

Minutes of the USA Wrestling - Ohio Annual Meeting September 26, 2004

Attendees (26): Tom Knupp, Dave Riggs, Mary Terbay, John Cvetic, Jeff Kullman, Debbi Kallai, Carol Saniuk, Brian Church, Eric Loveman, Mickey Balmert, Mark Beach, Pete Bolanis, Wendel Donathan, Eddie Jayne, Frank Jayne, Joe Kise, Leo Saniuk, Randy Simpson, Frank Baxter, Troy McLaughlin, Bob Latessa, Mark Gerhard, Tina Fisher, John Sopczak, Chris Kallai, Sr., 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 nine) must be present along with representatives from at least 10% of the Chartered Clubs (i.e., a minimum of eleven). Seventeen (17) Officers, Directors, and At-Large Board Members were present, and ten (10) Chartered Clubs were represented at the beginning of the meeting. It was determined that we would proceed with reports, but conduct no votes until another Chartered Club was represented. The meeting opened at 10:02 AM. At 10:20 AM, another Chartered Club representative arrived, and it was determined that a quorum was present at that time.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS REPORTS

1. Chairperson's report - Tom Knupp

Tom provided some information from the State Leaders Summit held in Colorado Springs and from other sources. Dave Riggs and John Cvetic were also present at the State Leaders Summit.

- a. Significant rules changes for international wrestling will be used in 2005 for all FILA tournaments. They will be tried at the Sunkist and Maccabi Games tournaments. Local, Regional, and National tournaments up through the Junior age division will continue to use USA Wrestling rules during 2005 (i.e., same rules as in 2004). New FILA/USAW rule books will contain both sets of rules. At some point, USA will have to go to the international rules.
- b. The cross chest cradle (also known as the West Point ride or Iron Cross) will be legal for Cadets in 2005.
- c. The Cadet and Junior Nationals in Fargo will continue to use the vertical pairing system in 2005.
- d. USA Wrestling - Ohio held nine Qualifier Tournaments in 2004, and all were well attended. One tournament went until almost 8:30 PM, but most ended between 6 and 6:30 PM. There appeared to be fewer problems with injury withdrawals after the new requirement to have the coach verify the injury or illness was implemented.
- e. There are some changes to the regional and national schedule.
 - Central Junior Regional was changed to April 8 through April 10, 2005

- FILA Juniors will be in Las Vegas, NV, the same time as the West Regional and the Senior Nationals
 - Central Kids/Cadet Regional will be Memorial Day weekend in Battle Creek MI
 - National Schoolboy Duals will be June 15 through 19, 2005 which is one week later than last year
 - National Cadet Duals will be in Kansas City, MO, from Thursday, June 23 through Monday, June 27, 2005
 - National Junior Duals will be in Enid, OK, from June 28 through July 3, 2005
 - Cadet Nationals will be in Fargo, ND, from July 23 through July 29, 2005
 - Junior Nationals will be in Fargo, ND, from July 24 through July 30, 2005
 - Junior Women's Duals will be in Fargo, ND, on July 28, 2005, followed by Junior Women's Nationals July 29 and 30, 2005
- f. FILA intends to start beach wrestling on an international basis (see article on theMat.com)
 - g. Ohio was interested in securing either the Cadet or Junior Duals, but contracts were awarded to Kansas City, MO, and Enid, OK, respectively for the next two years. These events will be up for bid again in 2006 for 2007 and 2008. Having one or both of these events in Ohio or a neighboring state could save significant amounts on team travel expenses.
 - h. Ohio will probably have the Central Kids/Cadet Regional in 2007 and 2008 those years. The Kingdom Sports Center in Franklin, OH, is interested in hosting the Central Kids/Cadet Regional and/or the Cadet and Junior Duals. USAW requires that 14 to 16 mats be used in the same area for the Duals. The Regional would require 8 to 10 mats.
 - i. A donation was made by USAWO to the Keegan Dennis Scholarship Fund in memory of her mother Christy who passed away this past summer. Christy was the wife of Chad Dennis, Head Coach at Harrison HS and Tournament Director for the Harrison Qualifier Tournament, and daughter-in-law of Sue Dennis, our longtime State Pairing Director.

