

Minutes of the USA Wrestling - Ohio Annual Meeting October 25, 2015

Attendees (30): Chris Kallai, Keith Carter, Mary Terbay, John Cvetic, Wendel Donathan, Jeff Kullman, Bryan Marcelli, Chris Kallai, Jr., Charlie Smith, Bob Vallarelli, Jim Speelman, Jason Ashworth, Brian Church, Erik Burnett, Jake Bontatibus, Dom Mancini, Mark Gerhard, Jeff Ferrara, Pete Bolanis, Troy McLaughlin, Barry Henderson, Zach Ison, Tom Knupp, Harmon Sizemore, Amanda Burr, Charles Kallai, Gavin Speelman, Ron Currier, Tony Black, Jim Lehman

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 twelve). Sixteen (16) Officers, Directors, and At-Large Board Members were present, and thirteen (13) 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 9:12 AM.

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. Other states are noticing what Ohio does and are asking questions about how we conduct our tournaments, team selections, etc. Chris also mentioned that the State tournament ran well and so did Fargo.

Mat officials, pairing officials and Coaches need to voice their ideas to improve the tournaments and USAW-OH needs to listen.

To help support this, the coaches asked to have a Coaches Council set up. This was discussed with the Age Directors prior to the Executive Board meeting. It is a great idea and it is a step forward for Ohio. The Age Directors that will be on this council are Schoolboy, Cadet, Junior, Open and Women. They will meet during the year – council to set up what they feel is the right amount.

Chris is on the National Board – this helps to give Ohio a voice and he can have access to ideas and bring back to us.

The Spires Institute would like to host a national tournament. John C and Chris will go there to look into it. Possibility of the Cadet Duals being there.

Chris reviewed the report from the Chairperson's meeting

- The top 8 at UWW tournaments (Cadet National) will qualify to participate at Fargo for the Cadet team, assuming that they meet the age restriction for a Cadet.
- Retention of officials is of concern at the National level as well as at our state level. Looking at incentive pay/ perks to try to get more pairing and mat officials and to retain them Bob Vallarelli hosted a meeting in Ohio for the northern officials in October to help work through issues for the state.
- Rule books will be online once they are set. After March 15th, no changes will be made through Fargo tournament.
- At all National tournaments, there will be a pool of money to help pay officials. Hotels, food and number of mats have been improved.
- USAW-OH received a check from the Cleveland Sports Commission for \$10,000. This money was donated to help offset the cost of the Fargo trip for the wrestlers. Chris K will send a Thank You card to the Sports Commission.

2. Vice Chairperson's Report – Keith Carter

Keith thanked everyone for their extra support in 2015 while he was recuperating.

Tournaments

- Qualifier numbers were back up to previous levels. We will also place an ad in the OAC. A couple of the tournaments struggled with numbers and these occurred when there were 2 tournaments on the same day.
- The change to wrestle Novice and below during the Freestyle set up time went very well. Parents and Tournament Directors both liked it. The numbers are slowly increasing. We will continue to have Schoolboy and younger wrestle free for 2016 (if the wrestler is from Ohio; otherwise the cost is \$5 per style).
- State tournament will not be Mother's Day weekend in 2016 but the following one.
- Discussion: Why did some of the tournaments not do well. It was determined that it was not location but at least in part to the schedule not getting out as early as we normally do. This was due to contracts not being returned. This has been addressed.

3. Secretary's Report – Mary Terbay

The Minutes of the 2014 USA Wrestling Ohio Annual meeting were approved as written. (Motion by Wendel Donathan; seconded by Jason Ashworth).

4. Membership Chairperson's Report – Keith Carter

Fees for clubs, coaches cards and tournament sanctions have gone up \$5.

Membership numbers were:

Folkstyle	3015
Full membership	1655
Coaches cards	460
Clubs	114
Event sanctions	63

5. Treasurer's Report - John Cvetic

- a. John distributed copies of the financial statement comparing the financial position, income, and expenses for fiscal years 2014 and 2015. The balance does reflect approximately \$2500 in unpaid Fargo fees. This situation has resulted in a stipulation that any of these wrestlers will not be on ANY USAWO wrestling team until those dues are paid. John will get the list to the Coaches so all are aware. Clocks and printers have also been purchased for use by USAWO events.

The Treasurer's report was accepted by acclamation (**Motion** by Bob Vallarelli and **second** by Zach Ison).

