

## **ISWA Monthly Meeting**

June 8, 2025

**Call to Order:** Meeting called meeting to order at 10:03 am by Pat Culp. Meeting held in person and via Zoom

### **Attendance:**

**In the office:** Pat Culp, Tina Fouts, Jennifer Pierson, Lou Silverman, Roby Webster, Georgia Bartley, Payton Halbig, Jen Ratliff, Jonah Odum, and Jason Miller.

**Zoom:** Melissa Strayer, Steve Mathis, Jimmy Tonte, Danny Struck, Dalton Halbig, Dan Mikesell, Jared Curcio, Doug Strayer, Nick Hull, Thomas Pompei, and Linda Robinson.

**Staff:** Tina Tonte (Zoom), JD Minch (In Person)

### **Consultants:**

**Guest:** Jodi Webster (In Person)

### **Secretary: Tina Fouts**

- Tina Fouts presented the February draft minutes as previously supplied through USA Wrestling membership website.
- Payton Halbig made a motion to accept the minutes.
- Roby Webster seconded the motion.
- Motion passed unanimously.

### **Treasurer: Steve Mathis**

- Steve Mathis shared reports on screen via Zoom.
- Stepped through reports. Pretty much right on plan for revenue.
- Have a little more to come in interest.
- Stepped through summarized financial form, which is available for review in the USA Membership library.
- We were a little short on budgeted revenue for both Middle School State and Folkstyle State.
- We are not yet complete on financials for USA events that we hosted.
- We have some money going out this month for Women's Duals and other items.
- For Women's Duals, we budgeted for 150 teams and Pat Culp has reported that we have 164 teams registered.
- Statement of Financial Position: reported that we did well on tournaments this year, coming close to plan.
- We sent an extra team to Cadet Duals so we will be higher on the budget for this due to sending a Greco team.
- Roby Webster made a motion to accept the treasurer's report.
- Payton Halbig seconded the motion.
- Motion passes unanimously.

### **Old Business**

### **Online printing for book**

- Jennifer Pierson reported that none have been ordered in addition to what was ordered for the office.
- Pat Culp asked that 40 be ordered for the office.
- Tina Tonte will place an order for the 40.

## **New Business**

### **Annual Calendar**

- Pat Culp reported that the calendar has been placed on the USA Membership library.
- Stated that the ISWA Annual Meeting will be held on September 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Went through the items on the calendar.
- Pat Culp is working with the Coaches' Association to see if we could host Team State all together in one place.
- Exploring Brownsburg's new fieldhouse.
- Went to all hosts from 2024 to obtain numbers for spectators.
- It was determined that Brownsburg will not be able to host all, due to the number of spectators expected.
- Working with the committee to determine if they can be housed in one site.

### **Tournament Breakdowns**

#### **Elementary Duals**

- Held at Franklin
- Pat Culp thinks things went well.
- Was held in conjunction with High School Team State Duals (for set-up, etc.).
- The only thing to request is a little more help on that Saturday night. We need more board members to help with set-up.
- Reviewed the last 2 years of team/category sizes.
- Jen Ratliff recommended moving to 12 large, 10 medium, 10 small teams.
- Ryan Parrish will join the meeting after practice ends and we will vote at that time.
- This was addressed in his report below.

#### **Middle School State Duals**

- Pat Culp stated that as long as we have the Kids' Folkstyle Nationals in Fort Wayne, we will host there as well.
- For next year, we need to remember to get the T-shirts and sweatshirts out for sale.
- Pat Culp stated we still need to have each team at Middle School State to bring their own worker.
- Discussed moving duals down to the end of the coliseum so that they are better separated from Kids' Nationals.

