

Minutes of the USA Wrestling - Ohio Annual Meeting October 5, 2008

Attendees (32): Chris Kallai, Leo Saniuk, Mary Terbay, John Cvetic, John Sopczak, Jeff Kullman, Jerry Nadeau, Bob Vallarelli, Debbi Kallai, Carol Saniuk, Charlie Smith, Jon Horn, Frank Baxter, Pete Bolanis, Wendel Donathan, Mark Gerhard, John Gillespie, Jim Lehman, Tom Knupp, Todd Haverdill, Monica Kallai, Chris Kallai, Jr., Jim Dies, Robin Rayfield, Zach Ison, Troy McLaughlin, Carmen Armenta, Scott Hivnor, Wil Everidge, Keith Carter, Scott DeTray

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 ten). Twenty-one (21) Officers, Directors, and At-Large Board Members were present, and fifteen (15) Chartered Clubs were represented at the beginning of the meeting. Since it was determined that we had a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM.

The Minutes from the 2007 General Meeting were approved as written by acclamation. (**Motion** by Tom Knupp and **second** by Bob Vallarelli).

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS REPORTS

1. Chairperson's report – Chris Kallai

Chris thanked all the Tournament Directors, mat officials, pairing officials and Coaches for helping this past year. He also thanked all those that helped in any way at the FILA Cadet/ University tournament and the Central Regional and the coaches/ clinicians for the Fargo teams and the dual teams. Ohio is truly a "hot bed" of wrestling.

In 2009, Ohio will again host the Kids/ Cadet/ Junior Regional and FILA Cadet / University Nationals. The numbers at these events were higher in 2008 than in 2007; the volunteers really stepped up and helped.

Highlights from the Chairperson's meeting:

- Women's division will now have a more stringent residency requirement; teams can combine to compete but will not place
- Kids Division – the Midgets classification has been changed to the Intermediate classification
- Pairing change – when 2 wrestles go out in the same round, their head-to-head match (if there was one) will determine placement; if they have not wrestled it will go to good points.
- Bracketing change for Fargo – state ranked wrestlers will be guaranteed separation for 1 and 2 ranked wrestlers; if one of the ranked wrestlers does not make weight and goes up a weight class, then the separation is lost.
- Coaches council – Junior Duals must be completed by July 1st; so due to the calendar in 2009, the Cadet and Schoolboy Duals will be at the same time.
- Mouthpieces are not mandatory but are recommended.

- Fargo coaches passes – passes will be on an allocation method until finals and then it will be a different pass and allocated based on the number of wrestlers in the finals. There will also be a coaches area designated for sitting at Fargo in 2009.
- Background checks – must be done every 2 years. Starting in 2010, a coaches card will be for 2 years to coincide with the background checks.
- Schoolboy weight classes have been modified – see themat.com for details
- Insurance – Membership in USAWO includes insurance (\$5M); events are covered when there is a sanction purchased; clubs are covered with their membership and when every coach associated with the club has a coaches' card. If there is an accident at a practice and there is a non-member coach there, the insurance may not cover it.

2. Vice Chairperson's Report – Leo Saniuk

The Vice Chairperson is also in charge of the Qualifiers and tournaments. Numbers for 2008 were down from previous years.

Leo also mentioned that we need a State Greco Development Director, Jim has not responded to calls. We will no longer be able to sell coaches' cards on site, due to the requirement for background checks. Starting in 2009, club charters and event sanctions will be online. Give yourself at least 48 hours to complete and get approvals. If you have any questions, please call the Membership Chairpersons.

Leo passed out the job descriptions for the At Large members and talked about their duties. This is an area that not everyone is doing what they are supposed to be doing. Other job descriptions have not been completed and he hopes to work on them this fall.

At Fargo, Ohio was in the top 6 in four of the five events - Thirty-five All Americans and 4 champions.