2. Vice Chairperson's Report - Dave Riggs

Dave will try to work closely with Eric Loveman in the coming year to implement some of the fund raising ideas that were discussed at the State Leaders Summit. Dave thought that it was very beneficial to continue to have Ohio represented by several people at this Summit since many productive ideas were discussed.

Dave will work on designing an Ohio pin that wrestlers and coaches can wear at Regional and National events.

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

Mary presented the minutes from last year's meeting. **Motion** by Leo Saniuk and **second** by Eric Loveman to accept the minutes. **Motion passed** by acclamation. Mary thanked all of those who submitted written reports at the meeting since it made doing the minutes much easier.

Mary asked about distributing the first set of meeting minutes via email to reduce copying time and expense and postage expense. All agreed. Copies of the minutes will also be posted on the web. There will still be hard copies of the minutes available at the next annual meeting.

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

John distributed copies of the financial statement comparing the financial position, income, and expenses for fiscal years 2004 and 2003. Some of the highlights included:

- a. Expenses have increased for Dual Meet and National teams. The Junior Dual team had a loss due to athletes dropping out and having to rebook airline tickets.
- b. Gear costs for the Cadet and Junior National Teams were down by approximately \$8,000 in 2004.
- c. The Schoolboy and Cadet Dual teams and the Cadet, Junior, and Women's National teams broke even.

Motion by Pete Bolanis and **second** by Debbi Kallai to accept the treasurer's report. **Motion passed** by acclamation.

John also distributed the proposed budget for 2005. Some of the highlights included:

- a. The cost of coaches cards to the National Office will go up \$7/card.
- b. Budget has USAWO keeping coaches cards at the same rate (\$30/card) for 2005. This will cost us approximately \$4,500.
- c. The National Office was asked for a 5 year projection of cost increases. Their responses were that there will be no increases in competitors cards for the next 3 years and, after 2005, no increases in coaches cards are foreseen.
- d. Discussion about USAWO increasing our rates now to stay in line with the national increase. This issue was tabled until New Business.

Motion by Carol Saniuk and **second** by Debbi Kallai to approve the budget. **Motion passed** by acclamation).

John proposed raising Qualifier Tournament entry fees from \$10 to \$15 for one style for Cadet/ Junior and from \$15 to \$20 for both styles. Of the \$5 increase, it was proposed that \$3 for each Cadet and Junior registered for each style will go

to USAWO to subsidize Cadet and Junior National Team expenses and \$2 will stay with the host club. The state tournament will stay at \$20 per athlete.

Mark Gerhard proposed raising the Qualifier Tournament entry fee for Schoolboys to the same level to help subsidize Schoolboy Dual Team expenses. Further discussion covered housing costs, general fund money to offset expenses, and raising coaches card fees.

Motion by Wendel Donathan and **second** by John Sopczak to raise Qualifier Tournament entry fees to \$15 for one style and to \$20 for both styles for Schoolboy, Cadet, and Junior divisions with the \$5 increase split as follows: \$3 to USAWO to subsidize Dual Team expenses and \$2 to the host club to offset increased tournament expenses. **Motion passed** by acclamation.

Pete Bolanis brought up that the quality of the Cadet and Junior wrestling attire for the Dual Teams was not as high as other states last year. It was suggested that jackets and singlets be the same as for Fargo and that shorts and T-shirts be provided for the individual teams.

Motion by Pete Bolanis and **second** by Joe Kise to increase the coaches card cost by \$10 to \$40. **Motion passed** by 24-1.

