

ISWA Monthly Meeting

August 6, 2022

Call to Order: Meeting called meeting to order at 12:41 pm by Pat Culp. Meeting was held via zoom and in office.

Attendance:

In office: Pat Culp, Ben Nicely, Jim Tonte, Jeff Strueder, Tina Fouts, Josh Curry, Jason DeLois, Mary Friedt, Nick Hull, Michelle Kaster, Jim Littlejohn, Mark Mundy, Jonah Odum, Jake O'Neill, Ryan Parrish, Jennifer Pierson, Jennifer Ratliff, Lauren Rioux, Linda Robinson, Lou Silverman, Danny Struck, Roby Webster, Jean Whetstone

Via Zoom: Jason Miller, Thomas Pompei

Staff: Tina Tonte, JD Minch

Consultants:

Guest:

Secretary: Tina Fouts

- Presented June minutes, which were sent in advance through USAW Membership website to review and provide updates
- Motion to accept minutes presented by Mark Mundy.
- Josh Curry seconded the motion.
- Motion carried unanimously

Treasurer: Jeff Strueder

- Budget meeting was held prior to this meeting today
- Jean Whetstone presented a motion to accept the proposed budget to present at the annual meeting for approval.
- Ben Nicely seconded the motion.
- Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

14U Duals

- Pat Culp reported that this was our last year for 14U Duals.
- There were 4 teams that went into true seconds.
- Other teams had to wait, some teams said they were done and other teams were upset because they had waited and then weren't getting to wrestle.
- This tournament is going to Pennsylvania for 2 years.
- Asked the board if we want to bid again for 14U?
- Discussion of cost of trip and loss/earnings of hosting.
- Ben Nicely made a motion that we should not bid for 14U.
- Lauren Rioux seconded the motion.
- Discussions around the fact that Indiana started tournament.
- Ben Nicely amended his motion, asking that ISWA table the motion until the next budget meeting.
- Jean Whetstone seconded the amendment to his motion.

- Motion to table carried.

Freestyle Qualifiers

- Pat Culp reported that we are still having them – these helped the clubs.
- Currently – Junior Nationals UWW, Flo Nationals, NHSCA high school nationals, 15U world team qualifiers (Vegas), Western Regional (any USA Regional) counts toward the qualifier requirements.

Fargo Professional Photographer

- Pat Culp stated that this is in the budget. Discussions about photographing athletes in Fargo
- She asked to make sure action shots are taken for both boys and girls.

Waivers for trips

- Code of Conduct for wrestlers (listing all violations) states if you violate certain items, you are going home on your parents' dime. We will no longer tolerate these types of situations.
- There are lesser violations that will not end up in athlete being sent home.

Computer Status

- Jennifer Ratliff is hoping to get 12 new computers and 12 new cameras.
- Will be looking at status of those that we have. Will have at least 10. Have to purchase by 8/31 for this year's budget.
- Mark Mundy made a motion that we wipe all of the wrestling stuff off of the computers that we will no longer use and donate to boys' club or a like thing.
- Ben Nicely seconded the motion.
- Motion carried unanimously.

Tournament Crew

- J.D. Minch presented an idea that he would like to hire a crew to load and unload the truck for our state/national tournaments due to not always getting much help at these tasks.
- Ryan Parrish made a motion to let J.D. Minch hire a crew
- Josh Curry seconded the motion.
- Motion carried unanimously.

Bylaws

- Pat Culp asked if anything needs to be changed in the bylaws because we review every 2 years.
- Discussions around when the annual meeting occurs.
- Josh Curry made a motion to have the annual meeting on a different weekend in September instead of the 2nd Sunday in September.
- Jake O'Neill seconded the motion.
- Motion failed. 3 voted in favor.

Leftover gear

- Some will be sold at annual meeting.
- We will keep current year's gear. Will be kept for 2 years.
- Need to come up with giveaways.... decided not to give away since each club is receiving a bag or a hat.