Leo mentioned that there is a Notice of Injury form and strongly encouraged the Tournament Directors to use this as an accident report whenever there is an accident/ injury at a tournament.

3. Treasurer's Report - John Cvetic

John distributed copies of the financial statement comparing the financial position, income, and expenses for fiscal year 2008. Some of the highlights included:

- a. USA Wrestling Ohio was a little under budget for 2008. Areas where we were under: Support services, team sponsorship (no dual teams in 2008), cards (due to coaches cards sold at FILA). These were offset by losses on Fargo team cost (gas surcharge), FILA/ Central Regional and Schoolboy Duals.
- b. Purchased the two clocks that had been approved at last year's meeting.

The Treasurer's report was accepted by acclamation (**Motion** by Pete Bolanis and **second** by Robin Rayfield).

John said that the 2009 budget was laid out to anticipate a drop in coaches' cards. There is no increase in card fees proposed. The proposal includes dropping the stipend for Junior Greco and Freestyle State Champions to \$100. A discussion about selling floor passes followed to be continued under New Business. Team sponsorships were increased to allow for the Junior and Cadet Dual Teams – fee went up for 2009.

Motion by Pete Bolanis and **second** by Robin Rayfield to accept the budget as proposed.
Motion passed by acclamation.

4. Membership Chairperson's Report – Leo Saniuk for Clara Smith

Leo reported that our numbers were down in 2008 as follows:

Category	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
Competitors						
Total	4509	5029	5309	5395	5570	5129
Bantam - Schoolboy					3237	NA
Cadet - Open					2333	NA
Coaches	438	480	518	505	623	533
Club Charters	95	92	99	107	104	96
Event Sanctions	51	59	64	70	68	70
Officials	96	134				

5. Kids / Schoolboy Director's Report – John Sopczak

John thanked his coaching staff for the Schoolboy Duals, which was a very tough tournament. There was almost a full team in 2008. The team went 1-5 in Greco and 2-5 in Freestyle. There was a camp for the team at OSU. It is hard to get the commitment from the wrestlers and parents. The one that participated were excited.

6. Cadet Director's Report - Jeff Kullman

Jeff shared his observations over the past year and noted that Ohio continues strong in Freestyle. The goal for 2009 is to win Freestyle and to be in the top 10 for Greco.

Jeff thanked his staff on doing what needed to be done.

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.

7. Junior Director's Report – Jerry Nadeau

Jerry thanked his staff and noted that the Greco team was improving. Freestyle took 3rd. A lot of good wrestlers did not go to Fargo = \$ and timing. He echoed Jeff's sentiments that we need to set our goal at winning Fargo..

8. **Open Director's Report** – Joel Greenlee
No report.

9. **Greco Development Director's Report** - Jim Speelman
No report.

10. **Freestyle Development Director's Report** - Jim Lehman

Jim reported that clinics were held before most of the qualifiers. He would like to do more clinics with top level wrestlers at OSU. There is a need to develop a syllabus of techniques and strategy between Cadet and Juniors so that they are developing and building on the same principles. Also there is a need to document what needs to be reviewed prior to going to Fargo.

11. **Grappling/ Sombo/ Beach Director's Report** – Frank Baxter

Frank resigned his position. He did state that Grappling was growing and that there may be some Sombo interest.

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

Numbers were down at the State Tournament – only 50 wrestlers- very few from the northeast and the northwest. We may need more promotion of this. Thanks to the Folkstyle group for all their work.

13. **Women's Wrestling Director's Report** – Leo Saniuk for Brian Nicola and Kip Flanik

Ohio sent eleven women to Fargo and eight of the eleven were All Americans and Ohio was 4th overall! Goals for next year include National Title, more participants and a spring camp.

14. **Junior Dual Meet Director's Report** – open position
No report.

15. **Cadet Dual Meet Director's Report** – Bill Barger
No report.

16. **Schoolboy Dual Meet Director's Report** – Matt Darby
No report.

