

WWCA Executive Meeting
Saturday, May 3, 2008
Wisconsin Dells, Chula Vista

President Mel Dow called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

Members Present: Mel Dow, Bob Empey, Scott Schmitz, Craig Belcher, Andrew Melton, Barry Schmitt, Bob Skubal, Eric Lehrke, Wendall Bean, John Stockowitz, Dave Black, Bob Olson, Jim Stephenson, Don Hale, Dave McCarthy, Jeff Behrens, Bret Corner.

Eric Lehrke presented the Treasurer's Report. Barry Schmitt made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Bob Skubal 2nd. Motion carried.

The Secretary's report was approved as reported on the WWCA Web-site.

The Committee discussed what National tournaments would be more suitable for the Wisconsin Wrestlers. Questions centered on expenses and transportation feasibility. After discussion Dave McCarthy made a motion for the WWCA to promote the USA Folkstyle National Tournament for our elite wrestlers. Scott Schmitz 2nd. Motion Passed.

Barry recommended tournament information be put in the Fall Clinic brochures. Scott will put something together for our July meeting in Winneconne.

Bob Empey presented our Code of Ethics and the NWCA Code of Ethics. The main reasons for developing the code were to present a positive image and to give coaches guidelines for the best way to represent their school. Bob Empey will present the final draft for approval at our July meeting.

Bob Empey had also been busy with the Developmental Coach of the Year Award. Bob handed out the proposal to the committee. It was suggested developmental coaches be given a pass to enter the Nicholas Suite at the State Tournament. Coaches should nominate developmental coaches by May 1st.

Wendall Bean presented information on Official Growth and Promotion. He gave comments from the caucuses from around the state. He would like to have information from the different caucuses by May 15th in order to present some ideas and proposals at our July meeting. Craig Belcher mentioned how Junior Varsity officials were being treated roughly during their meets. Mel will address this in his next article for the Crossface.

Craig Belcher reported on the problems of wrestling in the Milwaukee City Conference. Craig has been working hard to get the Milwaukee City schools more competition and exposure with other area schools. He is hopeful to "Bring Back Milwaukee" wrestling.

The recommendation for additional officials at State was well received. The Coaches Advisory Committee approved additional pay for officials in the tournament series.

The results from the survey sent out by President Mel Dow were tabulated and the results were sent to the National Federation. No action was taken.

Radio Sponsorship was questioned as to how it was handled. Many areas of the State were not covered and the times for the wrestling announcements were often confusing.

Wrestling in the Phy. Ed. Curriculum was discussed. It would be nice to have a unit on wrestling in elementary Phy. Ed classes. It was mentioned the NWCA has a great amount of information on this subject. For more information teachers could contact Tony Black. Wendall Bean has mentioned this has been presented at the Phy. Ed. Convention (WAHPERD). Jeff Behrens will check at the WAHPERD Convention. No further action was taken.

The future of high school athletics was covered at the WIAA Annual Meeting. There is a major concern regarding club sports versus high school sports. No action was taken.

The committee took a lunch break and then toured the Chula Vista facilities. The committee reconvened at 1:40 p.m.

It was decided the ad hoc position of WWF/USA representative currently held by Dave Black should become a permanent position on the WWCA Executive Committee with full voting privileges. Scott Schmitz made a motion to that effect. Eric Lehrke 2nd. Motion Passed. According to our By-laws the motion will be voted again at the July meeting. If approved by the Executive Committee the proposal will be presented to the membership at our November Business meeting.

Coaches Voice/ Caucus Feedback: Barry Schmitt reported the biggest item of discussion at his caucus was the number of weight classes. Barry suggested the possibility of conferences having 12 weight classes if they wanted to. Would the WIAA be in favor of trying something like this? Starting date was also discussed. There was a general concern that the season is too long and there are too many meets.

Lack of officials was a major concern mentioned at the caucuses. Some suggestions to get more officials included the possibility of classes for officials and having schools pay for new officials to become registered. It would be nice to have the different official associations help get new officials. The suggestion was made to contact Mike Blasczyk to help with the State's Associations. Todd Goldbeck was also mentioned as another person who could help. To add to the importance of officials being a major part of the WWCA's involvement, Dave McCarthy made a motion to add an ad hoc position to the WWCA Executive Committee. Wendall Bean 2nd. Motion carried. Mel will contact Mike Blasczyk and Todd Goldbeck to attend our afternoon meeting on July 14th in Winneconne.

