

## **ISWA Monthly Meeting**

February 13, 2022

**Call to Order:** Meeting called meeting to order at 12:00 pm by Pat Culp. Meeting was held via zoom

### **Attendance:**

Pat Culp, Tina Fouts, Jimmy Tonte, Roby Webster, Mark Stevenson, Mary Friedt, Jason DeLois, Jeanne Whetstone

**Staff:** Tina Tonte

### **Consultants:**

### **Secretary: Tina Fouts**

- Presented December minutes, which were sent in advance through USAW Membership website to review and provide updates
- Motion to accept minutes presented by Mark Stevenson.
- Jeanne Whetstone seconded the motion.
- No discussions
- Motion passed unanimously

### **Treasurer: Presented by Tina Fouts for Jeff Strueder**

- Reports provided in advance through USAW Membership website, for review
- Shared screen with financials for review
- Walked through each line item
- Motion to accept by Jeanne Whetstone
- Mark Stevenson seconded the motion
- No additional discussions
- Motion passes unanimously.

## **Old Business**

### **Open Board Positions**

- Logistics Director
- Lauren Rioux only applicant.
- She was interviewed by members of the applicant committee.
- Jimmy Tonte feels she would be good in this position. Move to bring her on.
- Mary Friedt thinks she would be very good and is in favor.
- Jennifer Pierson agrees with Mary Friedt.
- Jason DeLois feels she is very familiar with our organization.
- Motion to approve Lauren Rioux for the open Logistics Board position made by Mark Stevenson
- Jason DeLois second.
- No additional discussions
- Motion passes unanimously.

### **Indiana Ranking System**

- Pat Culp reported that we haven't had a chance to fully test the ranking system.
- For this year's state tournament, will continue to use what we have used in the past.
- Will be using separation criteria as in the past.

## **Annual Publication**

- Tina Tonte reported that this in final stage of production.
- Will be in contact with the printer on addresses.
- Once that is done, the ISWA card pays for the postage.
- The draft is done and approved.
- Tina Fouts talked about a possible committee to assist Tina Tonte with completing this in the future.
- Tina Tonte would like to see a timeline.
- Tina Fouts reported that in years past, the final approved draft was due before Thanksgiving.
- Discussions as to whether we are really too late to mail at this point in the year since Folkstyle season is almost over.
- Pat Culp, Tina Fouts and Tina Tonte will work on new process/committee for next year.

## **Trackwrestling streaming**

- Pat Culp reported that Track Wrestling is sending 15 kits for Folkstyle State
- Chris Pruitt is working on a streaming option but she hasn't heard anything from him recently

## **Scholarships**

- Pat Culp that April 1<sup>st</sup> is the due date for application.
- Tina Tonte confirmed that the letters for these have been sent.
- One applicant has so far submitted an application

## **New Business**

### **Folkstyle State Flyer**

- Pat Culp reported we are working on Flyer for Folkstyle state.
- Tina Tonte will be sending he flyers for approval today.

### **Elementary Duals**

- Pat Culp stated (Jeff Strueder was going to bring up today) that there are questions as to whether or not we should we inspect teams for eligibility.
- Will be tabled until Ryan Parrish is on the meeting.
- Tina Tonte said that the coaches are notified in their coaches' meeting ahead of the event, Ryan Parrish makes it clear that any protests or complaints need to happen before or during the event.

Pat Culp reported that Ben Nicely is sending something out about any clubs that want to bid for 2023, to bid by summer for 2023 due to school schedules.

This may be the last year we have 14U Duals, until or if we rebid on it. Indiana has hosted it since 1990. USA Wrestling sent out the bid and we sent in ours. They came back and said Pennsylvania wants it and they are willing to give us \$20,000 and host in a convention center. She sent an email to USA wrestling, we took \$45K loss on 16U for them. He said we can have it for \$15000 for 2 years. We have been giving them 2,000 annually to host it. Pat Culp has checked alternative locations and they aren't available. Pete Isaias is going to let us host it this year to recoup some of our money and it will go to Pennsylvania. Tina Fouts and Jeanne Whetstone voiced their concerns and disappointment that we are being shaken down by USA Wrestling. Jason DeLois feels it is shameful. Mark Stevenson asked if it would make money for our organization or our kids. Tina Tonte said it is a benefit to Indiana to host because we can afford to send more kids. Jennifer Pierson said we need to consider if we bid for it in the future, we need to determine what we can do. Jennifer Pierson said we should look at what is coming up in the next bid cycle and possibly put in a bid.