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

Bob reported that there over 100 mat officials in Ohio. Not all of the officials came back this year; there were only 25 mat officials that worked for 2008.

Four clinics were held and only one was attended. It is critical that we get more mat officials.

In 2009 we will set up 3-4 clinics. Remember that we will not be able to use out-of-stand people due to the need for a background check.

18. Pairing Co-Director's Report - Debbi Kallai

Debbi reported that we are down on pairers (only 15). Mary Terbay is now a P2. We need more pairers to advance to the next level and work some of the national tournaments. We also have some new P3s.

Debbi reported that the computer program, TRACK WRESTLING, will be used at the state tournaments in 2009.

Congratulations to Debbie – she won the National Pairing Master award in Fargo for 2008.

19. International Exchange Director's Report – Jon Horn

Jon reported that he took a team to Serbia and were able to compete in a FILA tournament where they placed 5th out of 10 teams. They also competed in Hungary and placed 2nd of 8.

Ohio also hosted 11 wrestlers from Serbia – there was a dual meet and work outs with different clubs. Thanks to all that help to make this a successful visit.

Jon stated the goals for 2009 were to take more wrestlers back to Serbia and to host the Serbian team. We will need top level wrestlers for them to work with, dual meets and tournaments for them to participate and sponsors/ housing to help defray the costs.

We really need more college involvement – housing, meal cards, workout space and wrestlers.

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

Carol reported that the web site is easy to use and encouraged clubs to post information on the website. Mat and pairing officials are using the website for some of their information; results are also posted.

Please send pictures of your events/ wrestlers. They help to make the website more enjoyable for all.

Anyone having Fargo Freestyle, please send to Carol so she can get them posted.

Ad space is available for anyone interested. There are quite a few hits on the website during the season.

21. Fund Raising Director's Report – Wendel Donathan

Wendel reported that he sent some suggestions to the USAWO board. He also submitted his resignation from this position. He has lined up some sponsors for the Schoolboy Dual Team for 2009.

Some ideas for possible sponsors: Ken Chertow, Randy Simpson

We broke for lunch at 12:05. The meeting reconvened at 12:50.

The Columbus Sports Commission was represented by Linda Logan, who thanked USAWO for working with them on the Central Regional. They are convinced that wrestling is one of the sports that they want to continue working with and were very complimentary of USAWO and our workers. She also stated that they are working with us to host the Cadet National Duals in 2010.

The Buckeye Wrestling Club (BWC), represented by JD Bergman, presented their mission to USAWO. They are a chartered club with the purpose to produce Olympians, assist OSU, and have positive impact to the community. The BWC has also partnered with USA Wrestling to be on Olympic Regional Training Site. They would like to host the Junior / Cadet National Camp at OSU in conjunction with the college. They want to work with USAWO to support the duals and nationals – suggested they could be clinicians. They would like feedback from USAWO as to where we think they could help. There will be a Freestyle/ Greco clinic in early April at OSU.

Proposed Constitution and Bylaws Amendments

The following amendment was proposed, discussed and voted on:

- A proposed amendment to change the title of “Registration Chairperson” to “Membership Chairperson” to better reflect the duties of the position. This will eliminate confusion on registering for events, which is not the purpose of this position.

Motion by Rob Rayfield and **second** by Debbi Kallai to accept the amendment as proposed by the Executive Committee. **Motion passed** by acclamation.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Dual Meet Teams

USAWO will pay entry fees for the Dual Meet teams (Schoolboy, Cadet, Junior). The organization cannot take the financial hit.

The Dual Meet Team Directors would help to get sponsorships and support for the different Dual Teams, organize and help select the team, set the budget, select the coaches and collect the money. The Dual Teams have to abide by the USAWO guidelines for safety and discipline but the team can be selected by the Team Director.

Mike Moos and Eric Burnett have expressed an interest in the Junior Dual Meet Directorship and feel that they already have 6-7 team members for the Freestyle team.

