

**USAW-Kansas Kids
STATE BODY MEETING
Homewood Suites, Salina, Kansas**

**State Body Meeting Minutes
October 9, 2022**

Meeting was called to order at 11:41am by Chairman Will Cokeley.

- I. Roll Call by Registration:
Met quorum, 100 clubs checked in.
- II. Amendments to Agenda:
Mark Stanley-change to amendment-Franklin County, Ottawa County staying in District 4.
- III. Approval of Minutes-2021 State Body Meeting:
Richard Salyers made motion to approve last year's state body meeting minutes.
Seconded by Richard Zimmerman.
All in favor.
- IV. Report of Officers
 - A. Folkstyle Director, Scott Edwards: Nothing to report.
 - B. Treasurer, Kurt Lang: Handed out Financial Summary Report with statistics. It was a good year and exceeded expectations by far. Received \$35,000 from the city of Topeka organization called Visit Topeka. In comparison to other states, in general financially, we are #3 in male memberships and #2 in female memberships. Motion to approve Treasurer Report made by Mark Stanley, seconded by Scott Edwards.
 - C. Assistant Folkstyle Director, Mark Stanley: Reported on state tournament information. Added girls division to state tournament. Number of state entries remained steady. In 2019, state tournament had 1451 boys and 269 girls. At 2021, state tournament had 1453 boys and 736 girls. Will post report on webpage. Went over state tournament objectives—had a plan and executed the plan--grand format feel, opening ceremonies and parade of champions. Anticipate more growth in the girls division for this year. There was a discussion/questions session where a list of 26 "issues" was discussed (call to mat format-do not like? combine all divisions rather than high school on Friday, do not like split format, do modified sessions or something else? modified grand format now.)
Lots of discussion and comments. Comments about all divisions wrestle 2 round Friday, all divisions wrestle 2 rounds Saturday and semis and a parade, and then final round and parade and championships on Sunday. Strong poll to run format

as close as possible to last year's (more YES than NO) but to NOT wrestle in 2 rooms at same time like last year.

- D. Freestyle/Greco Director, James Bilby: Fundraising for Freestyle/Greco starts at the folkstyle tournament by selling shirts (\$28,000 raised). Went over wrestler accomplishments. Hutch High-F/G state tournament. Various competitions/tournaments participated in. Journeyman Classic-international kids. Labette Community College-built new facility-Fargo camp moving to here.
- E. Women's Director, Jason Storm: There were 24 girls, 12 All American, 2 National Champions. 6th Place in duals-last match was for tiebreaker. Wrestler accomplishments in various tournaments/events/competitions. Weight classes for girl's state-need qualifier to move on to girl's state.
- F. Officials Director, Dylan Eck: Will Cokeley read Dylan's report, as he was not present for meeting. Motion to waive \$5 official's fee. Up to \$200 official's reimbursement for fee and uniform-budgeting for 5? Appoint 1 official from each district to be Lead Official. There was an increase in a few officials this past year in freestyle/greco. Still have official's shortage all around.
- G. KWCA/University Rep: Vacant
- H. Coaches Development Director (Safe Sports), Joe Knecht: Nothing to report
- I. District 1 Director, Wade Doering: Reported on election of new officers for their district. District tournament will be at Blue Valley SW. Ed Addison-State Person of the year.
- J. District 2 Director, Richard Salyer: District officers same as last year. Their district tournament will be at Kansas Star Arena. No State Person of the Year-wants Doug Vander Linden and will second it.
- K. District 3 Director, Rich Zimmerman: Reported on election of district officers. Do not know where district tournament will be yet. State Person of the Year-Nigel N.
- L. District 4 Director, JB Harding: Reported on district officer elections. District tournament in Hays. State Person of the Year-Damian Mendez.
- M. State Chairman, Will Cokeley: USA Wrestling continuing to push membership system. Currently Sports Engine-USAW will offer their own website platform in future. Need to have a succession plan for people in current positions. Elected to Governance Committee. Partner with Missouri and have some events in Kansas City. It was one of the best years for international competition.

V. Old Business

- A. Proposed By-Laws Changes—approved by board
 - 1) "When a female division is offered, females will NOT be allowed to compete against males."
Motion made by Richard Salyer, seconded by Joe Knecht. Lots of discussion by body. Called by Richard Salyer, seconded by Elsie Davis. In favor of motion. 54 to 32. Motion passes.
 - 2) "USAWKS to require sanctioned tournaments to submit a list of officials used to the head official in each district to begin tracking officials. Proposal to start simple to provide data for Officials Director."

This was online. Motion made by Richard Salyer, seconded by Joe Knecht. Discussion-doing this to collect data. Call in question by Richard Salyer, seconded by Rich Zimmerman. Motion passed unanimously.

- 3) "Modify weigh in rule to eliminate 24 hour requirement allowing Friday night weigh ins for Sunday tournaments. USAW has NO limit or window of time stipulation."

Friday night weigh in for Sunday tournaments-no 24-hour rule leaving up to tournament directors. Motion by Rich Zimmerman, seconded by Joe Knecht. Discussion. Call in question by same. Passed by majority.

