

Wisconsin Wrestling Federation
Board of Directors Budget Meeting
Wisconsin Dells
September 8th, 2024

Todd called the meeting to order at 10 am. Roll call was completed. Members in attendance: Todd Schaaf, Matt Verbeten, Jeff Jones, Hollie Satona, Mike Errthum, Jolene Bonte, Brett Van Vooren, Randy Dusing, Scott Peltier, Brian Suchocki, Terry Stone, Tony Schaaf, Chris Persike, Neysa Bianchi, Mel Dow, Erick Lehrke, Preston Breunig, Ernie Millard, Newton Smerchek, Scott Kluever, Sandy Russell, and Gabby Lord-Klein.

Gabby spoke with Wisconsin Wrestling Federation year in review. Highlighted that all athletes and staff were nothing short of spectacular. Gabby shared WWF takes pride in serving our members with high-quality opportunities and unwavering commitment as we strive to be USA Wrestling's best state association. Gabby spoke of all WWF representation at all divisions for USA Team Championships. Mainly highlighting that our Junior men's dual team won 1st place at the USA Junior Championships.

Gabby continued to address the success of our athletes at Fargo and the dedication of our coaching staff. The representation of Wisconsin in Fargo was hard to miss as six distinguished awards were presented from USA to members within WWF Organization.

Lastly, Gabby shared WWF will continue to utilize USA Membership to send monthly communications. Utilizing this program has enhanced the communication and has helped promote all aspects of opportunities provided by WWF.

Jeff Jones discussed all tournaments hosted by WWF and went over some upcoming changes and updates to these events. Big update was Wisconsin will host the USA Junior Team Championships in Milwaukee for the next 4 years. Jeff informed the upcoming changes with the WWF Qualifiers hosted in March 2025. These updates are:

- Registration will be done through the USA Membership program.
- Weigh-ins will also be completed through the USA Membership program for on-site and satellite weigh-ins.
- It is undecided if platform used will continue to be Trackwrestling or the new USA Wrestling Membership System that will roll-out January of 2025.
- Referee payment will be \$250 for each official working the WWF Qualifier.
- Registration fee will be \$25 per wrestler.
- WWF will receive \$11.00 per wrestler entry from hosting site.

- Onsite weigh-ins were approved to be held between 5:30-7:30pm instead of 5:30-8:00pm due to majority of sites have minimal wrestlers weigh in after 7:30. This will also allow bracketing to be started earlier. Off-site will remain 5:30-6:30pm.
- Bracketing will be completed with using the pin system within the USA Membership Program. Board approved seeding only the top 25% of each weight class similar to national events.
- Additional weight classes will be added to the girl's divisions to minimize the weight variation between classes. This will also allow more opportunities for participation.

Jeff also discussed that WWF will be fully running the WWF Kids Team State Championships. This event will be held on Saturday & Sunday, March 15 & 16th at JustaGame Sports dome in Reedsburg. Team state will also be using 2 divisions based on high school divisions for each school club competing.

WWF State Youth Championships will be held March 28th-30th at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison and will run the same structure as last year due to the success of additional day for girls and weigh-ins held in the adjacent building.

Wisconsin Coach Coordinator Scott Kluever gave his insight and updates. This included we will be including training system for Greco camps to encourage more of this style along with the Freestyle camps. Scott informed the plan to send two girl's teams to the Junior Team Championships instead of only one team in 2025. He shared almost \$100,000 was spent to offset expense for wrestling families whose athlete participated in team championships and Fargo. This shows the investment and proven outcomes that come with investing in our athletes. Scott shared success comes from providing opportunities and that will continue to be the vision. He is proud to be part of Wisconsin and our ability to continue to provide trainings and opportunities for continued growth within Wisconsin.

Mel Dow gave WIAA Update. Highlighting the women's growth has engaged or encouraged additions within current high school girl's programs and for additional schools to add girls wrestling at the high school level. Mel shared the expansion of girls with stand alone girl tournaments to run the night before boy's regionals and sectionals. He shared WIAA restructure at High School State Wrestling Championships will allow more rest and better experience to accommodate athletes, coaches and spectators. It was shared that he is confident WIAA will move to the USA Membership System for events due to the high costs for State Associations with Trackwrestling.

Mel explained continuing working relationship with WIAA and WWF will enhance the continued growth in high school wrestling. Mel stated that relationships within WIAA Board has also strengthen due to having the right people working with the right resources

available in the movement in the sport of wrestling. He is confident that as wrestling continues to grow, more opportunities will become available.

Todd Schaaf discussed upcoming elections that will be held. District Directors up for election at District Meetings are district 2,4,6 & 8. At the annual meeting all Age Level Directors will be up for election and finally Executive Board will be re-elected at the annual meeting as well.

Budget was prepared by WWF Treasurer Mike Errthum and presented by Todd Schaaf. Discussions of revenue from hosting events and expenses from each event and team costs were discussed. Board was also notified of audited financials coming due. Mike has been working with the accountant and informed he may be reaching out to individuals for updated W9 form for tax purposes. Hollie Satona made a motion to approve the budget and seconded by Randy Dusing. No further discussions were requested. Motion to approved passed.

No additional business was discussed, and a motion was made to adjourn by Terry Stone and seconded by Scott Peltier. Motion carried. Adjourned.