**Colorado USA Wrestling**

April Board Meeting – Scheduled April 9, 2017

(Meeting Not Held – Chair Notes)

Chairman’s Report

*Joe Betterman*

Vice Chairman’s Report

*Paul Trygstad*

Summary of 2017

Thanks to the entire CUSAW board for working hard so far this year. Great job! Teamwork, transparency and honesty will get us where we need to be. Thanks to Joe for outstanding leadership and a willingness to listen. We are starting off the 2017 season very well. Thanks to all who contributed to the first three events.

2018 Events Schedule

I have proposed that the 2018 CUSAW DRAFT Schedule be prepared in April and early May 2017 to allow for discussion and contact with 2018 tournament hosts at the 2017 CUSAW State Tournament.

Many of the venues now require planning and scheduling 9 – 12 months in advance. This is especially important for large events we host. RMN Events is securing venues for 2018 event at the Colorado School sites/event sites now for 2018. Times have really changed and we need to begin the planning now.

For 2018. I propose to the CUSAW Board and Stephanie that we have at least two events outside of the Front Range area. Considerable planning and effort for a tournament in Vail was completed a couple years ago with support from USA Wrestling Tony Black. Vail has a new field house and coaches have expressed interest in this venue. Joe Betterman has been in contact with the Vail club. I propose that Joe attend this with others that could assist in securing a tournament for 2018.

Since it is close, we should also consider bringing back the Leadville Two-Mile-High Classic for 2018. This contact could also be made at the same time. The second road trip should be to the West Slope and Grand Junction for contact with 2018 tournament sites.

CUSAW exists to prepare all athletes in the State of Colorado for Regional and National Events. We have an obligation and duty to consider EVERY KID IN THE STATE for 2018.

As Vice Chairman the bylaws state that my job is to chair the Events Committee. I would like to schedule an events committee meeting in May (next month), if possible, to review and begin the planning for the 2018 Schedule. This proposed event schedule needs to be approved by the CUSAW prior to the annual meeting and “posted” near the front entrance when our membership attends the annual meeting. This fosters good involvement and should be a vital part of the membership’s role in the CUSAW organization.

I not believe we need a motion, since this is the way that is set forth in the CUSAW organization. We do need to agree and work together as a team and complete this in parallel with other Colorado Wrestling league event planning. We should plan to review and approve the entire event costs and business plan for 2018 as part of this planning and approval. This approach will make all of our jobs easier in 2018.

Yours in Wrestling, Paul

Treasurer’s Report

*Deb Watson*

NOTE: Attached please find financials as of April 1st, 2017.  I went through April 1st instead of March 31st,  which includes Rangeview on April 1. Revie for accuracy and let me know of any corrections or omissions.

DIRECTORS – PLEASE RESPOND IN WRITING

1. When and what will be paid for Western Suburban use of CUSWA equipment?
2. When and what will be paid for by RMN for use of “our” mats.  We paid for the last 2 mats and they used our mats therefore they owe us rent.
3. Do we have all 7 of our mats in our possession?  What is the inventory of equipment we own?
4. Please get a plastic pouch to put the registration in and attach on the CUSAW trailer wall.
5. Schoolboy payment was made this week in order for Colorado to have a better chance securing a place for teams.   Last year we didn’t make payment until end of April. Cadet dual team fee has been paid as well.  Let me know when to send the Jr. Duals check.
6. Do we need a down payment of buses for Fargo?
7. What about a down payment check and the credit we have for Southwest airlines from the 2016 Cadet Duals trip?
8. What transportation been procured for Schoolboy Duals?

Mat Officials Report

*Paul Trygstad*

CUSAW currently has 36 “active” Colorado Mat Officials with USA Membership cards. This does not include some of the USA Wrestling National Office active membership holders. I have sent out emails to inactive members inviting them back. Also, we have added three USAF Cadets and one college student from the Junior College in Sterling. There are approximately 8 new Mat Officials, including an M1 who lives near Ft. Collins. Dylan is from Nebraska and will be with us for local events this season. At this time I am not concerned about numbers but some additional would be good.

