

## **Minutes of the USA Wrestling - Ohio Annual Meeting October 5, 2003**

Attendees (44): Tom Knupp, Dave Riggs, Mary Terbay, John Cvetic, Clara Smith, Bob Vallarelli, Brian Church, Jeff Kullman, Tadaaki Hatta, Charlie Smith, Eric Loveman, James Martin, Mickey Balmert, Pete Bolanis, Rick Davis, Wendel Donathan, Don Hernan, Frank Jayne, Chris Kallai, Sr., Debbi Kallai, Joe Kise, Chris Miller, Pat Schlatter, Doug Howard, Ken Fields, Don Jones, David Breezley, Neal Flint, Todd Haverdill, John Sopczak, Troy McLaughlin, Jim Lehman, Michael Sanchez, Tina Breezley, Kyle Frerichs, Tina Fisher, Jeff Franz, Carol Saniuk, John Gramuglia, Leo Saniuk, Erik Burnett, Brian Keck, Jim Speelman, Evelyn Nye

Tom Knupp called for a 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 ten). 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. Therefore, it was determined that a quorum was present, and the meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM.

### **OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS REPORTS**

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

Tom provided the following information from the State Leaders Summit held in Colorado Springs and from other sources:

- a. Schoolboy weights above 130 lbs. have changed for 2004. The new weight classes are 145, 165, 185, 205, 225, and 250 lbs. Schoolboys can move up if there is only one in their weight class, and the weight difference is less than 30 lbs.
- b. Starting in 2004, all coaches at National events (i.e., Fargo and National Duals) will be required to have a minimum of Bronze level certification from the NCEP. Copper level certification is still acceptable at Regional events.
- c. Headgear will be required for all Kids division wrestlers (14 and under) at Regional and National events and camps in 2004.
- d. The National Office will once again be sponsoring Coaches Seminars. There is one scheduled for mid-October (three Ohio coaches will be attending), and two more are planned for 2004. The Coaches Director will coordinate selection of Ohio coaches to attend these seminars.
- e. Ted Witulski will conduct an NCEP coaching clinic at the Ohio High School Coaches Meeting later this fall.
- f. The National Office has issued a policy on abuse and harassment which states that abuse or harassment of any kind will not be tolerated. The

policy includes physical, sexual, emotional, and verbal abuse and horseplay and cautions against one-on-one contact between coaches and athletes without another adult present.

- g. USA Wrestling - Ohio had record highs again this year in numbers of competitor's cards sold, numbers of coach's cards sold, numbers of events sanctioned, numbers of chartered clubs, and numbers of USWOA-licensed officials.
- h. All three of our State Championships had the largest turnouts ever:
  - Folkstyle - 463 entries
  - Greco-Roman - 314 entries
  - Freestyle - 567 entries
- i. The total number of entrants (both styles) in the 13 Qualifier Tournaments was 3,973 (an average of 306 per tournament).
- j. Because of these record turnouts, there will have to be some changes made in tournament operations for 2004 (see New Business) designed to make the tournaments end earlier.
- k. Copies of DRAFT job descriptions for all Officers, Directors, and several other positions were distributed. Tom asked that everyone present take the time to scan through this information, especially those that pertain to them, since we will be discussing them later in the meeting under New Business.

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

Dave reported that we are growing in all areas of our programs and operations which is what we should be doing. Preparation for tournament operations on a state level is a very time-consuming task and is currently done almost exclusively by the Chairperson. Dave asked for input from anyone who has ideas on how to "distribute the workload" in this area.

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

Mary presented the minutes from last year's meeting. **Motion** by Leo Saniuk and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pat Schlatter to accept the minutes. **Motion passed** by acclamation. Mary requested that all of those individuals who are giving reports submit a written copy of their information if possible so that doing this year's minutes will be easier. (Mary wants to thank everyone who submitted written reports.)

