

# Minutes of the USA Wrestling - Ohio Annual Meeting

**October 6, 2002**

Attendees (32): Tom Knupp, Dave Riggs, Mary Terbay, John Cvetic, Clara Smith, Bob Vallarelli, Brian Church, Jeff Kullman, Tadaaki Hatta, Eric Loveman, Mickey Balmert, Pete Bolanis, Tony DiGiovanni, Wendel Donathan, Mark Gerhard, Don Hernan, Frank Jayne, Chris Kallai, Tina Fisher, Carol Saniuk, Leo Saniuk, John Gramuglia, Debbi Kallai, Bob Latessa, John Sopczak, Doug Howard, Richard Davis, Jim Speelman, Mark Beach, Joey Kise, Chris Wiley, Kevin Pope

1. Tom Knupp called for a count of clubs represented. Fifteen (15) clubs were present and voted that they would constitute a quorum. At that point, the meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM.
2. The minutes from last year's meeting were distributed and approved (M: P. Bolanis; 2<sup>nd</sup>: C. Wiley). **Passed** by acclamation.

## Officers and Directors Reports

### **1. Chairperson's Report - Tom Knupp**

Tom provided information about items from the State Leaders Summit (held in August in Colorado Springs) and other issues.

- a. Ohio Cadets cannot qualify at any Cadet Regionals other than the Central Kids/Cadet Regional for the Ohio Cadet National Team.
- b. The Central Kids/Cadet Regional will be held in Anderson, IN, on May 30 through June 1, 2003.
- c. Since there were over 4,600 wrestlers at Nationals this year (and the number is expected to continue growing), several options were discussed.
  - starting the tournament one day earlier and having all general meetings on Tuesday between the Greco-Roman and Freestyle competitions
  - adding more mats (there is only room for one or two more mats without moving the pairings area)
- d. All three Ohio State Championships were well-attended last year. We had 303 competitors at the State Folkstyle, 285 competitors at the State Greco-Roman, and 508 competitors at the State Freestyle. Coach's cards were down 57 from last year, but competitor's cards were up by 409. Ohio now has 54 USWOA-licensed mat and pairings officials (rank 17<sup>th</sup> among states).
- e. There were a total of 202 competitors going to Cadet and Junior Nationals in Fargo from Ohio. The budget for both teams was up just over \$30K from last year.
- f. We have filed with the IRS to make our Section 501 (c)(3) status permanent and expect a final approval from the IRS within a few months.
- g. The USA Wrestling - Ohio logo (wrestler inside an outline of Ohio) is a registered service mark with the state until 2008.
- h. In order to encourage more participation in the Bantam, Midget, and Novice age divisions, we will be using a new pairing system for all Qualifier Tournaments next year. Kids in these age divisions will be grouped according to their actual weights

rather than use the existing USAW weight classes. We will still use the established weight classes at both State Championships.

i. In 2004, all coaches at the Cadet/Junior Nationals, Cadet Duals, and Junior Duals must have BRONZE level certification. (Note: USA Wrestling - Ohio has required for several years that all of our national team coaches have their bronze certification.)

## 2. **Vice-Chairperson's Report** - Dave Riggs

Everyone did an excellent job again this year from the high school coaches all the way up. Since our tournaments are getting so large, we should think about how we can get more people involved so that the same people do not have to work every tournament. Some suggestions include having At-Large Board Members help at each tournament in their area selling USAW cards or with registration, and having host clubs supply at least one mat official and one pairings officials for their tournaments. Anyone with comments or suggestions should communicate them to Dave Riggs.

## 3. **Secretary's Report** - Mary Terbay

No report. Minutes from the 2001 meeting were already approved.

#### 4. **Treasurer's Report** - John Cvetic

John passed out financial statements comparing the USA Wrestling - Ohio financial position for fiscal years 2001 and 2002. The highlights included:

- a. All dual meet teams broke approximately even (which is as it should be).
- b. The Central Kids/Cadet Regional in Dayton lost money again this year, but only about half as much as last year.
- c. The Cadet/Junior National Team broke even (budget was \$158,000).
- d. Revenue from USAW competitor's and coach's cards was up (prices were increased last year), but the number of coach's cards was down.
- e. We made approximately \$500 in 2002 compared to a \$4,200 loss in 2001.
- f. A proposed budget for 2003 was presented. USAW card fees are not being raised.