John Cvetic said that the upcoming year's budget

- a. Adjusted Fargo fee due to the check from the Cleveland Wrestling Commission (approximately \$50/ wrestler)
- b. Has included money for the Coaches Council meetings
- c. Support services section includes money for the officials incentive
- d. This section also includes some money for regional clinics (\$500/ each – Dayton, Toledo, Cleveland, Columbus)

Items considered: Money to offset a probable card increase by USAW and a contribution to any World Team member that was part of USAW-OH and is in good standing, up to \$500 maximum per wrestler and \$2000 maximum for all.

Motion by Jake Bontatibus and **second** by Wendel Donathan to accept the budget as proposed; approved by acclamation.

6. Kids / Schoolboy Director's Report – Wendel Donathan

Wendel was pleased with the Schoolboy participation and felt that the wrestlers were very focused and performed well. The number of wrestlers in these age groups are increasing due to the wrestle for free.

Schoolboy duals – thank the board and the coaches and the training camp sites. If you are interested or know of a place to host the camp for next year, please

contact Wendel. Seeding the tournament is placed on the number of regional places – so get to regionals.

Still struggle with filling all weight classes. Costs are low and this is worked every year to keep the costs down. In Greco, they came in 8th ; freestyle, 2th place.

The OAC Champions can wrestle at the state tournament for free. We are looking into a Triple Crown concept – OAC, Greco and Freestyle championships. This would be advertised in the OAC literature.

In 2015, the camp was opened to Novice wrestlers for \$25/ wrestler.

7. Cadet Director's Report - Jeff Kullman

Jeff noted that Mary Terbay was being inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame on Oct 18th.

He distributed a flyer that talked about the Cadet team and the Cadet coaching staff and distributed a flyer about Football + Wrestling = Success and FCA Wrestling.

For Fargo, Cadets were 11th place in Greco with 4 All-Americans and 4th in Freestyle with 2 Champions and 9 All-Americans..
At Fargo, they took 4th in Greco and 3rd in Freestyle.

Dual Team – 6th in Greco and Runner-ups in Freestyle.

Camp worked out with the Juniors and believe that this was helpful.

Jeff feels that the Coaches' Council will aid the organization in advancing the sport.

8. Junior Director's Report –Bryan Marcelli

Bryan thanked St. Ed's for hosting the training camp (again) – can't imagine anyone else doing such a great job. Fargo went well with 5 All-Americans and 8th place in Greco and 12 All-Americans and Runner-up in Freestyle.

Volunteers of the Year are the Junior Dual Team coaches – Dom Mancini, Rae McDonald and Steve Shie.

9. Open Director's Report –No report

10. Women's Report – Chris Kallai for Lauren Louive

Women sent 8 wrestlers to Fargo; there were 5 All-Americans.

11. Folkstyle Director's Report - Charlie Smith

MVKWA has 2300 wrestlers this year and approximately 200 coaches.

12. Greco Development Director's Report – Jake Bontatibus for Jeff Simons

A syllabus was created to ensure that coaches that focus on Greco are consistent in what is being coached. A regional camp was tried but there were no participants. If anyone is interested in hosting a camp, please let Jeff or Jim Speelman know.

Jim Speelman – Greco is very competitive and to develop our Greco program different techniques must be taught. Hoping to get the World Team group to help with training.

13. Freestyle Director's Report – Jim Lehman

Coaches' Council will be a great advancement for wrestling.

14. Mat Officials Director's Report –Bob Vallarelli

Bob thanked Chris Kallai for his support and for attending a pre-board meeting for the Northern officials. The intent was to put all the concerns/ issues on the table and tried to resolve the items. The main concern continues to be the need for more mat officials. A penalty was discussed since this is a major concern due to retirement of senior officials within the next 2-5 years. Some states require their coaches to be officials. Tournament directors are responsible to get their mat officials. Remember that parents often get upset with wrestlers officiating.

When the rules clinics are presented; some adults need to be in attendance, not just wrestlers. Another discussion was to provide some incentive based compensation. This will be a new policy.

It was agreed that if "quality" wrestlers are paired then all officials on the mat should be licensed. A younger official liaison should be established to help get license. A mentorship program was also discussed to provide encouragement for the younger officials.

Bob Vallarelli received the Mat Officials, Sandy Cageo award, at Fargo.

15. Pairing Co-Director’s Report – Ron Currier for Debbi Kallai

Ron reported that there are 12 official pairers: 4 P3, 1 P2, 2 P1E, 5 PA.

USAW-OH will use line bracketing for all the qualifiers and the state tournaments, unless there are 3 or fewer wrestlers and they will be round robin.

16. International Exchange Director’s Report –Brian Church

Brian reported that there is a link on our website for information on the international events/ competitions for anyone that wishes to get information.