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

John distributed copies of the financial statement comparing the financial positions, income, and expenses for fiscal years 2003 and 2002. Some of the highlights included:

- a. Expenses have increased for Dual Meet and National teams. The Schoolboy Dual Meet Team showed a loss. The Cadet Dual Meet Team also showed a loss due to airfare charges. Room and board costs at

- Fargo increased from \$28 per day to \$35 per day per wrestler, but the current cost is guaranteed through 2005.
- b. There is currently approximately \$9,000 in funds as a safety position, which is a reasonable, but not excessive, amount for an organization of our size.
  - c. USA Wrestling - Ohio purchased a laptop computer to assist the Registration Chairperson with registration procedural changes by the National Office.

**Motion** by Pete Bolanis and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pat Schlatter to accept the Treasurer's report.  
**Motion passed** by acclamation.

John also distributed the proposed state budget for 2004. Some of the highlights included:

- a. There will be no increases in any fees or card costs in 2004.
- b. The Executive Committee estimates a modest 5% increase in the number of coach's cards sold and the number of events sanctioned.
- c. The \$1,000 specifically earmarked to support women's wrestling is still in the budget.
- d. The Executive Committee proposes that all State Qualifier tournaments help to subsidize trips for the Cadet and Junior Dual Meet Teams by paying \$1 of the entry fees for each Cadet and Junior entrant in each style to a special fund that will subsidize the cost of these trips.

**Motion** by Wendel Donathan and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Leo Saniuk to accept the proposed budget for 2004 including the subsidy for the Cadet and Junior Dual Meet Teams. **Motion passed** by acclamation.

John announced that USA Wrestling - Ohio has completed the five-year probationary period and obtained permanent status with the IRS under Section 501 (c)(3). Any potential contributors should contact John for verification of our status as an organization that is eligible to receive tax-deductible donations.

John also reiterated the following requirements:

- a. All team leaders (i.e., Dual Meet and National Teams) **MUST** submit their proposed budgets to the Treasurer and Chairperson **prior** to the event.
- b. Reimbursement requests for team expenses **must** be submitted to the Treasurer within 30 days after the event to be considered.
- c. The \$1 per entrant per style assessments for the Cadet and Junior Dual Meet Teams must be sent in to the Chairperson along with the Tournament Director's report. The report form will be modified to reflect this.

John reminded everyone that our non-profit designation cannot be used to raise funds for an individual.

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

Clara stated that 2003 was a record year as follows:

- 5,129 competitor's cards were sold by USA Wrestling - Ohio (Note: When an Ohio wrestler buys a card in a different state, we DO NOT get that revenue.)
- 533 coach's cards were sold
- 96 club were chartered
- 70 events were sanctioned

We did have 70 cards unaccounted for during 2003. Clara reminded everyone who requests cards that they **MUST** account for all cards given to them (i.e., return registration forms, voided cards, temporary cards, and all unsold cards to her). Clubs and tournaments are financially responsible for all unsold and/or missing cards that are not returned.

Beginning this year, USA Wrestling will offer on-line registration. Wrestlers and coaches can go on-line, fill out the form, pay with a credit card, and get a temporary card (receipt) that **must** be redeemed through Clara for a permanent card within 14 days. To get the permanent USA Wrestling card, competitors **must** provide proof of age. The National Office will add a handling and convenience fee on top of the registration fee. We can add a state fee if we want. We can also decide whether or not to redeem expired 14-day temporary cards.

**Motion** by Clara Smith and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug Howard to charge a \$5 state fee and to redeem temporary cards beyond the 14-day period with a \$5 late fee. **Motion passed** by acclamation.

With the new registration system, Clara has the ability to check the USA Wrestling data base to verify registration card numbers for wrestlers who claim to have purchased their cards already, but lost them.

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

Brian reported that there is a new Central Region Director for the Kids/Schoolboy Division, Mike Miller from Indiana.

The Ohio Schoolboy Dual Team placed 4<sup>th</sup> in Freestyle and 6<sup>th</sup> in Greco-Roman in Yorktown, Indiana. The National Schoolboy Duals for 2004 will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, at a local high school. Southwest Ohio also sent a team in 2003, but only one team per state will be allowed in 2004.