5. Registration Chairperson's Report - Mary Terbay for Clara Smith

Mary reported that we had another record year in 2004 as follows:

Category	2004	2003
Competitors		
Total	5570	5129
Bantam - Schoolboy	3237	NA
Cadet - Open	2333	NA
Coaches	623	533
Club Charters	104	96
Event Sanctions	68	70

2005 Club Charter packets and Event Sanction forms were available at the meeting.

6. Kids / Schoolboy Director's Report - Tom Knupp for Doug Howard

Tom reported that Team Ohio competed in the Middle School Duals in Danville, IL, and finished third. Team Ohio also competed in the National Schoolboy Duals in Yorktown, IN. The Greco-Roman team finished sixth and the Freestyle team finished fifth.

7. Cadet Director's Report - Jeff Kullman

Jeff reported that the selection and petition processes for the Cadet National Team were better with the changes that were made for 2004. The Cadet Dual Team had pre-camp workout sites set up throughout the state, which really helped the athletes. Jeff thanked Todd Haverdill, Chris Kallai, and Leo Saniuk and all of the coaches for their assistance with the National Team. He also thanked Mark Gerhard, Frank Baxter, and Wendell Donathan for doing a great job organizing the Dual Team.

Jeff indicated that we need to publish the discipline expectations and consequences for all USA Wrestling - Ohio sponsored teams in the future. The athletes need to understand this going in, and coaches need to realize that they have the responsibility to supervise wrestlers in Fargo.

The Cadet Team placed fourth in Freestyle with 7 All-Americans, 2 champions, and 3 runner-ups, and eighth in Greco with 5 All-Americans and 2 champions. The Cadet Dual Team placed eighth in Freestyle.

Jeff emphasized the importance of our Cadet Teams, since this is the athlete's first real chance to see national competition and the college coaches start looking at the athletes at this time.

8. Junior Director's Report - Dave Riggs

Dave reported that the Junior Dual Team was excellent again in 2004, successfully defending their national title in Freestyle and placing in the top eight in Greco. Results can be found at www.themat.com.

Dave gave special thanks to Paul O'Donoghue for all the work he did during selection of the Junior National Team, to Leo and Carol Saniuk for compiling and typing all the statistics, to Chris and Debbi Kallai for all their behind-the-scenes work, and to the camp directors and housing coordinators, especially Greg Urbas and Evelyn Nye. The new petition process was followed, but there were some minor mistakes in the execution that will be corrected next year.

Team Ohio took more than 200 athletes to Fargo, more than ever before. Ohio had 5 All-Americans in Greco, and we had 7 All-Americans, 2 champions, and the team placed third overall in Freestyle.

Next year Dave will try to improve some areas by assigning all of the coaches specific duties for supervision in Fargo and on the trip.

9. Open Director's Report - Brian Keck

No report.

10. Coaches Director's Report - Jim Speelman

No report. Jim was in Colorado Springs.

11. Wrestling Development Director's Report - Tom Knupp for Tadaaki Hatta

Tom reported that Tadaaki's duties with the National Women's Freestyle Team have increased in preparation for the Olympics. Tadaaki recommended Eric Burnett for this position next year. He will work on getting several more athlete clinics this upcoming year.

12. Folkstyle Director's Report - Charlie Smith

No report.

13. Women's Wrestling Director's Report - Tom Knupp for Jim Martin

Tom reported that there were eight women who competed for Team Ohio in Fargo this year, and four were All-Americans. In 2005, one day will be added to the women's schedule in Fargo in order to have a Junior Women's Duals.

14. Mat Officials Director's Report - Bob Vallarelli

Bob reported that there were 103 USWOA-licensed mat and pairing officials in Ohio for 2004. We had four instructional clinics for new mat officials this past year. Ohio now had four M1E officials and nine M1 officials, more than we have had in quite some time.

In 2005, Ohio must send two mat officials to each of the following tournaments: Schoolboy Duals, Cadet Duals, and Junior Duals.

Jim Speelman was selected to referee at the Olympic Team Trials in Indianapolis in 2004. He is considered to be one of the top Greco officials in the country. Jim had the distinction of refereeing the second longest match in Olympic Team Trial history.

15. Pairing Tri-Director's Report - Sue Dennis, Debbi Kallai, and Carol Saniuk

Debbi reported that there were two instructional clinics for new pairing officials in 2004, and we need more in 2005. Carol reported that Debbi Kallai is now a P2, the highest ranking pairing official in Ohio.

