

ISWA Annual Meeting

September 11, 2022

Call to Order:

Pat Culp called the meeting to order at 9:10 am. Provided opening comments. Thanked everyone for coming and being a part of this and doing what we can for the kids. We will provide some updates from USA Wrestling. 134 events are already scheduled for the upcoming season. We will go through rules and regulations to help keep the kids safe. Wanted to point out the growth we've seen. For 2021-2022 season we had 9632 wrestlers, 203 clubs and 118 sanctioned events coming off of 2020. Fargo numbers were up. We had 101 boys and over 30 girls (highest we've ever had). We are going to show you how USA Membership works and different ways it could be used. We have videos from USA Wrestling that was made just for Indiana. They are building an Indiana Ranking system. It is worth mentioning that of the 112 high school state finals medals – 110 medals this last year went to ISWA members. Women's wrestling is now an Emerging sport with the IHSAA. Many have worked hard to get to this point. There are links available to help with girls' wrestling, coaching, etc.

Tina Fouts confirmed we have a quorum at 35% of governing body in attendance and that we can conduct official business.

Roll Call:

Board Members: Pat Culp, Jeff Strueder, Tina Fouts, Jim Tonte, Ben Nicely, Jason DeLois, Mary Friedt, Mark Galka, Nick Hull, Michell Kaster, Jim Littlejohn, Jason Miller, Mark Mundy, Jonah Odum, Jennifer Pierson, Jennifer Ratliff, Linda Robinson, Lou Silverman, Mark Stevenson, Danny Struck, Roby Webster, Jean Whetstone

Lifetime Members: Helen Mankey, JD Minch

Office Staff: Tina Tonte, JD Minch

Consultants: None present

Wrestling Clubs:

Section 1: Bulldog Premier, Chesterton Wrestling Club, Elite Athletic Club, Highland Wrestling Club, Hobart Wrestling, Hybrid Wrestling Club, Valparaiso Wrestling Club

Section 2: Apache Wrestling Club, Battling Braves, Columbia City Wrestling Club, Decatur Wrestling Club, Garrett Wrestling Club, Huntington County Wrestling Club, Jet Wrestling Club, Jimtown Wrestling, New Haven Wrestling Club, Northwood Wrestling Club, Penn Wrestling Club, South Bend Wrestling Club, Snider Wrestling Club, Warrior Regional Training Center, Wawasee Wrestling Club

Section 3: Avon Wrestling Club, Beech Grove Wrestling Club, Carmel USA Wrestling Club, Cascade Youth Wrestling Club, Fishers Wrestling Club, Franklin Central Wrestling Club, HSE Wrestling Club, IHSWCA, Legends of Gold, Monrovia Youth Wrestling Club, Mooresville Wrestling Club, Normonco Wrestling Club, Panther Wrestling Club, Perry Meridian Wrestling Club, Roncalli Wrestling Foundation, Southmont Wrestling Club, Southport Wrestling Club, Warren Wrestling Academy, WEBO Wrestling Club, Westfield Wrestling Club, Wrightway Wrestling, Zionsville Wrestling Club

Section 4: Center Grove Wrestling Club, Columbus East Wrestling Club, Columbus North Wrestling Club, Delta Wrestling Club, Dragon Wrestling Club, Franklin Wrestling Club, Indian Creek Wrestling Club, Indiana Girls Wrestling Ignites, Jay County Wrestling Club, Jennings County Wrestling Club, Yorktown Wrestling Club

Section 5: Bloomington South Wrestling Club, Floyd Wrestling Club, Jasper Wrestling Club, Mater Dei Wrestling Club, Princeton Wrestling Club, Southridge Wrestling Crew, Tell City Wrestling Club, Team Jeff Wrestling Club

Law & Legislation – Safe Sport Update

- Steve Pugliese provided Pat Culp with his report to be presented to those in attendance
- No disciplinary actions to report.
- Encouraged to keep male and female athletes separate on Team Indiana trips.
- Again, remind all adults affiliated with our sport of the importance of setting a good example for our wrestlers. Asking all adults to lead by example.
- All club administrators and coaches are encouraged to complete the SafeSport course.
- Parents are also encouraged to complete this course so they may recognize any potential issues.
- A link to SafeSport can be found on the ISWA homepage.
- The ISWA continues to encourage the clubs and participants to submit prompt payment of fees and dues owed to the ISWA. Failure to promptly pay fees and dues may result in legal action by the ISWA.