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

Jeff reported that the 2003 Cadet National Team was very young with only a few returning All-Americans, but there will be more in 2004. Jeff complimented all of the coaches who helped a lot. He specifically thanked Todd Haverdill, Doug Howard, and Jim Lehman for their help. Also Mark Gerhard did a great job organizing the Cadet Dual Meet Team.

The Cadet Dual Meet Team placed 10<sup>th</sup> in Freestyle and 9<sup>th</sup> in Greco-Roman in Greeley, Colorado. The Ohio Cadet National Team placed 7<sup>th</sup> in Freestyle in Fargo, North Dakota.

Jeff emphasized that the Cadet Dual Meet and National Teams are important since this is usually the athlete's first real chance to experience national competition and to be seen by college coaches.

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

Dave reported that both the Junior Dual Meet Team and the Junior National Team were excellent this year (i.e., they won just about everything!). Six members of the Junior Dual Meet Team went undefeated and another three had only one loss, and Ohio won the Junior Freestyle Duals easily over Oklahoma. The team consisted of wrestlers from all over the state.

In Fargo, Ohio had four National Champions in Greco-Roman, one runner-up, and the team took second overall. C.P. Schlatter was the Outstanding Wrestler in Greco-Roman. Ohio had five National Champions in Freestyle and 16 All-Americans and easily won the team title. Dustin Schlatter was the Outstanding Wrestler in Freestyle.

**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 short technique clinics at the Burton Berkshire, Wadsworth, and Elyria West Qualifiers and at the State Freestyle Championship. He also gave a Bronze level NCEP clinic during the Cadet camp at Walsh for coaches on the Cadet and Junior National Teams.

There will be a technique clinic at North Royalton High School on either October 18<sup>th</sup> or November 1<sup>st</sup>. Tadaaki would like to do a coaching clinic before the Freestyle season starts next spring. Many techniques that he teaches can be used in both Freestyle and Folkstyle.

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

Charlie reported that more wrestlers are needed to compete in the State Folkstyle Championship, especially from the northern part of the state. There will be Folkstyle tournaments both of the first two weekends after the state high school tournament next spring.

**13. Women's Wrestling Co-Directors' Report - Jim Martin and Clayton Smith**

Jim gave the report. There are currently approximately 125 women throughout the state competing in wrestling and approximately 5,500 nationwide for high school.

Not many women wrestle freestyle due to participation in other spring sports such as soccer and track. Ohio had three women competing in the Junior Women's Nationals in Fargo this year. Soon there will be a Cadet's Women Division in Fargo. Jim also indicated that women mat officials are needed.

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

Bob reported that there were more than 60 mat officials who worked in Ohio during 2003, and more than 50 of them were licensed through USWOA. Mat officials will conform to the national requirements for wearing blue shirts and gray pants at all Ohio tournaments in 2004.

There were some problems with getting enough officials at the State Greco-Roman Championship this past year because of a conflict with the USA Wrestling Senior Nationals in Las Vegas. Bob felt that the official compensation policy needs to be revisited.

**15. Pairing Co-Directors' Report - Sue Dennis and Clara Smith**

Clara gave the report. There were 14 licensed pairing officials in Ohio in 2003. (Note: Ohio had a total of 68 licensed mat and pairing officials this year.) Sue did all of the tournament assignments for 2003.

In 2004, there will be pairing clinics given before some of the tournaments. A schedule will be available shortly.

Compensation for Head Pairing Officials should be modified. Also compensation should be based on experience.

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

Brian reported that originally there were two tours scheduled - China and Belarus. The China tour was canceled due to the SARS epidemic. The Belarus tour was excellent.

Another trip to Belarus is planned for 2004. The wrestling is very intense and is held in four different cities. The combination of wrestling and cultural experience is priceless.

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

Bob reported that the USA Wrestling - Ohio web site ([www.usawrestling-ohio.org](http://www.usawrestling-ohio.org)) will be going to PDF file formats for 2004 so that files can be printed more easily. 2003 was the first full year that the web site was operational. It was noted that tournament results were difficult to get posted in a timely manner, and this needs to be improved.