#### **Folkstyle State**

- Pat Culp said this was a big venture and everyone worked very hard.
- All were there for setup, weigh-ins, etc.
- Kudos to Justin Ratliff for all of his help.
- Roby Webster said we need to move the gear people to the side wall, down toward the basketball courts, near the outside door.
- Need to revamp the mats a little bit.
- Need signage for lining up, etc.
- Pat Culp said they gave us another vendor to use for extra bleachers.
- Will address with the facility, the concession stand situation.
- Jennifer Pierson said we need to revamp the table help situation, it was messy.

- Will try to use teams to staff the tables.
- Need work on weigh-in area, Pat feels we need to manage it a little better.
- Will need to revamp weigh-ins.
- Pat Culp asked Dan Mikesell how awards went. He stated it seemed to go very smoothly. The new banner and set-up was fantastic.
- Jen Ratliff asked if we need to keep the stage as it was a misinterpretation of their request.
- Spectators seemed very happy.
- Jennifer Pierson brought up parking. Jen Ratliff said we need lot for workers and officials with a separate door for entry.
- Discussed whether we need both rooms for hospitality or just one. Determined that it was nice to have both.
- Pat Culp is looking at the contract to see what the cost differential is.
- We had some issues with the internet. We should make sure that the new contract states what we need in regards to the internet, per Jen Ratliff.

### **All Events**

- Jen Ratliff would like to look at Masters Division to mimic USA Wrestling.
- Every year we end up combining Masters and University.
- Would like us to look at going back to University, Senior, and Veterans. No real need to mimic Masters as there is no qualifier.
- Roby Webster made a motion we go back to University, Senior and Veterans rather than mimicking USA Wrestling Masters.
- Jason Miller seconded the motion.
- Motion passes unanimously.
- Jen Ratliff also wants to look at awards.
- We do top 3 for Small/Medium/Large Divisions.
- Would like to do top 3 teams for women since they are growing.
- Would also like to look at top 3 academies overall.
- Jennifer Pierson asked for an analysis to be looked at for top 3 academies vs top 25 of each academy.
- Lou Silverman made a motion to include 3 awards for club and each academy, boys (Large/Medium/Small), girls, teams, academies.
- Jonah seconded the motion.
- Motion passes unanimously.
- Jen Ratliff would like to change our pricing schedule. Early registration rates (early enough to be on the shirts) will be at regular price.
- A price increase would occur a bit after the shirt deadline due to missing shirt deadline, then late registration.
- Jason Miller made a motion for the pricing to follow: Early Shirt Registration, Registration, Late Registration.
- Jared Curcio seconded the motion.
- Motion passes unanimously.
- Jen Ratliff wants to come up with verbiage as to what constitutes an academy.
- Jared Curcio asked about containing distance traveled.
- Nick Hull stated that typically the coach is not with the school.
- Discussion around club vs academy determination.
- Tournament committee will meet and come up with criteria for academy definition and bring to the next meeting as a recommendation.