We had 10 mat officials attend the CUSAW Summit on March 4, 2017. This was outstanding. Jason Babi and Rod Cozzetto collaborated on a very good 3-hour long PowerPoint presentation with video clips for situation interpretation. We appreciate the time that Jason Babi and Rod Cozzetto took to prepare and train us.

Rangeview was a huge success and great tournament. Thanks for Mo and Jason, we were covered up with the dream team at our first event. This was so impressive to me that these guys would take time out and attend this event. Rod also would have considered it if the road conditions were better. All three are the best in the U.S. and Jason is an Olympic hopeful, so we are truly blessed in Colorado. We could all learn a lesson from the passion they guys have for kids and wrestling.

The proposed Mat and Pairing officials events sheet that includes rules, procedure and officials’ pay scale went out to all board members. I received email approval from all but one board member, so 10 out of 11 approved. We added a “quality points” system this year to keep track of what is considered one service year. We also want the M3’s to attend Regional and National Events as part of the system.

Sixty new Mat Official black shirts were received at the Rangeview Team Xtreme tournament. They look good and I handed out about 10 shirts. I will complete an inventory and ask that Mat Officials pay $20 for each additional shirt. CUSAW Lanyards were also available; a donation item to CUSAW. If you are a CUSAW Board member, please ask me for these at the tournaments.

Mat officials have been emailed requesting tournament sign-up information. I have received responses from Jason, Rod, Mo, Bill, Pat and Zane. I expect to get the rest in the next few weeks. I have been in communication with most of the younger officials and at this time I expect us to have adequate support for all local and state events. It is our hope that all officials will improve their long-range planning, including regional and national tournaments.

The CUSAW Board should know that we are trying to get the younger mat officials to attend the regional and national tournaments necessary for upgrades. For most of the M3’s, this means the regional events and dual team national events. I would like to see the M3’s seeking upgrades to M2 get the first priority based on experience and past achievement to join the teams and receive payment as part of each dual team. The final recommendation will come from Joe Betterman and our M1 Mat Officials. We have higher quality M3 candidates now than I have ever seen so we may need to discuss this more at the next meeting once I get an interest list.

I would also like the CUSAW Board to consider the M1s’ and the time they put in to mentoring and training new mat officials. Some of the M1’s have frequently volunteered the pay and reduced the expense to CUSAW. This year I would like to have CUSAW support/fund Jason Babi and Rod Cozzetto to attend Junior Duals and Bill Barron to attend Schoolboy Duals. All three have done very much for CUSAW and worked diligently. We do not want to remove the program to get M3 officials to the dual team tournaments with pay to senior officials. I propose that amount to be a M.O. budget item and not part of the team cost.

Thanks to Lenna, Stephanie, Abram and Joe for the local events so far, as well as others if I missed you. Much hard work and this is appreciated.

Yours in Wrestling, Paul

Abram Lopez – Folkstyle/Equipment Director – April, 2017 Board Report

Folkstyle Director Report:

There is nothing to add during this time.

Equipment Director Report:

1. First item on my agenda is to purchase 2 additional rolling cases for tournament equipment. With these cases it makes it easier to consolidate our equipment in the trailer, giving more room for the mats that are also hauled in the trailer.
2. Second item on my agenda, I would like to purchase 2 other cases for the head table staff. I have shown Lenna and Stephanie pictures of what the cases look like. These cases can be used to transport their equipment in a more efficient manner. The cost of each of these cases is $92.
3. Third item on my agenda is cases for the monitors; I found military transport cases that might be able to be used in lieu of the boxes that they came in. I would like to purchase one case to see how many monitors I can fit into each case. With the dimensions of the box I would possibly be able to fit 3 or 4 of the monitors in each case, but I won’t know until I have it here. The cost of this case is $190; I’m not sure what shipping will cost on this yet.
4. Last item on my agenda is to purchase 3 more 50’ extension cords. During the setup of the Jefferson Brawl tournament I ran out of these extension cords. I had three rolls of 100’ extension cords, but sometimes that can be a waste of an extension cord if we end up needing it elsewhere. I will have to look up the cost of these extension cords.