## **Consultant & Staff Reports**

- **Law & Legislation – Steve Pugliese**
  - Not present. No report.
- **Sports Medicine – Nicole Moss**
  - Not present – no report
- **Technology – Chris Pruitt**
  - Pat Culp reported he is working on the streaming project but she hasn't heard from him recently.
- **Olympic Wrestling Styles Consultant – Zach Errett**
  - Not Present. No Report.
- **Membership Staff – JD Minch**
  - The online apparel sales are still moving along, but still have a lot of 2021 gear to sell
  - Still need to return Warren Central buckets & poles to add some room to the garage area
  - The large award stand is now at its new home at Franklin Community HS.
  - We should acquire some type of storage bins for all of the extra gear
  - 7,587 athletes, 93% from previous year, 65% new athletes
  - 899 wrestling leaders, 31% from previous year, 34% new wrestling leaders
  - 171 clubs, 38% from previous year, 13% new clubs
  - 97 sanctions, 162% from previous year
  - Certified coaches
    - Gold – 1
    - Silver – 5
    - Bronze – 347
    - Copper - 501
- **State Services - Staff – Tina Tonte**
  - Getting reports via email.
  - Working on events and communicating with Ben Nicely for unbid tournaments.
  - Several are shifting dates.
  - Clubs that didn't attend annual, Ben Nicely is working on them and will prepare letters at the end of the season.
  - Remind section directors to continue to look at events bid and communicate with clubs about process of sanctioning.
    - They aren't going through process of sanctioning event. John Hurre award has been ordered.
  - Individual state banquet rsvp's have been sent.
  - Folkstyle flyer and scholarship and RTC information will be emailed out soon.
  - Smokehouse catering sponsoring us \$1,000.
  - One scholarship application has been received and sent to Linda Robinson.
  - Heartland Duals reservations are coming in.
    - Gear link on website.
  - Wants to thank the team that helps with social media.

## **Directors Reports**

### **Vice Chair– Administration – Ben Nicely**

- Not present. No report.
- **Tournament Director – Roby Webster**

- No Report.
- **Hospitality Director – Linda Robinson**
  - Not present. No report.
- **Pairing Officials Developmental Director – Jennifer Ratliff**
  - Not Present. No Report.
- **Indiana Representative to National Pairings – Jean Whetstone**
  - Been working high school tournaments. Thomas Pompei's tournament yesterday.
- **Equipment Director – Jonah Odum**
  - Girls National Gear has been ordered as well as Heartland Duals.
  - Should expect to see it in the next 3-4 weeks or beginning of March.
  - Should be shipped in packs (all the same size together) and there are extras just in case we need to swap sizes around.
  - Needs to know if they are not packaged that way, right away, to follow up with Rudis.
  - Ordered 177 volunteer shirts and the sizes were spread out between adult small to 5XL.
  - Reduced the number due to inventory we still have on hand.
  - Anticipate this order to last through this year only
  - The last ordered placed was for close to 600, per Steve with 3X, which helps to explain the overage.
  - Provided a picture of the design that was approved.
  - T-shirt color is royal blue with white lettering.
  - Design should look familiar as it is what has been used in the past.
  - Online store has been opened for parents of Team Indiana Girls.
  - Store will close on February 18<sup>th</sup> and orders will be shipped directly to the person ordering.
  - Provided the link for ordering
  - Was able to negotiate and include official gear with coaches.
  - Requirement is the same where we go over 20 orders, we will have to pay but that number now includes officials.
  - This applies only to officials who travel to USA Wrestling events as state sponsored officials. For example, has ordered gear for the officials traveling to Heartland Duals.
  - Needs to know who the leads are for the summer national teams. Needs to talk gear and ordering with them.
  - Lead times continue to go up and product availability is down. Not just with Rudis. Has had the same conversation with 3X. It is an industry thing due to supply chain issues.
  - If we are sending officials to an event and they would like gear, he needs to know sizes. They will receive the standard coach pack of one ¼ zip, one polo, one performance vest and one bag.
  - Rudis agreed to provide all Team Indiana kids with a free membership to Rudis+, which is their streaming video platform that features their athletes and instructional videos.
  - Wants to know how he gets names of the folks who are interested.
  - If you purchase this on your own, it would cost \$60 per year.
- **Mat Officials Developmental Director – Mark Mundy**
  - Not Present. No Report.
- **Folkstyle Referees Developmental Director – Jim Littlejohn**