There is more information to go on the web site. One thought is to have each director provide a report on his or her area. Also we should consider having a sales area for Ohio gear. Policy statements will be posted as they are prepared and approved.

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

Eric reminded everyone that there is a program to sell USA Wrestling merchandise on consignment at tournaments. Information is available on the USA Wrestling web site.

**19. NCEP Coordinator's Report - Brian Church**

Brian reported that there are four levels of NCEP coaching clinics as follows:

- Copper - for the new coach, covers basic items, cost is \$25-\$30
- Bronze - more technical, covers techniques, health, and sports psychology, cost is \$60
- Silver - no cost, except housing
- Gold - no cost

Ohio currently has more than 200 coaches who are certified at the Copper, Bronze, or Silver levels.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS**

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

**Chairperson** (Tom Knupp nom. by Eric Loveman and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Leo Saniuk; nominations closed) - **Tom Knupp** re-elected by acclamation.

**Secretary** (Mary Terbay nom. by Debbi Kallai and 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Sopczak; nominations closed) - **Mary Terbay** re-elected by acclamation.

**Kids / Schoolboy Director** (Brian Church nom. by Eric Loveman and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wendel Donathan; Doug Howard nom. by Jim Speelman and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pat Schlatter; Matt Dalglish nom. by Chris Kallai, Sr., and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tina Fisher; nominations closed) - **Doug Howard** elected by majority vote.

**Cadet Director** (Jeff Kullman nom. by Doug Howard and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pat Schlatter; nominations closed) - **Jeff Kullman** re-elected by acclamation.

**Junior Director** (Dave Riggs nom. by Pete Bolanis and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rick Davis; nominations closed) - **Dave Riggs** re-elected by acclamation.

**Open Director** (Brian Keck nom. by Tadaaki Hatta and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Loveman; nominations closed) - **Brian Keck** elected by acclamation.

**Coaches Director** (Jim Speelman nom. by Doug Howard and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pat Schlatter; nominations closed) - **Jim Speelman** elected by acclamation.

**Wrestling Development Director** (Tadaaki Hatta nom. by John Sopczak and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Clara Smith; nominations closed) - **Tadaaki Hatta** re-elected by acclamation.

**Folkstyle Director** (Charlie Smith nom. by John Sopczak and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Franz; nominations closed) - **Charlie Smith** re-elected by acclamation.

**Women's Wrestling Director** (Jim Martin nom. by Bob Vallarelli and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pete Bolanis; nominations closed) - **Jim Martin** re-elected by acclamation.

**Mat Officials Director** (Bob Vallarelli nom. by Pete Bolanis and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Loveman; nominations closed) - **Bob Vallarelli** re-elected by acclamation.

**Pairing Director** (Clara Smith nom. by Pat Schlatter and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wendel Donathan - Clara declined nomination: Sue Dennis nom. by Clara Smith and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Martin; Debbi Kallai and Carol Saniuk nom. by Jeff Franz and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tina Fisher as Co-Directors; motion by Jeff Franz and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Vallarelli to have Tri-Directors with Sue Dennis as head assigner; passed by acclamation) - **Sue Dennis, Debbi Kallai, and Carol Saniuk** elected as Tri-Directors by acclamation.



**International Exchange Director** (Brian Church nom. by Eric Loveman and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chris Kallai, Sr.; nominations closed) - **Brian Church** re-elected by acclamation.

**Media / Promotions Director** (Carol Saniuk nom. by Debbi Kallai and 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Cvetic; nominations closed) - **Carol Saniuk** elected by acclamation.

**Fund Raising Director** (Eric Loveman nom. by Brian Church and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Leo Saniuk; nominations closed) - **Eric Loveman** re-elected by acclamation.

The following individuals were nominated and seconded for **At-Large Board Member** positions (**one-year** terms), and all were elected by acclamation. These people will help at clubs and tournaments in their areas during 2004.