There is a camp in Ontario starting July 12th and also one in June at the Northern Michigan Olympic training center, which brings in international wrestlers.

17. Media / Promotions Director’s Report – Chris Kallai for Carol Saniuk

Log in information/ viewer information for the USAW-OH website was distributed. We do not have all tournament directors using the website yet.

Encourage parents / coaches to send in pictures so they can be posted.

Facebook has 1008 members and lots of pictures are posted here.

USAW-OH will NOT promote non-USAW wrestling tournaments on our website.

18. Fund Raising –
No report

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following **Officers and At Large members** were elected for **two-year** terms:

Position	Nominations	Nominated by:		Close nominations:		Result
		First	Second	First	Second	
Chairperson	Chris Kallai	Bob Vallarelli	R McDonald	Pete Bolanis	Wendel Donathan	Re-elected by acclamation
Secretary	Mary Terbay	Pete Bolanis	Tom Knupp	Pete Bolanis	Tom Knupp	Re-elected by acclamation

Junior Director	Bryan Marcelli	Zach Ison Jake Bontatibus	Pete Bolanis Jason Ashworth	Re-elected by acclamation
Cadet Director	Jeff Kullman	Jim Speelman R. McDonald	Bob Vallarelli Zach Ison	Re-elected by acclamation
Schoolboy Director	Wendel Donathan	Charlie Smith Bob Vallarelli	Pete Bolanis Bob Vallarelli	Re-elected by acclamation
Open Director				
Mat Officials Director	Bob Vallarelli	Pete Bolanis Jake Bontatibus	Zach Ison Brian Church	Re-elected by acclamation
Pairing Officials	Debbi Kallai Sue Dennis	Mary Terbay Charlie Smith	Tom Knupp Jake Bontatibus	Re-elected by acclamation
Folkstyle Director	Charlie Smith	Tom Knupp Chris Kallai	Pete Bolanis Wendel Donathan	Re-elected by acclamation
Freestyle Development Director	Jim Lehman	Bryan Marcelli Zach Ison	Gavin Speelman Wendel Donathan	Re-elected by acclamation
Greco Development Director	Jim Speelman	Pete Bolanis Bob Vallarelli	Charlie Smith Pete Bolanis	Elected by acclamation
Beach Director				Open position
Sombo Wrestling Director				Open position
Grappling Director				Open position
International Exchange Director	Brian Church	Charlie Smith Pete Bolanis	Pete Bolanis Troy McLaughlin	Re-elected by acclamation
Fund Raising Director	Jeff Simons	Jake Bontatibus Chris Kallai	B. Henderson Bob Vallarelli	Elected by acclamation
Media / Promotions Director	Carol Saniuk	Ron McDonald Jeff Kullman	Gavin Speelman Jake Bontatibus	Re-elected by acclamation
Women's Director	Lauren Louive	Bryan Marcelli Jake Bontatibus	Bob Vallarelli Mary Terbay	Re-elected by acclamation

Membership Chairperson – The current Membership chairperson was removed from office due to cause according to the by-laws. (**Motion:** Jim Speelman; second Charlie Smith). Passed unanimously.

Membership Co-Chairperson – elected for one year term, then back into 2 year term rotation next year. This is a compensation position (\$1000 maximum). It was decided to split the Membership position into co-chairs: one will handle the MVKWA wrestlers, clubs and event sanctions and the other will be used to increase membership and process membership cards, event sanctions (non-MVKWA) and club charters (non-MVKWA) (**Motion:** Bryan Marcelli; second R. Currier). Jim Bostic and Amanda Burr were elected.

Job description for Membership Chairperson will be modified (Mary to update and have posted to website).

Special Guest - Tony Black, USAW National Office

Tony noted that

- TrackWrestling has a stream component to it to allow for “live” wrestling. There will be more to come on this. USAW is looking into having a training camp in June or July at Spires.
- Coaches Education is being re-vamped. Copper level is in process. Bronze level can now be done on-line.
- UWW – Schoolboy is looking to be added to the World Championships.
- Fees are being increased: coaches up \$5; charters up \$20 and event sanctions up \$20. Increases are mainly due to insurance.
- USAW has discussed a combined Coach-Athlete-Official card. At least one problem with this is that the Coach and Official cards require a background check. This will continue to be an action item.
- A one-day membership card is also being discussed. There is a \$300 flat fee for High School teams for folkstyle level membership.
- Retention rate of wrestlers in 49-57% nationwide. Highest state has a 68% rate; lowest has a 36% rate.
- There will not be a 3 point nearfall in college wrestling – points available will be 2 or 4.