- Not Present. No Report.
- **Logistics Director – Vacant**
- **Section 1 – Mark Galka**
  - Not present. Report via email
  - There are still several clubs that have not chartered.
  - Will send the office correct club leaders email addresses and phone numbers so the list is accurate.
- **Section 2– Mary Friedt**
  - Contacting clubs and making sure that they are doing everything right.
  - Didn't know that there is a tournament on the same weekend as hers and will see how this works.
  - Focusing on Central Regionals in May – sending an email to her clubs in her area.
  - Will contact closer clubs to bring mats.
  - Had 12 mats last year, and mats shouldn't be an issue but staffing may be an issue.
  - Spoke with Jennifer Pierson who was able to bring some people up last year.
  - Last year Ben Nicely said we had \$250 per mat per competition day.
  - Part of bringing them in is that they have to lay the mats down.
  - Will need to work with them to know their responsibilities.
  - Part of the discussion was if they bring a mat but don't provide table help will be one fee and mat with table help will have another fee.
  - Still have to participate at Freestyle State to wrestle at Central Regionals without exception.
  - Pat suggested we use the flyer that Danny Struck created.
- **Section 3 – Jennifer Pierson**
  - Will try to make Central Regionals a topic of conversation after things slow down a bit.
  - John Hurrle award winner is Cheryl Merchant from Wawasee was selected and is well deserved.
  - She was contacted this week and she was very excited.
  - Folkstyle State – working with Pat Culp and Tina Tonte and tournament committee.
  - Will increase to 27 mats this year.
  - Traditional surfaces inside Warren Central High School (23 mats).
  - Across the parking lot is Lakeside Elementary – additional 4 mats.
  - Elementary school will not be used for weigh ins.
  - Will be detailed in the flyer.
  - Using 2 separate weigh in spots (Jr and cadets separate).
  - Pee wees and veterans/seniors will wrestle on Saturday at elementary school.
  - Sunday will host girls' division in the elementary school.
  - Staggered division start times. 8am South gym, Lakeside 9 am, Cafeterias 10am to help with flow of traffic. To make sure area gets up and running at designated start time.
  - Plan and layout for weigh ins are in place.
  - Digital ticketing will be used again.
  - Looking at signs for outside so people aren't waiting until they get to the door to find out they need to purchase their tickets online.
  - Most mats are secured. Working on table help and working with Tina Tonte for team points and additional volunteers.
  - Tina Tonte asked section directors to send out information about earning team points.
  - Is looking at putting out a video.

- Will check with Pat Culp to make sure she is communicating correct information.
- Jason DeLois is concerned, with girls going to elementary duals, might get some feedback. They may not like being separated.
- Pat Culp will check on flyer and opening of the tournament for registration.
  
- **Section 4– Mark Stevenson**
  - The last 2 weekends we have had great tournaments.
  - Had great help for Elementary and Middle School Duals as well as Individual Middle School State.
  - Everything seems to be running OK.
  - No complaints have been received.
  
- **Section 5 – Michelle Kaster**
  - Not present. No report.
  
- **Vice Chair – Jim Tonte – Programs**
  - **State Coaches Director – Danny Struck**
    - Not Present. Report via email.
    - Mass email of coaches’ applications will come out this week to all coaches to apply to spring trips.
    - Will call USAW and work on athlete appearance for “states”. Doesn’t know how that will work as we come off of COVID and USAW has reduced the number allotted.
    - If they only offer one appearance, he will go for Olympic style state tournaments
    - Going to schedule a conference call to our “coaches’ side” for Monday night February 28<sup>th</sup>, to let coaches get through the state finals and have a week off before putting brain back on the grinder.
  