Side Note for Board:

For each tournament that we have set up and overseen, there have been only a few board members show up to help setup. I recommend that if possible all board members show up to help set up tournaments. For the Jefferson Brawl tournament, I arrived at the gym a little after 4:30pm. The Jefferson staff was not prepared, as they were still transporting mats to the gym. By the time I was able to set up it was almost 7pm. I stayed until the janitor asked me to leave because he had to lock the school at 10:30pm. Lenna and Stephanie were unable to help because they had their own tasks to complete. I did have some help from the Jefferson staff, but even they went home early.

Approvals: I approve both Deb’s financial report and Paul’s Officials report.

Phil Grasmick - Coaches’ Director Report (4-17-17)

1. The Colorado National Team Coaches selection application is complete and waiting for final review by the Chairman and age division directors. The application includes 3 sheets, on the first page is a description of the criteria used to select our coaching candidates with the minimum requirements necessary. Second page is a Coaches Code of Ethics that describes what CUSAW expects from our Colorado Team Coaches that will be representing us at national events. The third page is the actual application in which we will gather the necessary information to make a more informed selection of our coaches. The applications will be signed and returned to the Chairman, Age Division Director or the Coaches Director. I will gather the applications and put them into a spreadsheet to streamline this process. The application will be posted on our website sometime this week.

2,) At this point of the 2017 season I am unaware of any coach ejections from any CUSAW tournaments. If so, please bring to my attention, as well as any future ejections as I need to monitor this accordingly.

1. With Joe’s help and the cooperation of USAW, I am now able to access USAW coaches’ membership profiles to confirm their eligibility, certifications and past history. This will be very helpful in choosing coaches for our national teams and any other discrepancies that may arise.
2. As of now, we have not had any classroom Bronze certification classes for the current year. It is a minimum 6-hour commitment and Sundays are usually the best time to have them since Saturdays are preoccupied with tournament events. Legacy High School has shown interest in hosting one and I am working with them to set a date as well as Luke is looking into incorporating one with Troy Nickerson at UNC. I know there will be a few people who will want to apply for the National Teams Coach who will want to complete their bronze certifications to be eligible for selection. Since it is a time-consuming commitment with a narrow opportunity of both times and locations, it is necessary we have an adequate number of attendees. I have found in the past that it is better to have one or two classes late in the season. That will create a larger attendance and make it much more productive. I will try to get at least one set up in the near future.

James Dinette – Junior Director Report (4-16-17)

1. JD/Luke working to publish mini-camp/practice dates around the state. OTC WCAP and UNC locations/dates already confirmed. Central Denver (Lakewood HS) and South Denver (SOT) being finalized.
2. I’m fielding quite a # of calls from parents and coaches alike re: Dual Team and Fargo Team eligibility/qualification criteria. Consistent with last year we are advising that the champion at Dual team qualifier at the weight class and style they win gets first right of refusal for Dual Team spot.
3. For in-state Fargo qualifying criteria we are advising that top 2 at Dual Team qualifier and State Champ automatically qualify at the weight class and style for the CO Fargo National team. We are highly encouraging all athletes to qualify at USAW regional events which don’t count against CO state allotment.
4. For those with scheduling conflict for either Dual team or State tourney we will consider wrestle-offs on a case-by-case basis. The intent is to make sure athletes are committed to the standard qualification process and reward those who are committed realizing there may be extenuating circumstances in which case will need to be pre-approved prior to the qualifying tournaments.
5. Dual Team hotel/transportation reservations to be finalized in the next 30-60 days consistent with previous years and on/under budget.
6. Will update CUSAW Junior Page on website NLT 4/23 welcoming folks to the season and update with 2017 documents accordingly. Questions? Holler … Respectfully. – JD

Colorado USA Wrestling – April Board Meeting Report

Pairing Officials Report – *Written by Lenna Fajerman - April 18, 2017*

CUSAW Board,

CUSAW currently has 13 licensed Colorado Pairing Officials. This does not include some of the USA Wrestling National Office active membership holders. 7 have been active so far this season.