Northeast	Northwest	Central	Southeast	Southwest
Erik Burnett	Mark Beach	Mickey Balmert	Matt Fisher	Wendel Donathan
Rick Davis	Pete Bolanis	Eddie Jayne		Jeff Franz
Frank Jayne		Joe Kise		Mark Gerhard
Leo Saniuk				Chris Miller
Pat Schlatter				

**OLD BUSINESS**

- To encourage more participation in Kids wrestling, USA Wrestling - Ohio lowered the Kids entry fee to \$5 per style at all Qualifier Tournaments two years ago. Last year we started to use “block weights” and a two-year age difference for groupings to get the Kids age groups more matches.

Tom presented some numbers for the average number of entries in the Kids Divisions at Qualifier Tournaments over the past four years. There did not appear to be any trends in the number of entries that were detectable as yet.

	2000	2001	2002	2003
Greco-Roman entries	22.3	30.5	24.2	28.1
Freestyle entries	46.3	48.0	48.6	49.5

**Motion** by John Cvetic and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave Riggs to keep the \$5 entry fee per style for all Kids Division entries at the Qualifier Tournaments and to use block weights for Bantam, Midget, and Novice Divisions at all Qualifier Tournaments and State Championships. **Motion passed** by acclamation.

2. The tournament flyer for 2004 will indicate that “weight classes will be determined after weigh-ins” for these three Kids Divisions to help minimize some of the weight class vs. block weight confusion. Tournaments may use block weights for Schoolboy Division entries if they wish, but the USA Wrestling weight classes will be used for the Schoolboy Division at the Kids State Championships (since this is a qualifier for the National Schoolboy Dual Meet Team).
3. Tom will check with the National Office to verify that we can combine age groups as long as they are within a two year span. (The answer is “Yes, we can” according to Mark Scott, Director of State Services for USA Wrestling.)

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Changes in Tournament Operations**

To help alleviate the problem of tournaments going too long (and all the other problems this creates), Tom Knupp proposed that the following changes be made in tournament operations for 2004:

- a. Time changes for GR/FS Qualifier Tournaments and the Kids State Championships:
  - Greco-Roman registration and weigh-ins will run from 7 AM to 8 AM
  - Greco-Roman wrestling will begin at 9 AM or shortly thereafter
  - Freestyle registration and weigh-ins will run from 10 AM to 11 AM
  - Freestyle wrestling will begin at approximately 12 N for those weight classes that have finished Greco-Roman competition
- b. Time changes for the Cadet/Junior/Open State Championships:
  - Registration and weigh-ins will run from 7 AM to 8 AM
  - Wrestling will begin at 9:30 AM
- c. Tournament Directors MUST cut off weigh-ins at the stated time to stay on schedule. Also the Head Mat Official must start his clinic by 8:45 AM at the Qualifier Tournaments and the Kids State Championships and by 9:15 AM at the Cadet/Junior/Open State Championships.
- d. Match times for Junior and Open Division matches at all Qualifier Tournaments will be shortened to two 2-minute periods. Match times for all other age divisions will remain the same.
- e. Match times for Junior and Open Division matches at both State Championships will be two 3-minute periods as recommended by USA Wrestling.
- f. All tournaments will be required to have available for use a minimum number of mats. The minimum number of mats will be determined by the average number of entrants at each tournament over the past four years divided by 50 and will be specified on the Tournament Agreement Form for each tournament. Split mats may be used at Qualifier Tournaments only for Bantam, Midget, and Novice Division matches if necessary.
- g. A suggestion was made to allow Friday night weigh-ins so that wrestling can begin earlier on Saturday, but this was tabled until next year.

**Motion** by Eric Loveman and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Frank Jayne to accept all the proposed changes in tournament operations and discuss their effectiveness at the 2004 Annual Meeting. **Motion passed** by acclamation.