  - **Cadet/Junior Director –Jake O’Neill**
    - Not Present. Report via email
    - Team leaders and camp locations are in place (provided names and locations).
    - Scheduling completed for camps for 16U, Junior Duals and Fargo
  
  - **Olympic Styles Development Director – Nick Hull**
    - Not Present. Report via email
    - Videos are almost done
    - Promo video for season duals is first, then freestyle news/information video are out next.
    - Both are almost finished
    - Had to hire an outside firm so that has been the delay.
    - Still plan to release video(s) over the course of next two weeks. Have official opening at ISWA state.
    - Have gotten 16 programs to commit to freestyle dual season. Coaches are excited
    - Folkstyle only coaches are actually excited because it is team oriented.
    - Will have elementary, middle school, high school and women’s division.
    - Continuing to fill teams and set schedule. Will be streaming, ISWA gets stream proceeds to go to whatever
    - Reece Humphrey is ready to start virtual practices for the state, just setting up best time for him weekly
  
  - **Kid’s Director – Jason Miller**

- Not Present. Report via email.
- Gear numbers are turned in to gear director for Heartland Duals.
- Hotels are booked for Heartland Duals.
- Middle School State award invites were given out to top 8 placers for Middle school team wrestle offs on March 20<sup>th</sup> at CWA with Elementary team wrestle offs.
  
- **Regional Training Center Director – Josh Curry**
  - Not Present. Report via email.
  - Has contacted coaches from prior years and have most of it set up for this year's host sites.
  - Would like for the office to send the google form out one last time to make sure we don't miss any site that wants to be a part of IND RTC.
  - Needs to get together with Nick Hull to discuss plans moving forward.
  
- **Team Leader Director – Thomas Pompei**
  - Not Present. No Report.
  
- **Women's Director – Jason DeLois**
  - Big girl's division at Columbus, just finished.
  - Women's numbers are 527 with cards compared to 364 last year.
  - Will probably have a lot right before state that get their cards.
  - Heartland duals weights updated for middle school state. When weights didn't line up it was hard to get girls to commit.
  - Team is almost complete (other than 2 lower weights).
  - A couple of coaches onboard that are dads.
  - Girls that have been around a while have made national tournaments, have placed 3<sup>rd</sup> the last couple of years.
  - Hopes to be in the top 2 this year.
  - Appreciate national team trip sponsor for the team trip.
  - Made the girls' high school state a non-official qualifier.
  - Mostly certain every weight there is paid for except for 2.
  - They have confirmed.
  - Things are getting a lot easier.
  - Success over the last couple of years, almost every tournament has a girls' division.
  - Very exciting. Tries to put them on our FaceBook page, talking them up.
  - There were at least 4 tournaments this weekend with girls' divisions.
  - National team trips, duals sponsorship, fluffed the budget a little bit.
  - Jeff Strueder wanted him to talk about this, if there is an overage and we aren't spending money, asking to cover some expenses.
  - Pat Culp asked to not give blanket approval.
  - Asked for us to look on a case-by-case basis and see what the overage is and determine if it is appropriate.
  - With the coaches that are out there, we have always taken care of them with gear and a stipend. Wants to see if we can treat it all the same.
  - Tina Tonte asked if there would still be a wrestle off for Heartland Duals. we will still have for 58 and 65 because they are not filled.
  - He has 1 weight class he is iffy about because number 1 girl hasn't accepted.
  
- **Cultural Exchange Director – Lou Silverman**
  - Not Present. Report via email.

- Doesn't think middle school trip to Alaska will happen. He wants it to be more cultural and they want us to come to their training camp. He wants the kids to be able to do things. Hasn't been able to make any progress with them.
  - Getting close to finalizing trip to Budapest for high schoolers.
  - Tentative dates are June 27 – July 7.
  - Working on accommodations.
  - Hopes to have it ready in 2 weeks.
- **Folkstyle Developmental Director – Ryan Parrish**
    - Not present. No Report.
    - Tina Tonte reported that Elementary and Middle School Duals went off very well. She wanted to thank him for everything he does for our organization.

### **Additional items**

Tina Tonte stated that USA wrestling sent information that February 2<sup>nd</sup> is national girls and women in sports day for wrestling. It was released February 1st from USA Wrestling, article released on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

Pat Culp sent all directors that are responsible for teams, the team database that is done and was sent to all. They can use to start filling teams if not filled from qualifiers.

Tina Tonte stated that the drop-down menu for Folkstyle state is structured that if the club is not on drop-down, it is that they are not chartered. She asked Jennifer Ratliff where this comes from at local tournaments. Pat Culp said it depends on how it is set up in Trackwrestling.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

- Mark Stevenson motioned for the meeting to adjourn.
- Jeanne Whetstone seconded the motion.
- Motion passed unanimously.

### **Meeting Adjourned @ 1:44pm**

**Next Meeting will be March 6 at 12:00 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Tina Fouts*  
ISWA Secretary