New Business

Consultant & Staff Reports

- **Law & Legislation – Steve Pugliese**
 - Not present. No report
 - Pat Culp has been working with him.
 - His annual report is in.
- **Sports Medicine – Nicole Moss**
 - Not present. No report.
- **Technology – Chris Pruitt**
 - Not present. No report.
- **Olympic Wrestling Styles Consultant – Zach Errett**
 - Not present. No report.
- **Membership Staff – JD Minch**
 - Current Athletes - 9,632 -- up 67% / 66% new
 - Current Wrestling Leaders - 1,280 -- up 11% / 39% new
 - Current Clubs - 203 -- up 10% / 16 % new
 - Sanctioned Events - 118 -- up 100%
 - Membership for athletes finished with numbers increase in every age group. University only increased by 1.
 - 2014 – 8314 athletes, 2019 - 9179 athletes, 2022 - 9613 athletes.
 - Worked a lot on Triple Crown – 3 plaques had wrong spelling, had them fixed.
- **State Services - Staff – Tina Tonte**
 - State service has been contacting committees to help finalize details for annual meeting, triple and double crown new ceremony.
 - Club organizer and tournament guide draft is complete please review for any corrections today before sent to print.
 - Normal Annual meeting preparation. Please have your reports in today. Jd has a checklist. The office needs all award winners today for the annual meeting messenger bag preparation.
 - Annual meeting gift suggestion bags directors team Indiana gear ex hats/polos. In hopes to say the organization money and allow more space in the garage.
 - Next week is the USAW summit I hope to return with much new information about the USAW membership! Thank you for this opportunity.
 - Website update, I hope to have new graphics from Nick Hull for the new membership season!
 - All directors please review your page on the ISWA website for any changes thank you Jason DeLois for providing women's information.
 - Thank you to Beth Lybarger for reaching out to pairing officials for a current list on our website for clubs to access people who wish to help at tournaments.
 - Thank you, Tina Fouts for bringing it to my attention of a correction needed on the website please review the two-year calendar J.D. Minch prepared a copy for everyone.
 - This year's publication checklist has begun. It's very important the team leaders use the template provided on the Team Leader resource page (emails have been sent to all team leaders).
 - Smokehouse Catering has confirmed another sponsorship add for this upcoming season. If any directors are aware of any sponsors that would like add space, please get these adds to her no later than October 1.
 - Letters need to be mailed/emailed to these clubs who did not bid tournament at annual meeting. Notation for Ben Nicely before September meeting.

Directors Reports

Vice Chair– Administration – Ben Nicely

- Following up with officials/pairers from Fargo.
- No report from Disciplinary Committee.

- **Tournament Director – Roby Webster**

- Not much to report.
- Bids went out to clubs wanting to host tournaments.
- Need to get bids in.
- Sanction forms should be out for clubs hosting local tournaments.
- If you sanction and are not at the bid meeting, it will not count as correctly bid.
- Someone from the club has to be at the annual meeting to bid a tournament.
- Local sanctions have to be in by the Thursday before the annual meeting.
- If adding the day of the annual meeting it has to be in by 9am day of annual meeting.
- Bids for state tournaments have to be in by October 1.
- Different deadline for 2 years out.

- **Hospitality Director – Linda Robinson**

- Report is in.
- Scholarships – will be adding a step this year. When applicants put in their application, will check to see if they are an active member this year. Will be a manual process. JD can check applicants as he volunteered to do so.
- Mark Galka (per Tina Tonte) felt there were not schools in his area putting in applications.
- Linda said in the past we sent letters to the schools to let them know of the program. Linda thinks we need to get back to sending letters.
- Jennifer Pierson asked her to remind the social media group to post things when the process begins.

- **Pairing Officials Developmental Director – Jennifer Ratliff**

- Several pairers participated at national events.
- Divisions – USA has moved to Masters division instead of University, Senior, etc., thinks we should line up with USA Wrestling.
- Ben Nicely made a motion that we align with USA Wrestling for the division change.
- Jake O'Neill seconded the motion, adding Pee wee.
- Motion carried, unanimously.
- Tournament bidding: asked them to have head official, head pairer and trainer. Needs to be listed on sanctions.
- Beth Lybarger has volunteered to work on a database to aid local tournaments in identifying/assigning to their tournaments.

- **Indiana Representative to National Pairings – Jean Whetstone**

- Annual report is in
- We had pairer that went to Fargo and passed her P1. She is now a P1C.
- Made a suggestion for Folkstyle state and Freestyle/Greco state, girls should have a different color championship shirt.
- We need shirt for master level state champs as well.

- **Equipment Director – Jonah Odum**

- Annual Report is in.