16. International Exchange Director's Report - Brian Church

Brian reported that there is an International Exchange planned for March 2005 where Ohio will host some of the best wrestlers from Belarus to train and

compete in freestyle competitions in Ohio. USAWO will be hosting a banquet for the exchange wrestlers. Brian will coordinate and get with others as he needs assistance.

There is a tour scheduled for Minsk, Belarus, for 2 weeks in June. If anyone is interested in being the team leader for a tour to China next year, please contact Brian.

17. Media / Promotions Director's Report - Carol Saniuk

Carol reported that the web site is using the PDF file format successfully. PDF files are more printer friendly. Carol needs to get Adobe Acrobat so that she can do PDF conversions without having to go through Tom. Eric Loveman mentioned that he had a program that can convert files to PDF, and he will e-mail it to Carol.

Web site content still need to have the following items added: a history of USAWO, a list of past Cadet and Junior All-Americans for Greco and Freestyle, several additional policies and procedures, and the job descriptions. One suggestion is to track and recognize individuals who have wrestled for Team Ohio and who place in the NCAA Championships.

If anyone has any suggestions of items to put on the web site, please contact Carol.

18. Fund Raising Director's Report - Eric Loveman

Eric reported that he will look into using our web site for fund raising. One suggestion would be to sell advertising space for a fee.

Eric stated that he has looked into United Way in Central Ohio, and they are on a three year cycle for new charities. Therefore, no new charities can be added at this time.

Miscellaneous

Evelyn Nye suggested that we have a short meeting with Cadet and Junior parents at our state tournaments regarding housing requirements and expectations at the camps, since it is getting more difficult each year to find enough host families for out-of-town wrestlers.

A brief discussion of the possibility of housing wrestlers in college dorms followed including the problems of increased cost and supervision requirements. It was decided that we will put an insert in the packets for wrestlers commuting to the camps regarding their obligation to help with housing other wrestlers.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS

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

Vice Chairperson - Dave Riggs was nominated by Eric Loveman and seconded by Chris Kallai. Nominations were closed, and **Dave Riggs** was re-elected by acclamation.

Treasurer - John Cvetic was nominated by Chris Kallai and seconded by Debbi Kallai. Nominations were closed, and **John Cvetic** was re-elected by acclamation.

Registration Chairperson - Clara Smith was nominated by Debbi Kallai and seconded by John Sopczak. Nominations were closed, and **Clara Smith** was re-elected by acclamation.

There was some discussion regarding adding several new responsibilities for the Vice Chairperson. Tom Knupp and Dave Riggs will work on this issue.

Tom Knupp announced that the Executive Committee recommended creation of the new position of **Tournament Coordinator**. This position will be an appointed position for 2005, but may be recommended for elevation to an elected Director position in 2006. Tom announced the appointments of Leo Saniuk and Chris Kallai as Co-Tournament Coordinators for 2005. Leo and Chris both accepted their appointments. Tournament Coordinators are responsible for ensuring that mat and pairing officials are compensated correctly by Tournament Directors according to the required schedule.

The following individuals were nominated and seconded for **one-year** terms as **At-Large Board Members**. All nominees were elected by acclamation. These individuals will be given the responsibility of helping promote USAWO at clubs in their areas and helping at Qualifier Tournaments in their area. They will also be asked to help with fund raising in their area by supplying several names of potential sponsors for USAWO.

Northeast	Northwest	Central	Southeast	Southwest
Eric Burnett Don Hernan Frank Jayne Chris Kallai Leo Saniuk	Mark Beach Pete Bolanis	Micky Balmert Eddie Jayne Joe Kise	Tina Fisher	Frank Baxter Wendel Donathan Jeff Franz Mark Gerhard

OLD BUSINESS

1. Job Descriptions for Officers and Directors

Several additional responsibilities have been added to the job descriptions for Head Mat Officials and Head Pairing Officials. A new job description will be written for the Tournament Coordinator. The final compilation of all job descriptions will be posted on the web site under General Information as soon as they are approved by the Executive Committee.