It was obvious the caucuses were a great success and we need to do this again next spring. District reps should e-mail coaches about the success of the caucus meetings.

Mel contributed the minutes of the Wrestling Coaches Advisory Committee meeting (March 21, 2008) in Stevens Point. Coaches had expressed a concern of meets for JV competition. A motion was made and passed to go to a JV schedule that would allow "8 multi / 6 duals" and allow inclusion of additional schools for all JV dual meets in efforts to provide competition opportunities for all JV wrestlers. A suggestion was made to have a State Junior Varsity Tournament. John Stockowitz will research the possibility of such a tournament and to check with Chula Vista as a possible tournament site.

The WIAA allowed the use of DXA for appeals this past year due to the UW Madison having problems with their hydrostatic weighing tank. It was moved and seconded that with approval of the 7% Committee, the WIAA should devise a set of standards and application process in order to use DXA at clinics throughout the state. The rules committee passed the motion.

There was a concern that the host school for the Regionals might have an advantage because of the access to Track Wrestling. The Advisory committee did not see this as an issue. It was moved and seconded that line-ups should be entered by midnight Thursday prior to regional tournaments, head to head should be entered between midnight Thursday and midnight Friday and black out changes from midnight Friday to 11 a.m. Saturday. The motion was approved.

Bob Olson handed out a report on the Web site. Among the items he suggested included updating the calendar in the fall for events. This has not been utilized enough. He encouraged the use of links to various wrestling sites and other coaches wrestling links. We should encourage every coach to have a website to promote their program. We need more activity through colleges and universities. Basically we need to educate our coaches to use the services available to them on the Web site.

Bob Empey suggested we have the Crossface newspaper on line. He also stated we could connect an official's web site link to our Web site. Also: Could there be a site on Tom McGarvie's Wisconsin Wrestling Web site, which could go directly to the WWCA Web site?

Bob Empey reported the winner of the WWCA Scholarship was Cody Friemoth of Neillsville.

TV coverage versus Radio was the next item of discussion. Bob Empey will investigate into "This Week in Wisconsin Wrestling" with Joe Miller in regards to cost and exposure. Don Hale made a motion to pursue TV coverage in place of radio sponsorship. Craig Belcher 2nd. Motion carried.

It was decided to have a form drawn up to allocate funds to different people and organizations requesting money from the WWCA. Eric Lehrke will draw up a form.

A motion was made by Scott Schmitz to withdraw a \$250.00 request from the radio station WSCO for a wrestling program hosted by Shane Sparks due to Shane's vacating his position from the radio station. Craig Belcher 2nd. Motion carried. Dave McCarthy then made a motion to give Shane Sparks \$250.00 for his work with Badger State Wrestling.

Jim Stephenson reported for the Alumni Committee. The sale of the History of Wisconsin Wrestling books has been a great success. There will be 500 books to be given at the Clinic in the fall. There is a great deal of excitement with the possibility for a future Hall of Fame building and Olympic Training Center.

Jeff Behrens said he is set for awards except those going to the developmental coaches.

Dave McCarthy handed out his Public Relations report. He stated a concern for the amount of money for the Nicholas Suite. Eric will check on the cost of the suite. It was also suggested to go back to the cup dispenser for soda rather than cans. Dave commented on the excellent job Justin Tritz does with our Web site in regards to the voting process. He suggested we put our WWCA questionnaire on line. He mentioned WWCA district #3 and #4 are up for election this year.

Dave McCarthy also reported for Blaine Felsman for the WWCA Golf Outing on June 14th in Winneconne. He stated Blaine is still in need of Hole Sponsors and prizes. He would like each District rep. to help out.

John Stockowitz gave his Fall Clinic report. He will check on the college teams wrestling at the clinic since UW Madison has dropped out of the competition. John requested an increase for Executive Committee members regarding their admission to the Clinic and Banquet. Don Hale made a motion to raise the fees for Executive Committee members to \$75.00. John Stockowitz 2nd. Motion carried.

Craig Belcher made a motion to adjourn. Eric Lehrke 2nd. Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

The next WWCA meeting will be on July 14, 2008 in Winneconne at the Fin N' Feather beginning at 9:00a.m. Hall of Fame meeting in the morning. Business meeting in the afternoon.

Respectfully Submitted,

Don Hale
WWCA Secretary