- Has had lots of challenges with Rudis. Timing was a big issue, mixing of teams. Trouble with getting right gear.
 - Looking to make improvements for next year.
 - Will have specific requirements for vendors for the future.
 - Would like to have orders go directly to the athlete's homes.
 - Would like to be able to whittle down the cost.
 - Jason Miller asked if it worked to use the same gear from trip to trip to trip.
 - Jonah said that didn't happen.
 - Tina Tonte had a suggestion. One is instead of ordering gifts for the annual meeting, we have 134 bags in garage. Instead of making a purchase for those who attend, we could give a bag to the clubs that are in attendance
 - Roby Webster made a motion to use product left over to give to clubs in attendance at the annual meeting
 - Linda Robinson seconded the motion.
 - Motion carried, unanimously.
 - Provided names of athletes that placed.
 - Nathan Thomasello came in for a camp at St. Jude catholic school. Excellent camp.
 - Jimmy Tonte stated that Steve Livingston brought up treating the Schoolboy Duals (14U) as we treat Heartland Duals and Kids' Nationals in Utah (for travel purposes).
 - Discussions regarding travel and comparison to our experience with girls' 14U duals. A lot of parents are not comfortable with children of that age traveling with the group and prefer to travel with their athlete.
- **Olympic Styles Mat Officials Director – Mark Mundy**
 - Would like to change name of his title. Would like to see it changed to Olympic styles Officials director.
 - Had 9 referees in Fargo. 4 sent home with covid and direct contact.
 - A lot travel to nationals and international tournaments.
 - Morgana Landrum is on steering committee for alternate styles of wrestling.
 - Received award in Fargo award. Lifetime achievement award.
 - Always recruiting. Need more officials. Will continue to recruit and train officials.
- **Folkstyle Referees Developmental Director – Jim Littlejohn**
 - Annual report submitted.
 - We have Section officials for each section.
 - Section 3 Jared Curcio took over for Dan Feser as he moved out of state. Should be state eligible this year.
 - Has been in contact with Pete Isais: 10/28-10/30 for pre-season nationals.
 - Next year 10/27–10/29 for pre-season nationals.
 - Heartland Duals 3/24-3/26 for 2023 and 3/28-3/30 for 2024 (Easter weekend).
 - Jason DeLois mentioned girls don't typically wrestle Greco.
 - Someone is looking at setting up a girls' Greco nationals in the next year or so.
 - Folkstyle Nationals: 3/31–4/2 2023 and then 4/5–4/7 2024.
 - Will be head official again for Pre-season Nationals and assistant head official for Heartland Duals.
- **Logistics Director – Lauren Rioux**
 - Trips are done.
 - Everything went off pretty well.
 - Was able to condense junior duals down to one bus.
 - She came in a little late last year. Pat Culp said she did a great job.

- **Section 1 – Mark Galka**
 - Not present.
 - Annual report is in.
- **Section 2– Mary Friedt**
 - Waiting for confirmation for bidding deadline and will get email out to clubs.
 - Central Regionals last year - was a little concerned about workers but worked out ok.
 - We are hosting again next year.
 - This was the first year we made some money on this tournament.
 - Everyone likes it at the coliseum.
 - USA Wrestling wants their tournaments in professional venues.
 - Increasing local tournaments. Up from a couple of years ago.
 - Need to try to encourage schools to bid to get on the calendar.
 - Confirmed they need to bid primary and alternate date. Exception process still in place.
 - Participated in nominating committee and scholarship committee.
- **Section 3 – Jennifer Pierson**
 - Annual meeting committee – discussions on timeline since triple crown was separated from the meeting.
 - Will have bid meeting and then start sessions. 2 tracks this year.
 - Jennifer Ratliff's group – trouble shooting pairing and then national pairing.
 - 2nd track – Tina Tonte: USA Wrestling tools. She will be at summit next week and will complete upon return.
 - Also fundraising and assisting athletes with trips will be discussed.
 - 45–50-minute sessions and recording to upload to websites.
 - will give away backpacks and hats and 3x gear singlet giveaways.
 - More details to come and promotional details on social media, to increase attendance at annual meeting.
 - Will provide a schedule once completed.
 - Will send email blast to all membership for information.
 - Nominating committee – emailed ballots on 7/1 closed on 8/4 at 11pm.
 - had 20% response. 47 responses.
 - Need to get clubs to keep their information up to date so that appropriate individuals are receiving the ballots and emails for clubs.
 - Committee met this past week to review.
 - Slate to be presented at the annual meeting is as follows: Pat Culp – Chair, Jimmy Tonte – Vice Chair Programs, Jennifer Pierson – Vice Chair Administration, Jeff Strueder - Treasurer, Tina Fouts – Secretary.
 - Ben Nicely will present slate and call for the vote at the annual meeting.
- **Section 4– Mark Stevenson**
 - Not Present. No Report.
- **Section 5 – Michelle Kaster**
 - Annual report is in
 - Will communicate to make sure charters are up to date before annual meeting.
- **Vice Chair – Jim Tonte – Programs**
 - Had a meeting looking at future coaches' selection process and policies and procedure for future trips.