B. Proposed By-Laws Changes—not approved by board

1. "Move Jefferson, Franklin, and Ottawa counties to District 3 to alleviate some of the overcrowding in District 1." "Proposal failed to make it to a vote. Board created a redistricting committee headed up by Rich Zimmerman." Motion fails.
2. "Rewrite language in related to discipline in the USAWKS bylaws. Richard Salyer to head up committee to review." Richard Salyer spoke on this. Reinstate the bylaws. Motion by Richard B., seconded by Greg Boucher. Call in question by Rich Zimmerman, seconded by Richard Salyer. Passes with 2/3 vote.

C. Proposed By-Laws Change from the floor

1. "Require qualifying by female wrestlers in the state tournament series. " So we don't have open weights." Motion by Rich Zimmerman, seconded by Wade Doering. Call in question by Rich Zimmerman, seconded by JB Harding. Passes by majority.
2. "Female Weight Divisions proposed":
"8U-40,45,50,55,60,65,70,80,90,110,125"
"10U-50,55,60,65,70,75,80,85,90,100,110,125,140"
"12U-65,70,75,80,85,90,95,100,105,110,115,120,130,140,150,165,185"
"14U-72,79,85,92,97,101,105,110,115,119,127,136,145,165,185,200,
(friendly amendment to add to girls-235)."
"HS-Use NFHSAA weight classes"
Motion by Rich Zimmerman, seconded by Travis Phippen
Motion by Richard Salyer, seconded by Marcus Waters. Passes unanimously.

VI. Election of Officers (Secretary, Membership Director, and Treasurer are board appointed)

Salyer make motion that all incumbents up for reelection be nominated again.

Seconded by Jason Storm. Passes

- 1) State Chairman-Will Cokeley
- 2) Folkstyle Director-Scott Edwards
- 3) Assistant Folkstyle Director-Mark Stanley
- 4) Freestyle/Greco Roman Director-2 nominations-James Bilby and Clint Slyter. Short speech by James Bilby. Speech by Clint Slyter. Ken Kepley Pratt Community College coach spoke on behalf of F/G candidate-need to come together not divide and conquer, Clint is here for the kids, Kent's friend, Clint

doing it for the kids not the accolades. Daylon Kerr spoke on behalf of James Bilby. Has taken in all our kids, his interest is every kid.

Body voted on cards (wrote James or Clint). Counted by Scott Edwards and Kurt Lang. Vote count in favor of James Bilby 60 to 31 (2 cards had both names).

- 5) Women's Director-Jason Storm stepping down. Nominated Travis Phippen. Motion by Jason Storm, Seconded by Joe Knecht.
- 6) Officials' Director-Dylan Eck
- 7) KWCA/University Representative-Doug Vander Linden passed away. Aaron Meister in position (?). Motion by Salyer, seconded by Travis Phippen.
- 8) Coaches Development & Safe Sports Director-Joe Knecht

VII. New Business

- 1) 2021-22 USAW Numbers and 2022-23 Goals
 - i. Over 1,000 male competitor memberships lost
Record numbers at 13,000. Need to regain males.
- 2) Changes to the Membership Director's responsibilities.-
Went solely to electronic memberships last year.
- 3) USAW Membership System-IMPROVEMENTS
Call Shawna Vest, also Q & A section on website. Short talk by Jamy Dunbar-if impatient with USA Wrestling call Jamy. Clubs can sign up for the kids or have the parents do it.
- 4) 2024 Kids State Hotel Room Plans-Mike Bell
Will Cokeley spoke first-Concerns around hotel issues for state. Price growing. A lot of moving parts. #1 goal-need to get officials and workers a room, #2-flatten the pricing-get the flat rate across the city, #3-make sure no one goes without a hotel room.
Mike Bell spoke-He is from Visit Topeka organization. Solution to hotel issues-have a Housing Platform called Meeting Max, they would contract with hotels for rooms for 2024 and 2025 seasons, trying to secure these rooms for a flat rate, clubs will no longer have contract with the hotel.
- 5) Wrestlers in Business Network & KWCA-Nate Naasz-organization out of Pennsylvania but stationed out of Kansas. Clinic weekend-Hall of Fame & Awards banquet this weekend, no kids clubs registered to attend, just had middle school and high school programs.
- 6) USAW Membership Check in System-Joe Knecht-Spoke about the electronic check-in system he uses for his club for practices, tag on their bag with a barcode or on their phone and scans it.
- 7) USAW Participation Requirements-Will Cokeley-Have to have a card to step foot on the mat and practice or not insured. Same with coaches. Practice and events-have to have a card.
- 8) Athletes, Coaches, Practices, Events-Will Cokeley. Same as 7. Video challenge fee, straw vote/opinion vote, state tournament-a pilot program, match reviews.
- 9) Officials Incentives-Dylan Eck-Will Cokeley spoke since Dylan not here.
 - i. Student Athlete Official of the year-\$500 scholarship
 - ii. First year official reimbursement plan
 - iii. Clubs need to promote officiating

10) New Business from the floor?

VIII. Adjournment-Hays motioned, seconded by Quinter. Meeting adjourned at 3:15pm.

IX. State Board Meeting—Immediately Following

- a. Approve Board Appointed Positions-Executive Board-Kurt Lang Treasurer, Alicia Edwards Secretary, and Jamy Dunbar Membership Director.
- b. Approve USAW Membership Payments-Approved