### **Freestyle/Greco State**

- Pat Culp notified Thomas Pompei that she got an extender for the monitor. It was placed into Cheryl's box.
- Need to talk about the event, qualifiers, and Estonia.
- The event seemed to go well.
- Jennifer Pierson stated we need additional volunteers over by the cafeteria at the entry doors.
- Discussion of flow for weigh-ins.
- Need to work on this depending upon where we end up having the event.
- Jonah Odum stated need to have more education on Freestyle/Greco rules.
- He saw a lot of bad challenging of calls.
- Dalton Halbig discussed educational opportunities, the fact that Saturday is an extremely long day, but feels things went much better this year.
- We had 10 officials from Indiana Tech this year.
- Parents don't always understand the rules and they complain about "unfair" calls.
- Dalton Halbig reviewed the calls and most all were called correctly.
- Jimmy Tonte, Dalton Halbig, Danny Struck, and Jared Curcio to determine what we should do about requiring each club to name and official and about education.
- Awards went smoothly. Would like a louder PA system to help.
- Would be helpful to have more help in the awards area.
- Thomas Pompei stated he would like to have a carpet underneath the podium, about 30x3 feet (so that the podium doesn't slide).
- We need to make sure the guest athlete that comes in for the camp, has their pay based upon how long they should be there.
- **Qualifiers for freestyle.**
- Our numbers keep going up.
- Pat Culp's opinion is that it is time for the girls to have qualifiers.
- Roby Webster made a motion that we require 2 qualifiers for girls
- Doug Strayer agrees that it is time for qualifiers. This also provides the girls with additional experience.
- Payton Halbig seconded the motion. Add to the motion, in order to have it be a qualifier, they must have a Girls Division at the local tournament.
- For clarity, in order for an event to be a qualifier, the event must offer both a boys and girls division.
- Roby made an update to his original motion to add that the local tournament must have both a boys and a girls division.
- Jared Curcio seconded the motion.
- Discussions around this motion.
- ISWA will recommend that if the numbers support a separate girls' division, they should have a separate division.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> motion is no longer needed.
- Motion passes unanimously.
- **Estonia** – several kids went to this tournament this year. Do we want to add this as a qualifier for next year?
- Payton Halbig made a motion to allow Estonia to be a qualifier for state freestyle tournament.
- Jason Miller asked about reporting for this tournament.
- Jennifer Pierson stated they used electronics brackets but it wasn't very easy to determine.
- Parents would need to notify us that they intend to use Estonia as a qualifier, prior to the state tournament so that Jen Ratliff can have it in the system.
- Roby Webster stated that he is on the fence, but if this is difficult to verify the event then maybe we shouldn't authorize.
- Jennifer Pierson said that once we know that the athlete is participating, it isn't that difficult to determine.

- Pat Culp stated we could add a caveat of “with prior approval”.
- Pat Culp was tracking the online vote – between online and in person votes, motion failed. Motion failed.

## **Consultant & Staff Reports**

- **Law & Legislation – Steve Pugliese**
  - Not present. No report.
  - Pat Culp reported that we need to find a replacement for Steve Pugliese.
  - She has found someone to handle the Safe Sport piece of this role.
- **Sports Medicine – Nicole Moss**
  - Not present. No report.
  - Pat Culp reported that Nicole is up to speed for Women’s Duals
- **Technology – Chris Pruitt**
  - Not present. No report.
  - Pat Culp stated that we all need to integrate the ISWA email into usage. She wants to make sure we are sharing data in a secure environment and keep the information safe.
- **Olympic Wrestling Styles Consultant – Zach Errett**
  - Not present. No report.
- **Membership Staff – JD Minch**
  - Current Athletes – 12,311 – up 4% from prior year with 49% New Athletes, increase 334 from last month
  - Current Wrestling Leaders – 1,632 – up 1% from prior year with 31% New Wrestling leaders, increase of 75 from last month
  - Current Clubs – 227 – up 4% from prior year, with 14% New Clubs, up 4 from last month
  - Sanctioned Events – 125 – up 0% from prior year, up 3 from last month
  - Certified Coaches: 1 Gold / 11 Silver (increase of 1 from last month) / 626 Bronze (increase of 54 from last month), 964 Copper (increase of 40 from last month)
  - Currently keeping records of National Teams’ registration.
  - Athletes have verified their ages for all National Team Trips.

### **State Services - Staff – Tina Tonte**

- Team IN gear deliveries weekly.
- Thanks to Jalen & Jennifer Pierson for helping assist Jonah Odum with this undertaking.
- Spoke to Lou Silverman about gear/New Zealand invoices today. June 13<sup>th</sup> is the next due date of the payment plan.
- Team IN payment/invoices updated daily until Fargo. Working through the most efficient process.
- Regular communications with team leaders & Thomas Pompei on Team IN needs.
- Camp registration updated for Manchester Women’s camp and some payment adjustments made. New Fargo registration added for Manchester Camp. Does anyone know who created this? For future, please communicate with the ISWA office of any registrations built. Pat Culp stated that USA did this.
- Minimal sanctions/age verification. Website updates to newsletters with scholarship winners & crown winners.
- AM Awards – spoke with Jay Dowden on awards for double crown winner names. Could she get a few directors to run through for any human errors? Jay delivered state plaques to ship out next week.