John also reminded everyone to get reimbursable items submitted through the appropriate channels in a timely manner. Also a budget must be prepared and approved for each dual meet team that is being supported by USA Wrestling - Ohio (e.g., Schoolboy team, Cadet dual team, Junior dual team, etc.). John and Mark Gerhard have

sample spreadsheets put together that have the items that need to be included in a team budget.

Our unrestricted net assets are approximately \$19,000, which may sound like a lot, but several other Central Region state organizations have much better cash positions.

Motion to approve treasurer's report and 2003 budget (M: C. Kallai; 2<sup>nd</sup>: F. Jayne).

**Passed** by acclamation.

#### 5. **Registration Chairperson's Report** - Clara Smith

We had 86 Chartered Clubs last year and 64 Sanctioned Events. Most of the events went well with only a few problems that were addressed individually. Coach's cards will be required at both State Championships to get on the floor.

Coaches who want to coach at the National Open in Las Vegas next May or at the Cadet/Junior Nationals in Fargo next July must purchase their cards far enough in advance of these events that their paperwork can be sent to the National Office and processed. The National Office uses a computer database at these two tournaments to verify coach's cards.

## 6. **Kids / Schoolboy Director's Report** - Brian Church

To increase participation by this age group, Brian tried some promotional items:

- a. Exhibition matches at various events.
- b. Packets were sent to At-Large Board Member to promote wrestling.
- c. Had an informational table at the Junior High State Tournament.
- d. Central Ohio has started a USA Wrestling league with 7 teams currently participating.
- e. Regional numbers were up for Schoolboys and Cadets. Promoted by competitors receiving a T-shirt if pre-registered.

There were some hotel problems at the Kids Greco-Roman/Freestyle Nationals in Oklahoma this year.

The Ohio Schoolboy Dual Team placed 4<sup>th</sup> in freestyle and 7<sup>th</sup> in Greco-Roman at the Schoolboy Duals in Indiana. GREAT JOB!

Requested to change the qualifier for the Schoolboy team to an earlier event because

the State Championships are too close to the Schoolboy Duals. (Note: We will continue to use the State Championships as the qualifying events.)

## **7. Cadet Director's Report - Jeff Kullman**

The Ohio Cadet Dual Team missed placing in the top 8 by one match in both styles at the Cadet Duals in Colorado.

Ohio was well represented at the Cadet Nationals. In Greco-Roman, we placed 2<sup>nd</sup> overall with 8 All-Americans and 4 Champions (Dustin Schlatter at 125, Jason Johnstone at 130, Andy Lowther at 160, and Jason Marshall at 215).

In Freestyle, we placed 3<sup>rd</sup> overall with 8 All-Americans and 3 Champions (Cameron Doggett at 119, Dustin Schlatter at 125, and Tony Johnson at 275). Dustin Schlatter was named the Outstanding Wrestler in Freestyle.

College coaches start looking at recruits at the CADET level.

## **8. Junior Director's Report - Dave Riggs**

The Ohio Junior Dual Team had some problems making weight and getting there on time, but did well. We placed 4<sup>th</sup> in Freestyle with a 9-2 record.

Ohio was well represented at the Junior Nationals. In Greco-Roman, we placed 10<sup>th</sup> overall with 7 All Americans and 2 Champions (J.D. Bergman at 189 and Nick Terbay at 215).

In Freestyle, we placed 5<sup>th</sup> overall with 8 All Americans and 1 Champion (Ryan Lang at 130).

**9. Open Director's Report - Joel Greenlee**

No report.

**10. Coaches Director's Report - Mark DiSalvo**

No report.



## **11. Wrestling Development Director's Report - Tadaaki Hatta**

Tadaaki conducted several technique clinics at Qualifier Tournaments and the State Freestyle Championship that he thought were very beneficial to the younger wrestlers.

He will also do several bronze clinics for coaches next year. There is currently a 6 hour minimum contact time required for bronze level certification and 3 hour minimum for copper level certification.

Before the schedule is published, Tom and Takaaki will get together to pick some clinic dates.

## **12. Folkstyle Director's Report - Charlie Smith**

No report.

## **13. Women's Wrestling Director's Report - James Martin and Clayton Smith (report given by Tom Knupp)**

Heather Martin, Jim's daughter, was Ohio's first Women's Junior National Champion this past July in Fargo. We will have a qualifier for the 2003 team in conjunction with our Freestyle State Championship at Wadsworth HS.