Secretary – minutes

- Tina Fouts directed all board members in attendance to the August minutes that were provided with the packets and sent to board members in advance to review.
- Roby Webster made a motion to accept the minutes
- Mary Friedt seconded the motion
- No questions or additional discussions
- Motion passed unanimously

Treasurer's Report:

- Jeff Strueder directed all in attendance to the treasurer's report and annual budget
- The financials in the packet are the proposed budget for this year.
- Stepped through the items on the proposed budget.
- Actual financials were shown on overhead and are located on the website.
- Can reach out to Jeff Strueder if you have any questions or want additional details.
- Financials were proposed last year for this year to break even or lose 12,000 but we had earnings of \$152,000.
- ISWA runs big and successful tournaments to cover expenses on national teams.
- Discussed the individual costs for team trips.
- Purchases of laptops
- At the end of the year (as of August) we were about \$120,000 (not as much as prior to COVID).
- Discussed proposed budget and the fact that it is based off of this year's budget.
- Highlighted differences from last year and why.
- Mark Mundy made a motion to accept the proposed budget
- Mark Galka seconded the motion
- No oppositions, motion carries.

Nomination Committee Report

- Jennifer Pierson, committee chair, explained the nomination process

- Provided Nomination process – committee consists of the 5 section directors, a board member and an at large club member (Jodi Webster).
- Ballots were online this year and were emailed to all clubs, board members, lifetime members.
- We had the highest responses since going to the electronic process.
- Reminded those in attendance to keep the administrator of the club's email address up to date.
- Nominations closed on August 1, 2022 at 11pm
- 3 days later the committee met and selected slate of nominations, based position.
- Ben Nicely presented the slate of nominations as follows:
- State Chair: Pat Culp
- Vice Chair Programs: Jim Tonte
- Vice Chair Administration: Jennifer Pierson
- Treasurer: Jeff Strueder
- Secretary: Tina Fouts
- Went through the positions one by one, asking for nominations from the floor.
- No nominations came from the floor
- Voted for each position as listed above and they all passed unanimously

Audit Report

- Mary Friedt reported that an audit was conducted on expenses and income from this past fiscal year.
- No problems or discrepancies discovered.

New Business:

USA Wrestling Updates

- Pat Culp reported that Mark Mundy received the Lifetime Achievement award at Fargo
- Katie Kriebel is now the assistant women's wrestling coach for USA Wrestling.
- Jim Littlejohn & Mark Mundy discussed changes to rules regarding headgear and mouthpieces.
- Jim Littlejohn reported that USA Wrestling adjusted requirements for headgear
- Previously, for USA Regional and National events, headgear was required for 14U and below and was recommended for 16U and above. Mouthpieces were required at USA Regional and National events if the athlete was wearing braces.
- They have made change that now headgear is no longer required.
- Indiana will maintain the requirement for headgear for 14U and below, at state tournaments.
- Rules for mouthguards - Indiana will now fall in line with USA and they will only be required for 14U and below but will be required with braces.
- Mark Mundy reported that Freestyle and Folkstyle will be the same.
- Current policy in guide on page 21.
- Proposed for Indiana headgear 14U and below will be mandatory and recommended 16U and Junior.
- Mouthguards are strongly recommended for 14U and younger but any wrestler with braces will be required to wear mouthguard.
- National federation for Folkstyle rules.