BY-LAWS

1. **Section 3.3.2** – modify to remove “membership chairperson”. (**Motion:** Dom Mancini; second, Keith Carter) – passed by the required margin.
2. **Section 10.2** – modify to remove by the second week in October. (**Motion:** Wendel Donathan; second, Chris Kallai). Passed by the required margin.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **UWW** – attendance is increasing.
2. **Lucas Marcelli award winners**

Cadet: Colt Yinger
Junior: Jack Harris

There will be a plaque for each individual and for Year to Year award winner. There was some discussion to also provide for the Schoolboy age division. This was agreed.

3. Pre-registration update

- Pre-registration was used at the State tournament and went OK.
- Novice, Intermediate and Bantam used a round robin format – bracket sent to mat and worked there. Tournament Directors all felt that this was a positive change.

4. Tournament Stipends

2015 was the last year for the stipend. It was decided that Schoolboy and Kids from Ohio and USAW-OH member will wrestle for free.

5. Officials recruitment – Bob Vallarelli

After much discussion on how to assist in recruiting mat officials, there was a motion “Any club with a new official gets a \$150 stipend once that person officiates a minimum of 3 tournaments. (**Motion:** Bob Vallarelli; second, Pete Bolanis). This passed.

Bob Vallarelli will track the addition of the mat official and provide the 3 tournament documentation to John Cvetic for payment of the stipend.

6. Bob Vallarelli also proposed that there not be 2 qualifiers on the same day. There can be 2 in a weekend but just not the same time. (**Motion:** Bob Vallarelli; second, Zach Ison) – passed.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Qualifier contract

The USAW-OH qualifier contracts must be returned by December 1st or the club will incur a \$200 penalty (this includes the club charter and event sanctions being completed); if not in by December 15th, then the Board can cancel the tournament. (**Motion:** Keith Carter; second, Jake Bontatibus). Passed.

2. Line Bracketing at all USAW-OH Qualifiers

Since Fargo has decided to stay with line bracketing for Cadet and Junior Nationals and the Tournament Directors voted to have the qualifiers go line bracketing, the State Tournaments will also use line bracketing (**Motion:** Keith Carter; second, Gavin Speelman). Passed

3. Lower housing cost at Fargo

Zach Ison present some ideas to provide air conditioned housing at Fargo for the wrestlers/ coaches at a hotel. Some pricing has been done for \$80-120/ night and breakfast is included. This is compared to \$42.50/ night/ wrestler and \$25/ night/ wrestler for food. It was noted that the bus fee will increase because the bus will have to transport the wrestlers from the hotel to the arena. It was decided that this would be tabled to go to the Coaches' Council with a recommendation on how to lower cost/ increase comfort and the total package.

In addition, Zach also presented some ideas for a gear package that is the same year-to-year. If wrestler has a gear pack then they do not have to purchase another one thus lowering the costs. Use the same gear pack for Duals, Fargo, etc.

4. Fund Raising – Jake Bontatibus

Jake presented some ideas provide additional funds.

- Dinner at a restaurant where a %age would go to USAW-OH. They are looking for a State-wide event, if possible.
- Golf tournament –
- 5K races – each club brings in a team (\$500/ team entry fee)
- Certificate for donor(s) and thank you letter – Keith Carter will provide

5. USAW-OH night at Ohio State Dual meet – Keith Carter

Keith is working on this. Subsequent to the meeting, the night is Nov 21st and information is posted on the USAW-OH website.

6. All Star Classic – John Cvetic

John noted that the All Star Classic will be in Cleveland next year and USAW-OH is looking to purchase tickets as block.

Next general meeting will be Sunday, October 16th.

Meeting adjourned at 2:01.

SCHEDULING OF 2015 USA WRESTLING - OHIO TOURNAMENTS

The following tournaments are **TENTATIVELY** scheduled for the 2015 season (pending confirmation of dates, completion of paperwork, and receipt of fees).

Date	Event	Location
April 24, 2016	Ohio State Dual Tournament	Boardman HS
April 2, 2016	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Jackson HS
April 9, 2016	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Carroll HS
April 10, 2016	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Worthington HS
April 16, 2014	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Clay HS
April 23, 2015	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Canton HS
May 7, 2016	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament	Lakota East HS
April 30, 2016	GR/FS Qualifier Tournament and Ohio Kids State Tournament	Elyria HS
May 14, 2016	Sandy Cageo Ohio Greco State Tournament	Western Brown HS
May 14-15, 2016	Sandy Cageo Ohio Freestyle State Tournament	Western Brown HS

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE 2016 ANNUAL MEETING WHICH WILL BE HELD

SUNDAY, October 16, 2016.