motion.

Motion Passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned @ 5:23pm

The next meeting will be September 8th at 9am (Annual Meeting) at Lawrence North High School.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Fouts

ISWA Secretary