

**USA Kansas Wrestling**  
**STATE BODY MEETING**  
**10/9/16**

Present – 91 clubs were in attendance

Mike is looking to solicit feedback with the new way the meeting is being done and moving it up a month. Please let him know your thoughts so we know your thoughts.

Previous Minutes- Steve Woody made the motion to accept the minutes, Jeff Butler with Leavenworth Takedown Club second the motion, all were in agreement.

Treasures Report – Patty Ochs - \$31,929.94 is in the checking account. She thinks that all bills have been paid for this past year. Richard Salyer moved to accept the financial report, Joe Knecht second the motion, all were in agreement.

Matt Treaster – Gave Report for Folkstyle.

- There were 9123 athletes this year. We are down by 1½% for the year.
- There is \$1,500.00 budgeted per district for folkstyle clinics. If interested in this money, talk with your district director.
- This year \$10,000.00 was given to the Heartland Middle School Duals. They have decided to take buses due to growth.
- \$8,000.00 was budgeted for post season Folkstyle Nationals.
- Last year we participated in a Southern Plains Dual team event in Tulsa. We took two elementary dual teams down there. They are looking to expand this and include Middle School teams. It is the same weekend as High School Regionals. Could be conflicting for some families.
- Summer Folkstyle – Matt went to Fargo. It was determined that there are many kids not interested in Olympic style wrestling. There is a HS league that meets in Topeka and Salina in the month of June. They have had a good turn out and he is working with others to expand this to other regions of Kansas during the summer months.
- This past year we had an ad hoc State Committee to look at a how to work the state series. Sent out a survey through Survey Monkey. Realized that we have some real holes in the use of emails. Half of members do not have email linked to their name. We need current emails so that we can communicate with everyone about this issue.

Mark Stanley - spoke about the state tournament, he thanked the state tournament directors/helpers & officials for their help this past year. It will be on March 24, 25, & 26<sup>th</sup> in 2017, back to normal dates. Officials at the tournament were handled different this year and it worked out well. This is our last year under contract with Topeka. Net operation revenue this past year is \$49,932.00.

Freestyle/Greco season- Will Cokeley reported- Will needs and email address for everyone for him to be able to effectively communicate with everyone about clinics, camps etc., etc. Fargo is making a major change this year by flip flopping Freestyle and Greco. They will be wrestling Freestyle first and Greco second. Will is hoping for Kansas to bring home a national championship from Fargo. Numbers are about the same as last year. Only one down was Freestyle and Greco state, it was on Mother's Day. Will wants to plant a new seed with you. We have 9,100 wrestlers signed up for wrestling in Kansas of those 9,100 only 600 participate in Freestyle & Greco. This means that 8,500 wrestlers are missing out on the wrestling opportunity of Freestyle & Greco wrestling, Will would like to change this. Kids that wrestle Freestyle & Greco see significant changes in their wrestling abilities. He spoke about all of the positive points that wrestlers gain from kids participating in summer wrestling, Freestyle & Greco, the best value in wrestling

Joe Knecht – Women's Director – State tournament is in McPherson, Kansas. We had 122 participants this last year. He is positive about growth this next year. Took team Kansas to Folkstyle Nationals in Oklahoma City we had 18 All Americans and 2 National Champions. Lots of good competition there this year. Also took a Junior Dual Team to Folkstyle Nationals. It consisted of a mix of cadets and juniors. They took 7<sup>th</sup> in the nation. Went to Body Bar in Texas. It is the pinnacle to be on a world team, you have to be a finalist here. The format is brutal, you have to beat your opponent 2 out of 3 times. They also went to Fargo as well. He has gotten questions from people about hosting a local tournament. If you are interested, it is not difficult. They are looking at getting it in at the High School level with KHSAA. Every state that has sanctioned girls wrestling has seen growth in double or more increase. The biggest reason girls do not wrestle in High School is because they do not want to wrestle men.

Keith Ashpole – Officials Director, Keith spoke about some changes this year. Any brand new official that signs up for KHSSA, takes the test, and sign up with Kids Wrestling, we will reimburse them their sign up fee of \$5.00. The deadline for this is December 31<sup>st</sup>. Keith contacted every tournament director that was listed to get a list of referees that worked the tournaments and post it online so that people could see them and recognize them. He sent out 82 requests and received 40 responses. Keith has received some emails this year with some suggestions. If you have suggestions, give him a call so that we can speak about your suggestions. Keith is encouraging younger guys to go out for Freestyle & Greco to learn this style of refereeing. Call or email Keith if you have any questions. Will Cokeley made the motion for the Official of the Year award to be named the Jeremy Struempf Official of the Year Award. Randy Hinderliter second the motion, vote was unanimous.

District 1 Director – Joe Knecht held our district meeting here this morning. Jeff Alderman was voted in as assistant director, district tournament will be held at Blue Valley So. West, District Person of the Year is Travis Keel, State Person of the Year is Will Cokeley, Official of the year is Jeremy Struempf.

District 2 Director – Richard Salyer. James Bilby and Zach Campbell are the assistant directors. District Tournament will be held March 11<sup>th</sup> and Star Arena, Official of the Year is Nick Ashpole, District Person of the Year is District 2 Mom's and State Person of the Year is District 2 Mom's.