## 2. **Tournament Withdrawal Policy**

The current Tournament Withdrawal Policy was distributed and discussed. It was necessary to modify this policy near the end of the season because of several obvious claims of injuries that were not legitimate. Since each tournament must have a trainer, the trainer could sign to ensure that the withdrawal is due to a legitimate reason. However, several people expressed concern that this may unnecessarily tie up the trainer when he/she is needed to treat a legitimate injury on the mat. It was decided to have the coach sign the withdrawal form first, noting his/her USA Wrestling coach's card number on the form. The trainer must sign only if a coach is not present. **Parents who are not coaches may not sign the form.**

Tournaments were encouraged to have a liaison person posted at or near the pairing area during the tournament to accept Tournament Withdrawal Forms and question wrestlers and coaches about the legitimacy of injuries and illnesses. If a pairing official has reason to believe that the injury or illness claimed on the form is not legitimate, they should write "Bogus" along with a brief explanation on the form. All such injuries and illnesses will be investigated for possible disciplinary action against wrestlers and possibly coaches.

## 3. **Job Descriptions for Officers, Directors, and Other Positions**

Draft job descriptions for Officers, Directors, and several other positions were distributed. These were developed by the Chairperson and discussed at the Executive Committee meeting the night before. Each current Officer and Director was asked to review their job in particular and the others in general. Several changes will be made based on suggestions from attendees, and the job descriptions will be sent to the Executive Committee for final approval. After all job descriptions have received final approval, they will be posted on the web site and copies sent to each Officer, Director, and At-Large Board Member.

Tom explained the main topics that are included in each job description. These are the Position, How Selected, the Term of Office, the Compensation, the Voting Rights, and the specific Duties/Responsibilities. He also explained what is meant by "approved expenses" (i.e., expenses that are incurred while performing one or more of the Duties/Responsibilities for the job or expenses where a specific budget request has been submitted and approved).

All expenses are either "state expenses" or "team expenses". A "state expense" is one that is necessary for the general operation of USA Wrestling - Ohio. A "team expense" is one that is identified with a specific team (e.g., Cadet Dual

Meet Team, Junior National Team, etc.). All team expenses must be included in the team budget and will affect what an athlete must pay to be on the team.

John Cvetic reminded everyone that all receipts and invoices for team expenses must be submitted to him no later than 30 days after the event in order to be considered for payment.

If anyone identifies any additional tasks that should be added to a job description, they should send their suggestions to Tom sometime in the next few months.

#### **4. Policies and Procedures**

##### *Dual Meet Team Selection Procedures*

Selection procedures were written for the Ohio Schoolboy/Girl Dual Meet Teams, the Cadet Dual Meet Teams, and the Junior Dual Meet Teams this past year. These will be reviewed and revised as necessary for 2004.

A suggestion was made to have a separate Junior Dual Meet Team Trial event to be held the weekend after the State Freestyle Tournament. Entrants would be the top six placers at each state tournament for the respective style. Both styles would be wrestled the same day.

After much discussion, a committee was formed to pursue this concept and report back to the Chairperson with recommendations by the end of December. The recommendation should include criteria for an invitation to wrestle, the site and date, and mat and pairing officials to work the tournament. This concept could expand to the Cadet and Schoolboy Dual Meet Teams in later years if successful.

Tom Knupp appointed the following committee to study this issue: Dave Riggs (Chairman), Jim Speelman, Jeff Franz, Chris Kallai, Sr., Erik Burnett, Pat Schlatter, and Todd Haverdill.

##### *Compensation Policy for Mat and Pairing Officials*

There was some discussion about the current compensation policy for mat and pairing officials. A committee was formed to study this issue and report back to the Chairperson with recommendations by the end of December. The recommendations should include criteria for compensation, amounts, mileage, and hotel reimbursement.

Tom Knupp appointed the following committee to study this issue: Bob Vallarelli and Sue Dennis (Co-Chairpersons), Don Hernan, Pete Bolanis, Charlie Smith, and Wendel Donathan.

### Disciplinary Policy

A committee was formed to study this issue and report back to the Chairperson with recommendations by the end of December. The recommendations should include what discipline actions should be taken based on what infractions.