JD Bergman was asked to express his thoughts concerning the level of competition of the Duals vs. Disney and post on the website.

2. National Events

FILA Cadets/ University Nationals will once again be at Akron University. Help is needed from all the clubs. Cleveland Sports Commission will support this. They were the USA Wrestling Organizer of the Year for last year.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

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

Position	Nominations	Nominated by:		Close nominations:		Result
		First	Second	First	Second	
Vice Chairperson	Leo Saniuk	Debbi Kallai	Chris Kallai, Jr	Carmen Armenta	Chris Kallai Jr	Re-elected by acclamation
Treasurer	John Cvetic	Frank Baxter	Zach Ison	Chris Kallai Jr	Carol Saniuk	Re-elected by acclamation
Membership	Clara Smith	Wendel Donathan	Charlie Smith	Rob Rayfield	Carol Saniuk	Re-elected by acclamation

The following appointments were made to fill the remaining term of 2008 electees:

Junior Dual Meet Director	Mike Moos
Schoolboy Dual Meet Director	Wendel Donathan
Cadet Dual Meet Director	Bob Dies
Sombo Director	Will Everidge

The following appointment was made to support Membership in the North: Monica Kallai as Membership Co-chair.

The following individuals were nominated and seconded for **one-year** terms as **At-Large Board Members**. All nominees were elected by acclamation.

Nominee	Area	Nominated by
Chris Kallai Jr	Northeast	W. Donathan R Rayfield
Dave Cline	Northeast	W Donathan D Kallai
Tom Knupp	Northeast	P Bolanis D Kallai
Zach Ison	Southeast	P Bolanis R Rayfield
Robin Rayfield	Northwest	T McLaughlin C Kallai JR
Carmen Armenta	Northwest	D Kallai P Bolanis
Troy McLaughlin	Northwest	P Bolanis R Rayfield
Mark Gerhard	Southwest	J Sopczak Z Ison
Tim Allen	Southwest	R Rayfield T Knupp
Keith Carter	Southwest	J Sopczak W Donathan

John Smith	Southwest	C Smith J Sopczak
Pete Bolanis	Northwest	T. McLaughlin R. Rayfield

NEW BUSINESS

1. National Event

USAWO is going to put in a bid to host the Cadet Dual Team tournament in Columbus in 2010.

The National Team tournament will be in Fargo for the next 2 years and then looking to change. We are asking Cleveland to do this.

2. Fargo Camp

Once again we are looking to move this to OSU. Cost we currently pay is \$35/wrestler so OSU's costs would have to be offset. This could be by charging the kids for camp or OSU raises the funds through the BWC. Supervision at the university for the ENTIRE camp is an issue.

3. Corporate Sponsorship

John Cvetic explained the proposed Corporate Sponsorship program. The program can be considered a charitable donation to corporate sponsors or part of an advertising expense. It is the corporation's obligation to decide this. There are 3 levels of sponsorship: Bronze, Silver and Gold. Details of the program and the associated incentives for each level are on the USAWO website. If anyone is interested or has questions, please contact Chris Kallai or John Cvetic. It was also mentioned that the athlete could sell the sponsorship.

Chris and John will develop a form letter that can be used to let corporations know about the program.

4. Golf Outing

Suggestion was made to host a golf outing in the Columbus area. It was thought that the charge could be \$100/golfer. JD Bergman volunteered to help with this event since he has worked one of these for the BWC. He has a template and will share it.

Everyone was asked to email John Cvetic with lists for corporate sponsorship/ golf outing invitees or other ideas.

5. Equipment

In 2008, USAWO had asked for and had approved the spending of \$2000 for a computer. This expenditure was reaffirmed in 2009 since the purchase had not made. **Motion** by Rob Rayfield and **second** by Charlie Smith to authorize up to \$2000 to purchase a new computer. **Motion passed** by acclamation.