2. Policies and Procedures

The procedures for selections of National and Dual Meet Team coaches must still be written and approved.

3. Changes for Kids at Qualifier Tournaments

Keeping entry fees low, having a separate Kids State Championships, and using blocked weights for the Bantam, Midget, and Novice age divisions in 2004 helped to stimulate more interest at these age levels and to make these age divisions run more smoothly at tournaments, according to several Tournament Directors and pairers.

4. Tournament Operations

It was stressed that Tournament Director must follow the guidelines they are given for conducting tournament. This is especially important when there is an injury. Qualified trainers or other medical personnel must assess all injured athletes before they are allowed to continue wrestling.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Selection Procedures for Dual Meet Teams

Selection procedures for the Schoolboy and Cadet Dual Meet Teams (i.e., using the State Championship results) seemed to work well, and no changes were proposed for these.

However, selection procedures for the Junior Dual Meet Team are more complicated since Juniors can qualify for the Ohio National Team at any USAW Regional Tournament and do not have to wrestle in our State Championships. Most Junior wrestlers also have a "track record" at the regional and national level by this time.

There was considerable discussion revolving around whether USAWO wants to send the best team we can put together to try to continue to do well at the Junior

Duals or whether we should use the results of our Junior State Championships to select the team. The consensus of opinion was that the current procedure for Juniors involving a number of criteria was too complicated and that the Junior Dual Meet Team should be picked by the Junior Director with assistance from the Dual Meet Team coaches.

The Junior Women's Dual Meet Team for 2005 will be selected by the Women's Wrestling Director.

2. Selection Procedures for Cadet and Junior National Teams

The phrase that "no athlete may petition for both teams" will be removed from the procedure.

There was considerable discussion about how to strengthen the Junior competition at our State Championships. **Motion** by Chris Kallai and **second** by Mark Beach to give the highest placing Juniors from our State Championships at each weight class and style a \$200 stipend for the trip to Fargo. **Motion amended** by Mark Gerhard and passed by acclamation. (Note: Funds for these stipends will come from Qualifier Tournament subsidies and coaches card fee increases. Stipends will only be given to Junior wrestlers who actually go to Fargo. The Junior Dual Meet Team will continue to be subsidized on a "funds available" basis.)

The current petitioning procedure states that wrestlers must have a USAW card and must have participated in at least one Qualifier Tournament or be injured with a doctor's statement or be a returning All-American (same age division and same style) in order to petition for a spot on the Cadet or Junior National Team. **Motion** by Carol Saniuk and **second** by Mark Beach to continue these requirements pending further study. **Motion passed** by acclamation.

Selection of "state spots" on our Cadet and Junior National Teams will continue to be by qualification at the State Championships or by petition. As before, Cadets and Juniors who qualify by finishing in the top three at a Regional Championship will not count against the number of "state spots" we are allowed to fill. Juniors who have already qualified for the National Team at a Regional Championship are encouraged to wrestle in the Ohio State Championships to try to earn the \$200 stipend, but will not be counted against the number of "automatic qualifiers" at that weight by the Petition Committees. **Motion** by Leo Saniuk and **second** by Mark Gerhard to this effect. **Motion passed** by acclamation.

3. Proposed Amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws

Currently Article 9 of the USAWO Constitution and Bylaws provides for removing non-performing Officers, Directors, or At-Large Board Members from office using

a procedure that is very cumbersome (i.e., a two-thirds vote of all USAWO Chartered Clubs following submission of a removal petition signed by one-half of the Chartered Clubs). USAWO currently has over 100 Chartered Clubs, but less than twenty are represented at most Annual Meetings.

Therefore, the Executive Committee proposed an amendment to this procedure to include a two-thirds vote of all Officers, Directors, At-Large Board Members, and Chartered Clubs present at the Annual Meeting. The removal petition must be signed by either 25% of the Chartered Clubs or unanimously recommended by the Executive Committee. The proposed amendment also includes “significant misconduct” or “substantial non-performance of job duties” as reasons for removal.