Tom Knupp appointed the following committee to study this issue: Dave Riggs (Chairman), Tom Knupp, Jeff Kullman, and Doug Howard.

### Appointment of Head and Assistant Coaches for National Teams

Tom Knupp will write a procedure for this.

### Tournament Registration Procedures

Tom Knupp will write a procedure for this.

### Petition Process for the Cadet and Junior National Teams

Kyle Frerichs requested that the petition process be based on the accomplishments of the individual, where everyone is considered.

The petition form will be modified to include the USA Wrestling card number.

Selection of replacements for National Team members should be controlled by the Age Division Directors. The point system for initial placement of petitioners should also be reviewed.

Medical waivers to be able to wrestle in the State Championships and to petition onto one of the National Teams will be allowed only under the following circumstances:

- There is a **written** statement from a doctor on the stationery of the doctor or his/her clinic.
- The statement includes the time period that the wrestler was unable to compete and a statement that he/she is now cleared for competition.
- All medical waivers to compete in the State Championships **must** be approved by the Chairperson.
- All medical waivers to petition onto one of the National Teams **must** be approved by the Age Division Directors.

The petition form will be modified to include this requirement.

Petitions may **NOT** be mailed in any more. Late receipt of several mailed petition forms was a problem this past year. They **must** be turned in by the wrestler, coach, or parent to the Age Division Director or Team Leader **no later than the**

**day of the state tournament.** If there is an injury or illness, the doctor's note must be included with the form.

If a wrestler does not qualify for the Ohio National Team at a USA Wrestling Regional Championship or at one of the USA Wrestling - Ohio State Championships, he **MUST** have competed in at least one Ohio Qualifier Tournament in order for his petition form to be accepted for consideration by the selection committee. The only exception to this policy is the medical waiver mentioned above.

The petition process currently states that no athlete may petition onto both the Greco-Roman and Freestyle teams. This policy will be retained.

Tom Knupp, Dave Riggs, and Jeff Kullman will write up the petition process and post it on our web site.

## **5. Other New Business**

Doug Howard mentioned that the Cincinnati area is hosting the Cincinnati Nationals on May 29, 30, and 31, 2004. This is a new event, and entrants will compete in all three wrestling styles - Greco-Roman, Freestyle, and Folkstyle. There is a web site for the event ([www.cincinnati-nationals.com](http://www.cincinnati-nationals.com)). The tournament will have awards for the top six placers as well as a special award for the top individual in all three styles combined. Hotel rooms in downtown Cincinnati are available for a reasonable rate. Many other events are going on in the area that weekend, so there will be plenty for everyone to do.

Jim Speelman was asked to assist Tadaaki Hatta in setting up some instructional clinics for coaches.

If a Qualifier Tournament would like to sponsor a club trophy, there should be an extra charge to register the club or team.

The USA Wrestling - Ohio web site will consider wrestling-related advertisements. Carol Saniuk will study the issue and develop guidelines and costs.

More mat officials are needed to work at most of the Qualifier Tournaments in southwest Ohio. Bob Vallarelli was asked to address this issue.

There was a suggestion that Age Division Directors should call their coaches each year and encourage them to attend the Annual Meeting.

Frank Jayne asked whether the USA Wrestling - Ohio state colors for our National Teams should be red, white, and blue every year. A lively discussion

followed. The consensus opinion was that the colors should rotate among the colors for Ohio colleges with wrestling programs.

Several questions were asked about the possibility of flying to Fargo and staying in nearby hotels rather than the dorms. The answers are that flying is cost-prohibitive without raising the team fees significantly and that staying in the dorms is better for a number of reasons (cost, supervision of wrestlers, proximity to the FargoDome, etc.).

Frank Jayne asked about selection of Outstanding Junior Wrestlers based on performance during 2003 and suggested that these awards (one for each style) be revived. Frank will give information on past winners and selection criteria to Dave Riggs who will pursue the issue. Frank also suggested that the "Hammer" Award for the most pins by a Junior wrestler in Fargo be revived. Recipients of these awards should be recognized on the Ohio web site.