- **State Coaches Director – Danny Struck**
 - Trips are done.
 - Has sent an email to all coaches asking for suggestions for next year.
 - Recently held a meeting to work on tweaking the application process and policies for coaches on trips.
 - Will provide information to the committee.
 - There will be no coaches' summit this fall. Probably will be one in the spring so he kept the expense in the budget.
- **.Cadet/Junior Director –Jake O'Neill**
 - Wrapped up Fargo, discussions on how to improve
 - Reported team's success in Fargo at Nationals.
- **Olympic Styles Development Director – Nick Hull**
 - Annual Report is in.
 - Working on Freestyle and Greco for improvement in state.
- **Kid's Director – Jason Miller**
 - Not a lot to report.
 - Annual Report is in with a copy to Jimmy Tonte.
- **Regional Training Center Director – Josh Curry**
 - Discussed changing some of the RTC philosophy.
 - Doesn't feel we should let just anyone host an RTC.
 - With our current model, it is getting too school specific and has decreased travel to participate in RTC's.
 - Feels there shouldn't be 2 RTC's in same area on a given day.
 - Hard process to deal with due to so many academies available to kids.
 - Would like to work on revamping RTC process.
 - A lot of discussion/improvement to be had.
- **Team Leader Director – Thomas Pompei**
 - Trips are done.
 - Almost every report has come in.
 - Has sent in his annual report.
 - Trips seemed to go well.
 - Business cards for recruiting were well received.
- **Women's Director – Jason DeLois**
 - Had 30 girls participate at Fargo.
 - Up 11 from last year for about 50% growth.
 - Had a few new coaches this year.
 - Looking to recruit new coach (Trine head coach).
 - Looking at changing Fargo camp for the girls. Greco was gone over in the camp and girls don't wrestle Greco. If it was separate, the girls have different needs and would help to have it separated.
 - Annual Report is in.
- **Cultural Exchange Director – Lou Silverman**
 - Had a very successful trip to Budapest – great experience.

- Thanked Danny Struck for help on trip.
 - Got to wrestle in a beach wrestling tournament. Kids had a really good time.
 - Lots of sightseeing. Stayed at an old soviet style camp on a lake.
 - Hoping for a trip to South Korea next year for high school boys/girls.
 - Middle school – hoping to take a trip to the Pacific Northwest.
 - Has been talking to coach from Turkey to possibly come here.
 - Would also like to bring Budapest in.
- **Folkstyle Developmental Director – Ryan Parrish**
 - Double/Triple crown recognition brunch – we can expand the banquet as we grow.
 - Thanks to Brownsburg for allowing us to host.
 - Annual report is in.

Additional items:

- Jennifer Ratliff stated we need to add verbiage about protests in the tournament guide booklet
- Mark Mundy wanted to discuss coaches' conduct. He has heard a lot of comments about Indiana coaches conduct mat side. These things come back to referees, and it reflects on the state.
 - Danny asked how we go about installing a rule that a coach gets a yellow card on Saturday and it feeds over to Sunday – some people push the envelope
 - Would like to see a reporting system that if a coach gets a yellow card at Folkstyle state it would be carried over to Freestyle state or Greco state.
 - Discussions around how to handle these types of situations.
 - Roby Webster made a motion that if a coach gets a yellow card on Saturday, then it will carry over to Sunday (a weekend yellow card).
 - Will work on this for policies and procedures.
 - Ben Nicely said this doesn't need to be voted on. Policies and procedures will be updated for a weekend yellow card.

Ryan Parrish motioned to adjourn the meeting
Ben Nicely seconded the motion

Meeting Adjourned @ 3:28pm

Next Meeting will be September 11th – Lawrence North High School

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Fouts
ISWA Secretary