Motion by Chris Kallai and **second** by Leo Saniuk to accept the amendment as proposed by the Executive Committee. **Motion passed** by acclamation. The amended Article 9 will be substituted in our Constitution and Bylaws and published on the web site.

4. **Team Gear**

It was suggested and agreed that, to cut costs for Dual Team members, USAWO use the same team gear for the Cadet and Junior Dual Teams as for the Cadet and Junior National Teams. Wrestlers who already have gear from one of the Dual Teams will be given a credit for the National Team gear.

5. **Wrestlers Who Officiate at Qualifier Tournaments**

To help wrestlers raise money for Fargo, it was decided that any wrestler who officiates or pairs at a Qualifier Tournament may, at their discretion, defer their compensation and ask the Tournament Director to submit the funds to the State Treasurer instead. Funds will be held in their name and used for the Cadet or Junior National Team at any time before they graduate. If they do not request the funds before they graduate from high school, the money will revert to the general fund. **Motion** by Wendel Donathan and **second** by Mark Beach to allow this deferral of funds. **Motion passed** by acclamation.

Tom Knupp will modify the Tournament Report Form that Tournament Directors complete to include the name and amount of money being put into a wrestler's National Team fund.

REQUIREMENTS / PROCEDURES FOR 2005 USA WRESTLING - OHIO TOURNAMENTS

1. Event Sanction Forms, Club Charter Applications, and Tournament Agreement Forms (i.e., contracts) must be returned to the appropriate person no later than December 15, 2004. If these are not returned by January 1, 2005, there will be a

\$50 late charge assessed for each form that is late. Event Sanction Forms and Club Charter Applications go to Clara Smith, and Tournament Agreement Forms go to Leo Saniuk.

2. Officials must be paid according to the Official Compensation Policy. If this is not done, the tournament will be fined at least the amount that the officials are underpaid and placed on a two-year probation. If the violation occurs again within that time frame, the tournament will be dropped from the USAWO schedule. Leo Saniuk will monitor this.
3. If there are not enough mats at the tournament based on the minimum number listed on the contract, the tournament will be placed on a two-year probation. If the violation occurs again within that time frame, the tournament will be dropped from the USAWO schedule. Leo Saniuk will monitor this.
4. Tournament Reports are due back to the Tom Knupp within two (2) weeks of the tournament along with a check for the Junior/Cadet/Schoolboy entry assessment. If reports are late or the check is not included, a \$50 late fee will be assessed.
5. The tournament MUST have CERTIFIED medical person on site for the ENTIRE tournament.
6. USAW's insurance company recommends a pre-tournament site inspection of the facility. Tournament Directors will receive an inspection form with their tournament guides.

SCHEDULING OF 2005 USA WRESTLING - OHIO TOURNAMENTS

The following tournaments are **TENTATIVELY** scheduled for the 2005 season (pending confirmation of dates, completion of paperwork, and receipt of fees):

Date	Event	Location
March 5, 2005	SWOC (Folkstyle)	Dayton Carroll HS
March 12, 2005	Folkstyle State Championship	Dayton Stebbins HS
March 13, 2005	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Dayton Stebbins HS
March 19, 2005	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Harrison HS
March 19, 2005	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Toledo Waite HS
March 26, 2005 (??)	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Elyria HS
March 26, 2005	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Franklin HS
April 2, 2005	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Watkins Memorial HS
April 9, 2005	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Delaware Hayes HS

Date	Event	Location
April 16, 2005	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Wadsworth HS
April 17, 2005	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	New Lexington HS
April 30, 2005	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Lakota East HS
April 30, 2005 (??)	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Madison HS
May 7, 2005	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Dayton Carroll HS
May 7, 2005	Kids GR/FS State Championships	Dayton Stebbins HS
May 14, 2005	Greco-Roman State Championship	Marion Harding HS
May 21, 2005	Freestyle State Championship	Wadsworth HS

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE 2005 ANNUAL MEETING WHICH WILL BE HELD SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2005.