A question was asked about the possibility of subsidizing the National Team cost for our Cadet and Junior Greco-Roman and Freestyle State Champions. John Cvetic responded that this idea was cost-prohibitive at the present time for even a partial subsidy. He suggested that USA Wrestling - Ohio needs to pursue fundraising opportunities, and Eric Loveman was asked to pursue this issue and report to the Executive Committee.

All Dual Meet and National Team Leaders should have Dual Meet and National Team information available at the State Championships and coordinate with the announcer/head table as to what information is being distributed and to whom. This should be done well ahead of the time that the information is to be given to the athletes.

At all State Championships, wrestlers will be assembled by Age Divisions on different mats to go over the topics that pertain to their particular Age Division only.

Our 2004 budget has funds to bring in "outstanding" wrestlers to give clinics and help improve the quality of wrestling in Ohio. More Olympic Training Center staff and wrestlers will be brought in during 2004 if possible. Coaches and athletes are encouraged to attend these clinics.

Video tapes of the Cadet and Junior Greco-Roman and Freestyle finals from Fargo were purchased and will be shown at our State Championships as well as the State Junior High Tournament.

**REQUIREMENTS / PROCEDURES FOR 2004 USA WRESTLING - OHIO TOURNAMENTS**

1. Event Sanctions, Club Charter Applications, and Tournament Agreement Forms must be returned by December 15, 2003. If these are not returned to the correct person indicated on the form by January 1, 2004, a late fee will be assessed.
2. Mat and pairing officials **must** be paid according to the USA Wrestling - Ohio Compensation Policy. If this is not done, the tournament will be fined at least the amount that the officials are underpaid and will be placed on a two-year probation. If the violation occurs again within that time frame, the tournament will not be sanctioned for the following year.
3. If there are not enough mats at the tournament based on the minimum number specified in the Tournament Agreement Form, the tournament will be placed on a two-year probation. If the violation occurs again within that time frame, the tournament will not be sanctioned for the following year.
4. Tournament Report Forms are due back to the Chairperson within two (2) weeks of the tournament with a check for the Cadet/Junior entry assessment. If they are late or the check is not included, a \$250 late fee will be assessed.

**SCHEDULING OF 2004 USA WRESTLING - OHIO TOURNAMENTS**

The following tournaments are **TENTATIVELY** scheduled for 2004 (pending confirmation of dates and sites by Tournament Directors and receipt of the necessary paperwork and fees).

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
November 1, 2003	Takedown Tournament	Dayton Chaminade-Julienne HS
March 6, 2004	SWOC (Folkstyle)	Dayton Carroll HS
March 13, 2004	Folkstyle State Championship	Dayton Stebbins HS
March 14, 2004	GR/FS Qualifier	Dayton Stebbins HS
March 20, 2004	GR/FS Qualifier	Burton Berkshire HS
March 20, 2004	GR/FS Qualifier	Harrison HS
March 27, 2004	GR/FS Qualifier	Franklin HS
March 27, 2004	GR/FS Qualifier	Toledo Waite HS
April 3, 2004	GR/FS Qualifier	Canfield HS
April 10, 2004	GR/FS Qualifier	Elyria HS
April 17, 2004	GR/FS Qualifier	Dayton Carroll HS



Date	Event	Location
April 17, 2004	GR/FS Qualifier	Wadsworth HS
April 24, 2004	Junior National Dual Team Trial	Mansfield Madison HS
May 1, 2004	GR/FS Qualifier	Lakota East HS
May 1, 2004	GR/FS Qualifier	Madison HS
May 8, 2004	Kids GR/FS State Championships	Dayton Stebbins HS
May 15, 2004	Cadet/Junior/Open Greco-Roman State Championship	Marion Coliseum
May 22, 2004	Cadet/Junior/Open and Women's Freestyle State Championship	Wadsworth HS

The meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

**FOR PLANNING PURPOSES: The 2004 Annual Meeting of USA Wrestling - Ohio will be held on Sunday, September 26th, at the Holiday Inn on the Lane in Columbus.**