**FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA**

**USWOA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

**SATURDAY 14 JULY 2018**

**Members Present:** Rick Tucci, Bill Stecklein, Zach Errett, Sue Hesser, Ginger Lile, Tim Pierson, Tom Kuisle, Chris Curtis, De Heyman, Jerry Kuntz, Casey Brennan-Goessl, Sam Julian, Danny Blackshear and Toby Tobiasson. John Heyman was present via telephone. **Others present:** Adam Fenn, Flo Wrestling; Derek Sikora, USAW Representative; Pete Isais, USAW Representative; Leigh Jaynes, Coach/Athlete Representative.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Rick Tucci called the meeting to order at 1:25 PM.

**FLO Concerns:** Rick TucciintroducedAdam Fenn from FLO Wrestling, and asked him to discuss with the Board what can be done to improve the relationship between FLO and USWOA. Zach Errett and Tim Pierson suggested some broadcast improvements and operational procedures. Adding a senior mat official to the on-air crew, for finals matches, would minimize incorrect rule interpretations being broadcast. They also suggested that FLO conduct a short training session for the officials doing Fargo video reviews and then allow those officials to operate the video equipment. This would minimize the number of FLO personnel needed for the reviews and eliminate waiting time for a FLO person to come operate the equipment. Adam said this was possible and he could conduct the training later today. Rick thanked Adam and remarked that he was looking forward to this week’s history making effort with video review in Fargo.

**Secretary's Report:** Toby Tobiasson presented draft minutes of the 20-21 October 2017 USWOA Executive Board Meeting. A clarification was made that Monica Schommer CO was upgraded from P1 to P1E. Danny Blackshear **moved** and Tom Kuisle **seconded** to approve the minutes as clarified. **Vote: passed unanimously.** Toby also submitted draft minutes of the 16 July 2017 USWOA Annual Membership Meeting that were ratified at the Board meeting last October but need to be approved at tonight’s General Membership Meeting. The draft minutes of the 10 July 2018 Teleconference were presented by Toby for approval. Rick Tucci corrected the spelling of Leigh Jaynes’ name and mentioned that her appointment is to the USWOA Executive Board in an advisory capacity and not the Pairing Advisory Council. Jerry Kuntz **moved** and Sam Julian **seconded** to approve the minutes as corrected. **Vote: passed unanimously.**

**Separating Head Official/Clinician at Certain Tournaments to Concentrate on Evaluations:** Zach Errett suggested we go back to separating the two positions instead of having one person perform both functions. This would allow the assigned officials, particularly the clinician, to concentrate on evaluations. The evaluations would probably be digital instead of the traditional paper evaluations done by mat chairmen. Consensus of the Board was this is appropriate.

**Title Change for Assigned Pairers at Competitions – (Pete’s Document):** Sue Hesser said after discussions with pairers, there are more that agree with than disagree with the change Pete Isais is proposing. No action was taken by the Board.

**Information submitted to Derek Sikora, Tom Kuisle and USAW Concerning Upgrades, Downgrades and Assignments (Deadlines):** Rick Tucci opened a lengthy discussion about members who received upgrades at the USWOA Board meeting last October but were not notified in a timely manner. Derek said there was a delay in getting the notification letters out caused primarily by shifting responsibilities of USAW staff. Toby Tobiasson said the draft minutes of Board meetings are to be completed within thirty days after a meeting according to the Policies and Procedures. With the advent of the USWOA website, the draft minutes of meetings are posted as soon as they are available. This allows the membership access to the information within a short time after the Board meeting. However, recent October Board meeting minutes have intentionally been delayed to allow the upgrade/downgrade letters to be mailed before the minutes are posted. Tom Kuisle informed the Board that the most recent draft October Board meeting minutes were posted just over a month after the meeting even though the letters had not been mailed. This allowed those being upgraded or downgraded to have the information even though the individuals did not have specific documentation. Derek suggested that, in the future, emails could be sent soon after the Board meeting to notify members. Derek, Toby and Tom will coordinate the dissemination and posting of the information in the future.

**Addition of USAW Staff Member and Athlete to USWOA Executive Board in Advisory Capacity:** During the 10 July 2018 teleconference, Rick Tucci appointed Leigh Jaynes to the USWOA Executive Board in an advisory capacity as a coach/athlete representative.

**Election Procedures for Fargo - Toby:** Toby Tobiasson presented the slate of candidates running for election to the USWOA Board of Directors as Officers or At-large positions. Toby also presented the ballot and discussed the procedures for the election to be conducted at tonight’s General Meeting. Toby reported that Tom Kuisle will propose a slate of tellers, for approval by the membership, to count the ballots.

**International Assignments – Numbers:** Rick Tucciwants the United States to have the same number of officials assigned as there are mats at international events. The Board reminded Rick that Les Gutches, Associate Executive Director of USAW, agreed to that at the October Board meeting but it was only at the senior level. Rick asked Bill Stecklein to generate a proposal to USAW to do this at all levels of competition.

**Hall of Fame Nomination:** After a short discussion, Tim Pierson **moved** and Danny Blackshear **seconded** to again recommend Dave Errett as this year’s USWOA representative for election to the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. **Vote: Passed unanimously.**

**Fall Board Meeting:** Rick Tucci said the fall Board meeting will be in Fort Lauderdale. The dates, however, will be significantly different than usual due to conflicting UWW meetings that several Board members must attend as well. The USWOA Executive Board meeting will be Friday 28 September fly-in with meetings Saturday and Sunday 29–30 September. The meetings should be finished by noon on Sunday so late afternoon departures may be possible.

**New Business -** None

**Adjournment:** At 2:24 PM, Danny Blackshear **moved** and Sam Julian **seconded** to adjourn the meeting. **Vote: passed unanimously.**