6. Floor pass

Motion by Chris Kallai JR and **second** by Wendel Donathan to sell floor passes at the Qualifiers. The floor pass would cost \$5 but would NOT allow for mat access. Anyone with a current USA Wrestling Coaches' card would be given a different colored coaching pass (for free) that would allow them to coach on the mat. Revenue from the floor pass would go 50% to tournament and 50% to USAWP. Each Tournament Director must sell these and not allow coaches on the floor without them. **Motion passed** by acclamation. Leo will obtain the passes.

7. **Miscellaneous**

Schoolboy assessment from the Qualifiers will go to offset the expenses for the Schoolboy Dual Team.

Coaches/ Officials Cooperation – There appears to be a lot of animosity and lack of respect between the coaches and officials. This is not representing the sport well. Officials contend that the coaches don't know the rules – officials need to explain the rules and need to make the calls correctly. Leo challenged the coaches to find the official with the biggest problem in making correct calls and to discuss this. He then asked the clubs to find one adult to add to the mat officials – that person can help the club learn/ understand the rules. Leo asked the officials to go to the club sessions to teach the “new” rules or changes. Leo will call together **an** Officials/ Coaches Summit in late March to discuss how to obtain better working relationship and understanding. Goals: civility, learn rules and how to approach each other. Contact Leo if interested in participating in this summit. This topic will also be covered at the coaches' clinic (some Sunday in April).

Wendel suggested that USAWO have an All Academic team. Everyone thought this was a great idea. Wendel should set up guidelines for qualification and prepare a form for download from the website. If anyone has any ideas on how to qualify, send to Wendel. He will then write up the qualifications and the process and send to the Executive committee.

The 2009 Discipline Committee was appointed after the meeting. For record, the members are:

Dave Cline
Mike Mattingly
Jim Lehman

John Gramuglia
Ralph Cubberly

REQUIREMENTS / PROCEDURES FOR 2009 USA WRESTLING - OHIO TOURNAMENTS

1. Tournament Agreement Forms (i.e., contracts) must be returned to **Leo Saniuk** no later than December 1, 2008. If these are not returned by January 1, 2009, there will be a \$50 late charge assessed for each form that is late. Event Sanction Forms and Club Charter Applications must be sent by December 1, 2008 also.
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 **Leo Saniuk** within one (1) week 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.
7. Be sure that you have at least two (and preferably three) working scales available. A weight check scale must be available outside the weigh-in area.
8. Be sure that you have enough Mat and Pairing officials and enough help to sell USA cards, handle registration and weigh-ins, and work the tables.
9. Go over instructions with registration and weigh-ins **before** registration starts.
10. Cut off registration and weigh-ins at the designated times.

SCHEDULING OF 2009 USA WRESTLING - OHIO TOURNAMENTS

The following tournaments are **TENTATIVELY** scheduled for the 2009 season (pending confirmation of dates, completion of paperwork, and receipt of fees).

Date	Event	Location
March 14, 2009	Folkstyle State Championship	Dayton Stebbins HS
March 21, 2009	SWOC (Folkstyle)	Dayton Carroll HS
March 28, 2009	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Delta HS
April 4, 2009	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Dayton Carroll HS
April 18, 2009	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Elyria HS
April 24- 26, 2009	FILA Cadet/ University Nationals	University of Akron
May 2, 2009	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Oregon Clay HS
May 9, 2009	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Copley HS
May 16, 2009	Ohio Kids State Tournament	Dayton Stebbins HS
May 23- 24, 2009	Central Kids/ Cadet/ Junior Regional	Columbus Convention Center
June 6, 2009	Ohio Greco State Tournament	Franklin HS
June 13, 2009	Ohio Freestyle State Tournament	Wadsworth HS

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 PM.

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE 2009 ANNUAL MEETING
WHICH WILL BE HELD**

SUNDAY, October 4, 2009.