- New staff. She will begin training Georgia Bartley on how to use/access the USAW membership site and the ISWA email this week. Her main focus will be with Jonah on Team Indiana gear.
- Collecting award winners & planning 8/3/25 Awards banquet details. Need help with the All American list.
- Currently Lawrence Central hosting in Café (breakfast) & Auditorium ceremony. Discussing with Mike Conners, details. 350-400 guests.
- The committee includes Ryan Parish, Linda Robinson, JD Minch, Josh Curry, Jonah Odum, Melissa Strayer. Would like to receive assistance with the All American List.
- Asks if this event will be the same next year.
- Camps/Clinics updated on ISWA website and shared with social medial helpers.
- Friendly reminder for ISWA board to log into ISWA emails through outlook and securely share files and emails within our shared one drive.
- Asked everyone to please be patient with the office staff. To best support state & membership services, it's a priority to communicate with respect and professionalism. They are here to serve not only directors on the ISWA board, but the entire membership as a state. Both JD and she have extended themselves to serve and commit as employees. They volunteer on a regular basis outside of work hours to help the board and many others.
- Sending an email, asking board members to review the club tournament guide and other items online to review. Will email items to board members.
- Pat Culp reported that we have added to the staff. We have hired Georgia Bartley, who will work 3 days per week. Will be giving up her Section 3 Director position. She just started last week.

## **Directors Reports**

### **Vice Chair– Administration – Jennifer Pierson**

#### **Disciplinary Committee Report:**

- Had an issue regarding a tournament in southern Indiana – allowing middle school age to wrestle in high school age divisions. Working on the rendering sanctions.

#### **Regular Report**

- Has been working with Georgia on training and will be shadowing JD Minch and Tina Tonte, and will have her own duties.
- Have spent a lot of time working with Jonah Odum and Rudis, the process is being streamlined.
- Duals gear packaged, and waiting on national teams items.
- Working with Pat Culp on Women's Duals. We have enough mats now.
- Finalizing pickup and delivery schedules and should be completed by Monday.
- Roby Webster asked to have the list of mats emailed to him.

#### **• Tournament Director – Roby Webster**

- Girls Nationals – glad to hear we have enough mats.
- We'll be setting up on Tuesday. 24 mats and 1 exhibition.
- Pat Culp will send a map of the layout. Using 2 fields. On one field, laying down flooring for team tables for food.
- Will be teams from 37 states. 166 teams in total. 61 of the teams are freestyle teams that come over for Greco.
- Having a separate entrance for teams to enter.
- Only one entrance for spectators.
- 117 officials coming in.

- **Hospitality Director – Linda Robinson**
  - Things went well this year
  - On the last day of women’s wrestling, are we going to have the same amount of officials?
  - Pat Culp is waiting on the numbers.
  - Everything else is set for the women’s duals.
  - When we have the nationals – everyone agreed to pay the hospitality staff, but didn’t say if it was for the whole weekend or per day.
  - Payment for the hospitality staff is per day.
  - Has been working with Doug Strayer for what he wants for the girls’ camp.
  - Scholarship committee did an awesome job. 131 or 133 applications for scholarships.
  - Has questions from committee members that we will discuss at a later date.
  - Provided names of the scholarship winners/awards.
  - All have been sent their winner or non-winner letters.
  - Has received back 3 acceptance letters.
  - Will be sending another email to the 4 that haven’t responded, this week.
  - Will send the information to Steve for the 3 that have accepted.
  - Will be determining where the money should be sent and will let Steve know that.
  
- **Pairing Officials Developmental Director – Jennifer Ratliff**
  - Nothing new to report.
  
- **Social Media/Marketing Director – Andy Oberlin**
  - Not Present – No Report.
  