District 3 Director – Rich Zimmerman is the new District Director. Zack Sheets was voted West Assistant Director, James Otter is the East Assistant Director, Brady Sowers is the Rules Rep., Danny Grater is the Freestyle Director. We are having an East and West Sub-districts this year, Districts is at Junction City. District and State Person this year is Lance Engel and Jeremy Struempf was the Official of the Year.

District 4 Director - Steve Woody, Our membership is growing. Districts this year is tentatively in Dodge City but may switch to Garden City. District & State Person of the year is Jeannie Day, Official of the Year is Alex Ryan. Southern Plains is in Dodge City for the next two years. A great venue and many would like to keep it there.

State Chairman –

- Mike Juby stressed the importance of paperwork turned in on time. He gave a recent example of a wrestler getting hurt at practice and not being covered because the club charter had not been completed at the time of the injury.
- Lots of information is being emailed out from state and national levels. Club directors should make sure they submit an email address for each member to keep everyone informed. USAW does not share or sell email addresses with anyone outside of wrestling.
- Randy Hinderliter & Will Cokeley attended the National Summit this year.
- USA Wrestling is increasing the membership fee for wrestling cards. We are not passing this increase on to our members at this time, though at some point in the future we will need to. For the time being we will hold our membership fees at their current level.
- There have been a significant number of coaches cards given without background checks. This has created a significant problem with USA Wrestling and may result in restrictions from the national office. To continue to be allowed to manage our memberships as we have been doing, we must follow national procedures. To enforce this policy, there is a \$20.00 fee when a club submits a coaches card and the coach gets rejected because the background check is not current. Mike will begin to enforce this rule. He asks that you make sure your coaches are current. Background checks are on a fiscal year of September to August.
- In your packet is a flyer for Win Magazine. Win is in partnership with USA Wrestling Magazine and each member receive the first 6 issues free. It will be shipped to members every other month. You can get all 12 issues by going online to sign up for \$18.00. This is just an FYI and this option is available.
- Spreadsheet – Please never change the columns of the spreadsheet

- Rules Book – Not in packets this year. Kathy will mail a rule book to each club along with the first request for wrestling cards. If you need it sooner, talk with Kathy and she will get you taken care of.
- Involved – If you are interested in getting involved with wrestling, this is not a closed shop. The best way to get involved is to talk with some of the directors. We need and want new people stepping up and helping out.
- A Question from the group is, if a wrestler has a current card and is going someplace else to practice and gets hurt, is the insurance good? Mike's answer: Only if the club hosting the alternate site has chartered themselves will the insurance be good. If the club has not chartered themselves then the insurance is NOT good.

#### OLD BUSINESS –

##### Proposed Rule Changes-

1. Article II Section II – Richard Salyer made the motion for the rules to state, for the purpose of eligibility of entering a Sub-District or District tournament, the competitive member has to be a resident of Kansas or must be enrolled in a Kansas educational school system, be a member to a Kansas chartered club and not entered in another states' qualifying series in that season. Exceptions to this rule are subject to notification and permission from the corporate board. Application must be received on or before January 1. The State Tournament Director will be notified of any person permitted to wrestle under this permission. All questions on the determination of eligibility shall be resolved by the corporate board. James Bilby from Rosehill second the motion vote was unanimous
2. Eliminate the requirement that each District establish a deadline 72 hours prior to the seeding meeting after which no additional entries shall be made. Richard Salyer made the motion, Joe Knecht second, vote was unanimous.
3. Backfilling Brackets – Joe Knecht made the motion on having full brackets at state. For the purpose of creating full brackets at the state tournament. We will back fill brackets by district in an annually rotating fashion. Districts will be able to backfill each weight class with their 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> district placers. If a district does not have a wrestler to fill in the next district will have the opportunity. Selections will follow a serpentine approach for example: District 1,2,3,4,4,3,2,1. One district gets one available position per weight. Richard Salyer second the motion, vote was unanimous.

##### B. Proposed By-Laws Changes – Not approved by Board

1. Proposal to implement or bring back the heavy weight division or each age group or as least a younger age group. No motion was made, died for lack of interest.
2. Article III paragraph 1. Do we want to add a majority of the practices be held in Kansas. No motion was made, died for lack of a motion.

3. Daniel Reling, from Topeka Blue Thunder, would to make a motion about the redistricting the boundaries. James Bilby from Rosehill second the motion. It was open for discussion by Daniel Reling. He wants to change the district boundaries from what the board has approved and with one of the other options he addressed. Floor was open for discussion. There were 41 Yes votes and 34 No votes. Motion failed, the map board voted on stays.

Mike will look at the 2/3 vote or 50 that Mark spoke about. It will be addressed at the next board meeting.

Daniel Reling spoke about getting more people to stay for attendance

C. Election of Officers

Daniel Reling made the motion that all positions stay the same. Richard Salyer second the motion, all were in favor, vote was unanimous and everyone agreed to stay in their positions.

NEW BUSINESS –

There was none.

Meeting Adjourned