14. **Mat Officials Director's Report** - Bob Vallarelli

The total number of licensed mat and pairings officials in Ohio went from 26 last year to 54 this year. We still need more officials. There is a minimum compensation package for licensed officials that will be distributed to all officials before the 2003 season.

Ohio will stay with the all white uniforms for mat officials next year.

15. **Pairings Co-Directors' Report** - Sue Dennis and Clara Smith (report given by Clara Smith)

We have added 2 new pairing officials this year - Carol Saniuk and Tina Fisher, but can always use more.

We can still use help from the clubs hosting an event with people to post brackets and write bout sheets. Event host should plan on having 1-2 people help in this capacity (more if you know it will be a large event).

Tournament Directors should have someone available to answer basic questions without involving the pairings staff.

#### **16. International Exchange Director's Report - Brian Church**

Ohio sponsored a team that went to Bulgaria this year. They teamed with the FILA Cadet team. Some individuals went to the Olympic Training Center, which was very competitive.

This coming year there will be competitive tours to China and Greece. Anyone needing information should contact Brian.

#### **17. Media / Promotions Director's Report - Bob Vallarelli**

The USA Wrestling - Ohio web site is under construction. The address is [www.usawrestling-ohio.org](http://www.usawrestling-ohio.org). The format is set up and will be a basic informational site. If you encounter any problems getting to the web site, contact Bob with the problem so he can work on getting it fixed.

Also if you have suggestions or ideas about what you would like to see on the web site, contact Bob or Tom.

#### 18. **Fund Raising Director's Report** - Eric Loveman

Eric reported that the ideas for fund raising are the same as last year (i.e., work with USA Wrestling to sell equipment, clothes, etc., at local and/or state meets). He recommended using the TOP program that allows selling from the USAW catalog. If anyone is interested, the USA Wrestling Merchandising number is 1-800-727-USA1.

Tom reported that he has some information about how to put on a charity golf tournament that he received from Ken Root. He will get the information to Eric.

### **Election of Officers**

The following officers were elected after being nominated and their nominations seconded.  
Voting was done where needed.

Vice Chairperson (N: E. Loveman; 2<sup>nd</sup>: B. Vallarelli) - **Dave Riggs** by acclamation.

Treasurer (N: C. Smith; 2<sup>nd</sup>: E. Loveman) - **John Cvetic** by acclamation.

Registration Chairperson (**Tina Fisher** N: B. Church; 2<sup>nd</sup>: D. Hernan and **Clara Smith** N: M. Terbay; 2<sup>nd</sup>: E. Loveman) **Clara Smith** won the election.

The following At-Large Board Members were also nominated and elected by acclamation.

<b>Northeast</b>	<b>Northwest</b>	<b>Central</b>	<b>Southeast</b>	<b>Southwest</b>
<b>Don Hernan</b>	<b>Pete Bolanis</b>	<b>Mickey Balmert</b>	<b>Jack Nutter</b>	<b>Mark Gerhard</b>
<b>Debbi Kallai</b>	<b>Mark Beach</b>	<b>Joe Kise</b>		<b>Chris Miller</b>
<b>Rick Davis</b>		<b>Matt Fisher</b>		<b>Wendel Donathan</b>
<b>Chris Kallai, Sr.</b>				<b>Pat Schlatter</b>
<b>Frank Jayne</b>				

All At-Large Board Members are asked to assist Tournament Directors at USA Wrestling - Ohio events in their area during 2003 if possible.

## Old Business

1. Several ideas to increase participation in Kids (Bantam, Midget, and Novice) age divisions were attempted last year. It was decided to continue the \$5/style entry fee for Kids for the upcoming year. (M: J. Sopczak; 2<sup>nd</sup>: E. Loveman) **Passed** by acclamation.

This issue will be revisited next year. Number of Kids entries for 2001, 2002, and 2003 will be compared. Tom Knupp was asked to compile data and present it at the 2003 Annual Meeting.

## New Business

1. Tom Knupp presented a number of proposed amendments to the USA Wrestling - Ohio Constitution and Bylaws. Each of the proposed amendments was read, discussed, and voted on individually. All 13 proposed amendments **passed** unanimously. A copy of the amended Constitution and Bylaws will be attached to these minutes.