- **Equipment Director – Jonah Odum**
  - All gear has been ordered, waiting for all to come in.
  - Worked with Rudis to get through a couple of small hiccups.
  - Still waiting for Kids’ Nationals gear and Fargo gear for both girls and boys.
  - 26 athletes on 14U team and 36 athletes for 16U – any extra it is important to roll over for Fargo.
  - Working through kids nationals.
  - Thomas Pompei went through and talked about a very well-oiled machine. That is how all other teams function. Very regimented. Lots of folks working through these things.
  - Jonah is the single person working through all these tasks.
  - He has had to make no less than 200 phone calls to get people signed up.
  - 34 confirmed athletes going out there, could be upwards of 67.
  - 10U, 12U, parents play a big role in wanting to be there.
  - About 24 parents will probably be on the bus.
  - Takes a lot of work to put the team together.
  - Appreciative of the help from the office, in providing information to him to make the calls.
  
- **Mat Officials Developmental Director – Dalton Halbig**
  - National Duals – officials are set up for that.
  - We have one official going to 14U, 3 to 16U, and 3 to Junior Duals.
  - 10-15 going to Women’s Duals.
  - Working on Fargo now.
  - Has spoken with Melissa Stayer about transportation.

- **Folkstyle Referees Developmental Director – Jared Curcio**
  - No report at this time.
  
- **Logistics Director – Melissa Strayer**
  - 16U good to go tomorrow.
  - Enterprise business account is set up.
  - Kids Nationals – buses and rooms set up. 20 rooms reserved.
  - Heartland rooms secured.
  - Folkstyle State – will start working on that.
  - Will start working on rooms for budget meeting weekend.
  
- **Section 1 – Mark Galka**
  - Not present. Report via email.
  - ISWA Scholarships – with the increase of applications, increase of women in the sport, I propose an increase from 7 scholarships to 9 scholarships.
  - Cannot recall the last time this was increased. We all work for the kids. Feels it is time we give additional scholar awards to further their education.
  - One special and one founders.
  - Maybe the Hildebrandt award for what she has done for women’s wrestling in the last 10 years.
  - Reaching the very top of the mountain and now coaching the women’s USA team.
  
- **Section 2– Mary Friedt email**
  - Not present. Report via email.
  - In August, will be reminding clubs from the most updated list, about the upcoming 2025-2026 need for new USAW cards, the annual meeting and anything additional needed.
  
- **Section 3 – Georgia Bartley**
  - No Report.
  
- **Section 4– Mark Stevenson**
  - Not Present. No Report.
  
- **Section 5 –Payton Halbig**
  - Girls’ camp/clinic next Saturday.
  - Girl’s tournament on Sunday (father’s day), low numbers, so may not happen.
  
- **Vice Chair – Jim Tonte – Programs**
  - **State Coaches Director – Danny Struck**
    - Report via text – committees have met, team leaders, directors, nailed down.
    - Every trip has been submitted to officers and approved.
    - Letters are out to Fargo coaches for an acceptance form, rules, (not here to recruit), and they are here to coach all kids.
    - In May, Mike Clayton from USA Wrestling came in for 2 clinics. Both had good turnouts.
  
  - **Regional Training Center – Josh Curry**
    - Not Present.
    - RTCs consistently having athletes
    - Has a message out to all to keep continuing to attend RTCs and training at a high level.

- **Cultural Exchange Director – Lou Silverman**
  - 9 kids going on the trip to New Zealand, leaving June 17th.
  - Had a practice at Westfield yesterday – 7 made it to the practice.
  - They seem ready to go.
  - Ben Nicely is going with the group.
  - Has been working with Tina Tonte to get payments taken care of. Last payment due 6/13.
  - Has been talking to Pete in New Zealand. Has an itinerary set up.
  - All set to go.
  