I have conducted two training sessions this season. One in the fall at Rangeview High School and the other at the CUSAW Summit on March 4, 2017. These were well attended. Pairing Manuals were handed out and updated at these training sessions.

The proposed Mat and Pairing officials events sheet that includes rules, procedure and officials’ pay scale went out to all board members. We received email approval from all but one board member, so 10 out of 11 approved. We added a “quality points” system this year to keep track of what is considered one service year. We also want the Officials to attend Regional and National Events as part of the system.

CUSAW Lanyards were a donation item to CUSAW – no cost to CUSAW. These have been given to Officials and Board Members. Ask Paul if you haven’t received on yet.

I have put in many hours before each tournament with the registration and communications with Clubs and Coaches. During the tournaments Pairing Officials have been dealing with the Technical issues as well as the tournament operations and flow. I also complete the Tournament Invoices and Official’s Pay Sheets and send these to Deb Watson for payment and accounting.

Tournament setup has been an issue this year. There has been no assistance from other board members to set up. It takes a long time to do this and only Abram, Stephanie, Kat Umbach and I have come to do this. Jason helped the first tournament. The locals have not been ready to help out and facility not ready for equipment. Abram has had to take extra time to do this. We really need extra help during setup and reloading the trailer after. The local events committee has their own business to take care of and can’t always help out.

Equipment transportation is a concern. The electronic equipment is not being packed into the trailer safely. The mats are too heavy to be on top of the Monitors and Printers. Abram is trying to find cases for these but until then we are in danger of breaking some of our equipment. We need to build some shelves in the trailer to stack tubs and cases higher and keep mats off them. The original request for the trailer was for all the electronic equipment but now it is being overstuffed with the heavy mats. We might consider a separate trailer or van for the equipment.

The Hot Spots (or MiFi’s) we are borrowing from Western Suburban League have been a working wonderfully. I propose we purchase some of our own for the upcoming Folkstyle season. We won’t be able to borrow these while they need them for their own tournaments. We plan to be more active at tournaments during the upcoming Folkstyle season.

The Event Committee (Event Director, Mat Officials Director, Pairing Officials Director, Vice Chair) has developed a Tournament Checklist to be given to each tournament director. We have had requests from some Club Coaches to join the Events Committee for planning purposes. We are planning to have the 2018 Schedule ready for the September General Membership Meeting.

The By Laws Committee has not had time to be active lately.

Deanna Betterman – Colorado Women’s Director – April, 2017 Report

1. Since I have become women director, the biggest issue I have been hearing from our Colorado wrestlers/parents has been finding good consistent training. I was able to work out a deal with USAW and get all of our girls who were interested free OTC passes to train once a week with the resident athletes at the OTC. I am planning to up this to twice a week once school is out to help prepare for Body Bar and Fargo.
2. Unfortunately, this deal could not be offered to everyone; qualifications were you had to be either top 2 at the Colorado State Championships or have competed in Fargo. I would like to set something up for the girls who do not meet those qualifications in the future.
3. Goal is to practice once a week together with the location rotating between 4 different clubs, maybe in Colorado Springs, Denver, Castle Rock, Pueblo. I would be willing to host in the Springs. I’m looking to get 3 or so other clubs on board to help with travel for these girls.
4. I have also been getting a lot of emails about camps, clinics and training in general. I have been answering back trying to direct them in the right direction. Jake Martinez has been very helpful with this; he has been my “go to” for people located in the Denver area.
5. I have been looking into offering an all-girls’ camp sometime this summer. I would love to set up an Intro to Freestyle camp and possibly an advanced freestyle camp. This will help spread the knowledge of freestyle and hopefully get more girls interested in the Olympic style. As we all know after high school this is all that is offered to females, so it is very important we really push this. Joe and I were also able to put a free clinic on in November in Denver where we had about 25 females attend. Josh Nelson was able to set it all up and get the word out.
6. Fargo planning is going well. Gear is all set for the females and I'm very excited about it! I plan on finalizing vans, rooms, etc., following the Fargo qualifier May 13th, when I can get an exact head count on what all we need. As you all know, I am new to all this so any input/advice would be greatly appreciated.