- Motion to follow rules provided above by Mark Mundy and Jim Littlejohn
- Roby second motion carried with no additional questions or comments.
- Motion Carries
- Helen Mankey had a question about competition singlets required at local tournaments. She said that she hears from parents that when they weigh in at state, this is the first time they are learning of the rule that weigh ins must be made in competition singlets.
- Jim Littlejohn and Mark Mundy stated that we follow the rules from National Federation for High School for Folkstyle and Freestyle/Greco – a result of safesport.
- Weigh ins have to be a wrestling competition uniform.
- Mark stated at Regional and National tournaments if they do not show up at weigh-ins with competition singlets they are out of the tournament.
- We do this is to teach the athletes the right way to do weigh ins so they do not get disqualified.
- Jim stated we did away with hair rule and shave rule (beard has to be thin enough to see face for skin checks).
- Waiver form that is required for skin checks for high school is also used for Folkstyle and Freestyle/Greco.
- We are an educational organization-our job to teach wrestlers, coaches, and administrators rules to avoid coming to the mat unprepared and disqualifications.

How to make National Teams

- Danny Struck and Jimmy Tonte discussed how to make national teams.
- Jimmy reported that a few changes have been made on selections.
- For coaches, make sure applications are in by the deadlines communicated.
- Team selections have a few changes.
- Kids Nationals remain the same as the past years.
- 16U selection process is the same.
- Junior Nationals selection process remains the same.
- Duals teams – 16U and Juniors have the same qualifications.
- Heartland Duals will have a slight change, update will be sent.
- Coaching on trips, there will be a cutoff date for applying for each trip.
- Applications will be out by the first week of November and a cutoff date will be announced.
- Jimmy stated we are looking at some changes on Middle School State tournaments (administered by the Coaches' association).
- Jason Miller asks for volunteers for Heartland Duals trips, asked that those interested message him.
- Jason stated that this is a good step in the coaching process, that could aid in eventually get to participate at Fargo.

Merger of Track Wrestling and Flo Wrestling

- Pat Culp reported that this year we can still choose which platform we wish to run tournaments on. Next year, the merger will be complete.
- We will have more information once they provide us with the information on what this will look like.
- The video showing updates to USA Wrestling program will show that you can have wrestlers register for tournaments through the membership area for free, where Track Wrestling charges a per wrestler fee in their pre-registration process. (Only credit card fees applicable).

Awards Presentation

- Folkstyle Official of the Year – Kenny Young of Plainfield
- Freestyle/Greco Official of the Year – Eric Lopshire of Huntington
- Brandon Wayley Young Official of the Year – Blaze Garcia of Brownsburg
- Coach of the Year – Paul Rademacher of Ft. Wayne
- Coach of the Year – Bill Hawkins of Crown Point
- Volunteer of the Year – Cheryl Merchant of North Webster
- Pairer of the Year – Kara Polen – of Fort Branch
- Club of the Year – Delta Wrestling Club Inc. – of Muncie

Video from Dave Matthews of USA Wrestling presented

- Video was shown that contained information on the Indiana Ranking System that is being worked on
- Showed process of registering wrestlers for tournaments in the USA Membership System. Tutorial is now on the ISWA website.
- Transferring over to tournaments and events.

Rules/Regulations

- Jennifer Ratliff and Ben Nicely went through the handout booklet containing the 2022-2023 rules and regulations made for tournament directors.
- This information is also available on the ISWA website under the tournament section.
- Ben Nicely discussed some problems areas in the past with dual bracketing (athletes in more than one bracket), moving age divisions, not identifying head officials/head pairers, etc.
- These issues will be handled more heavy handedly this year due to increased liability, change of athlete injury, etc.
- We don't want to place suspension, etc. on clubs but we are to the point that we need to.
- If clubs have questions, please reach out and we will help you.
- Jennifer Ratliff went through the rules and regulations for sanctioning and running an event.
- Went through the 2022-2023 Club Organizing and Tournament guide (of which a copy was provided to all clubs in attendance).

Annual Reports

- Annual reports are in the book – all directors are required to write a report for the 2021-2022 year and they are included.
- Pat Culp Did a general rollcall of board member to see if there was anything to add to their reports. None reported.

Hobart Wrestling club was the winning club for a set of singlets.

2 clubs were drawn as winners of the book "Not All Roads Lead to Gold" by 1X Olympian Jim Gruenwald. Columbus East and Ft. Wayne Snyder were the winners of these books.

Meeting broke up without motion to adjourn and tournament bid meeting was held and administered by Ben Nicely, then attendees divided out to attend training sessions.

Submitted by
Tina Fouts
ISWA Secretary