- **Team Leader Director – Thomas Pompei**
  - Women’s Duals – paperwork turned in team leaders doing well.
  - All teams pretty filled.
  - Camp date set. ½ of the rosters have been uploaded online.
  - 14U Duals also had team camp over the weekend. 26 boys registered. All filled, both styles.
  - 16U Duals – 34 guys, 2 Freestyle teams and 1 Greco team.
  - Nick will pick up remaining gear bags this week.
  - Will need per diem money for the coaches.
  - Media guy is put together for the teams.
  - Junior Duals are registered and have 2 full freestyle teams and 1 Greco team.
  - Everyone registered online. Has a media guy. Are ready to go.
  - Will also need per diem for coaches.
  - Fargo women off to a great start. 46 girls registered, 2 in cart. Should have more. There is a 1 day camp with girls.
  - Doug Strayer is heading out early like the guys.
  - Doug Strayer and Pat Rowles are doing a great job and Melissa Strayer is as well.
  - Fargo men – registration 58 at this time. Emails have been sent to all eligible to go out.
  - 2 training opportunities have been set up.
  - Recruitment guide is ready to go. Business cards have been designed.
  - Updating website and paperwork online.
  - Will be working with housing at NDSU. .
  
- **Kid’s Director – Jason Miller**
  - Nothing to report at this time.
  
- **Girls/Kid’s Director – Patrick Rowles -**
  - Not present. Report via email.
  - Finishing up last day of the Central Regional Development camp today.
  - 14U girls National Team is shaping up very well.
  - Majority of the State Freestyle Champs accepted the spot on the team.
  - Have one empty weight at this time at 75 pounds.
  - Have not been able to find an age group girl that light yet.
  - Have good group of coaches and team mom for the group and Coach Strayer has a nice camp schedule set up for the team duals.
  - Currently hosting our first all-girls Central Region Development Camp at Manchester University. This camp is designed from the Elite Accelerator Program that USA wrestling uses.
  - The USA Women’s National Wrestling Committee is wanting to offer these to promote and grow women’s wrestling more at the grass root level.

- We have Jacarra Winches4ter as our clinician and 51 girls in attendance at this 3-day camp.
  - We were glad to be the first state in our region to host this and look forward to trying to keep it in Indiana each year going forward, if possible.
  - Will be competing at the National Duals i8n Westfield and assisting Coach Strayer with anything needed in preparation for Fargo.
- **16U/Junior Director –Dan Mikesell –**
    - Was covered in Thomas Pompei’s report.
- **16U/Junior Women’s Director –Doug Strayer – email in ISWA**
    - Finishing Central Regionals Camp today.
    - Has been busy filling duals teams and filling Fargo rosters.
    - Camp was amazing, Patrick Rowles did a fantastic job pulling it off.
    - 14U, 16U, and Jr. duals teams are filled and mostly paid.
    - Have a hole in both 14U and 16U, but our team leaders: Patrick Rowles 14U, Jeremy Goodlett 16U, and Mark Maldonado Jr’s did a great job filling the teams.
    - Have a day and a half camp planned before Duals and most arrangements are complete.
    - We have on day Fargo camp on July 28<sup>th</sup> at Purdue.
    - Have had 69 verbally commit to Fargo with 44 registered at this time.
- **Olympic Styles Development Director – Nick Hull**
    - Nothing to report at this time.
    - Some buzz going around with Indiana with all of the teams and the growth we have put in for the last several years.
- **Folkstyle Developmental Director – Ryan Parrish**
    - Nothing much to report.
    - Will start working on the report for the awards party.
    - Elementary Duals – looking at changing team structure to 12 large/10 medium/10 small for the breakdown – He’s fine with this.

Roby Webster motioned that we adjourn the meeting.  
 Payton Halbig seconded the motion.  
 Motion Passed unanimously.

**Meeting Adjourned @ 1:53 pm.**

**August 2nd will be budget meeting in the office as well as the normal August board meeting, and the team building outing. August 3<sup>rd</sup> will be our awards banquet.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Tina Fouts*  
 ISWA Secretary