2. Proposed job descriptions for all officers and directors will be sent to the current position holders for their comments and review. These descriptions will be made available at next year's meeting. Several sample job descriptions were distributed for discussion.

3. Current information on the status of some challenges to Title IX enforcement is available at the USA Wrestling web site ([www.themat.com](http://www.themat.com)). There is a very real concern that quota requirements for certain sports will be passed down to the high school level. Be sure that your actions validate your words relative to Title IX.

Some actions that can help include convincing the NHSCA to support our position on Title IX and writing your own letters to legislators on the subject to express your views.

4. After much discussion, it was decided to make our web site available to Olympic hopefuls with Ohio connections. The Open Director was asked to develop criteria for placing information on our web site regarding bona fide Ohio Olympic hopefuls.

5. A suggestion was made to provide some level of financial support for the State Greco-Roman and Freestyle champions and runners-up for the Cadet/Junior National Team. John Cvetic presented information about the financial impact of support at \$100 for each champion and \$50 for each runner-up. After much discussion, the idea was tabled until next year.

6. A suggestion was made to purchase a copy of the USA Wrestling Cadet and Junior National finals tape to show at the State Championships to promote USA Wrestling. (M: C. Wiley; 2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Gerhard). **Passed** by acclamation. (Note: The set of two tapes has been purchased and will be distributed for viewing.)
  
7. There was a discussion of how to handle the assignment of mat and pairings officials to Qualifier Tournaments so that Tournament Directors have a better idea of how many officials are coming. There has been a problem at several tournaments with too many officials showing up without prior knowledge of the Tournament Director. Also some officials have to leave before tournaments are completed.

These issues are discussed in the Tournament Directors' Guide that Tom sends out every year. He will try to work more closely with the Mat and Pairings Officials Directors and Tournament Directors to address these issues.

8. A suggestion was made to select Junior Greco-Roman and Freestyle Wrestlers of the Year. This was done in the past, but was not done last year. Frank Jayne has the selection criteria from past years and will send it to Tom Knupp and Dave Riggs.



9. A suggestion was made to consider other end-of-season awards for wrestlers, coaches, and officials. This issue was tabled until next year to give people time to consider specific awards and criteria.

### **Requirements / Procedures for 2003 USA Wrestling - Ohio GR/FS Qualifer Tournaments**

Some basic requirements were outlined by Tom Knupp:

1. Sponsoring club must have their Club Charter Application and the correct fee (either \$60 or \$80) sent to Clara Smith by **December 1, 2002**.
  
2. Event Sanction Forms and the correct fee (\$100) must be sent to Clara Smith by **December 1, 2002**.

3. Tournament Agreement Forms must be sent to Tom Knupp by **December 1, 2002**, so that he can try to get the schedule out by the first of the year.
  
4. There will be a 1 hour block of time for registration and weigh-ins at all Qualifier Tournaments. Please adhere to this. It is good discipline for state and national tournaments.
  
5. Tournament flyers will emphasize coach's cards are necessary to get on the floor at both State Championships.

### Scheduling of 2003 USA Wrestling - Ohio GR/FS Tournaments

The following tournaments are **TENTATIVELY** scheduled for next year (pending paperwork/fee completion):

Nov. 2 Take Down Tournament Dayton CJ/Carroll

March 8 Folkstyle State Championship Dayton Stebbins

March 9 GR/FS Qualifier Dayton Stebbins

March 15 GR/FS Qualifier Elyria (?)

March 22 GR/FS Qualifier Harrison

GR/FS Qualifier Burton Berkshire

March 29 GR/FS Qualifier Franklin

GR/FS Qualifier Toledo Waite

April 5 GR/FS Qualifier Dayton Carroll

GR/FS Qualifier Austintown Fitch

April 12 Southwest Ohio Classic Dayton Carroll

GR/FS Qualifier Wadsworth

April 19 GR/FS Qualifier Delaware Hayes

April 26 GR/FS Qualifier Elyria (?)

May 3 GR/FS Qualifier Lakota East

GR/FS Qualifier Madison

May 10 Greco-Roman State Championship Marion Coliseum

(minimum of 6 mats)

May 17 Freestyle State Championship Wadsworth

(minimum of 10 mats)

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM.

**FOR PLANNING PURPOSES: Next year's meeting will be Sunday, October 5, 2003, in**

Columbus. The location will be announced later.