

**USA Kansas Wrestling  
STATE BODY MEETING  
October 8, 2017**

**Roll Call:**

There are 179 clubs eligible to vote and 99 are present.

**Amendments to Agenda:**

There was an error under Section IV A #2 should read: Article I (4) Rule 1-2-3: Change the time between matches to 15 minutes.

**Approval of minutes:**

Richard Salyer made the motion to accept the minutes, James Bilby seconds the motion, all were in agreement.

**Report of Officers:**

**Treasurer- James Bilby:**

Financial statements from last year were placed in call packets. Shows a bit of a loss from last year but good news is that there is \$300,000 in various accounts throughout the state. We are healthy as far as funding. You will see that we have reduced the budget from \$50,000 to \$30,000.00 to right about \$9,000. We support a lot of different things Freestyle and Greco, School Boy, Cadet and JR. teams, we have a very good healthy budget in supporting women's wrestling which is not only growing in USA wrestling but also at the high school level here in Kansas. We have put on a lot of different clinics. Fargo is a big expenditure of ours but I will tell you we do it cheaper than about any state in the union about \$500 to \$600. The finalized version of the financial statement will be online on the state website if you need it contact myself, Mike, or Kathy and we will get that to you.

**Folkstyle Director- Matt Treaster:**

National folkstyle committee has proposed some changes that won't affect us in Kansas but if you go to any of the regional or National folkstyle events they have a series they do all over the country you may run into some of these rule changes.

Mouth guards will not be required but will be recommended.

Double chicken wing sitting through will be illegal.

$\frac{3}{4}$  Nelson with or without the leg is legal.

They are also going to start using a step out rule, it is not a pushout so if you shove your opponent out you don't get a point. If you are the aggressive wrestler and are attacking your opponent and you step out first when you score he doesn't get a point get the points for takedown. However, if you are attacking but you step out first and don't score he gets a point. Also, if there is any situation on the edge of the mat where whoever steps out first the other person will get a point. So, you are going to start seeing a step out rule.

Also, there will be limited opportunities for video challenge. Coaches can go to the table and call the head referee to the table. They will then put down a \$100 bill on the table and then the referee will review whatever call you want to have reviewed. If it goes in your favor you get your \$100 back if it does not go in your favor they keep your \$100 and you get a coaches warning. Those are somethings you might see in the regional and national events in Folkstyle.

#### **Assistant Folkstyle Director- Mark Stanley**

Primary role is State Tournament.

Series last year had a total of 2914 wrestlers that participated in the first open tournament. We broke that down 1468 wrestled in the state tournament.

This is the first year we chose as a body to build brackets that process worked well. I would like to thank Daniel Reling for his efforts he worked with district directors pulled that information in and made sure that process ran smooth making it a feasible option for us. That is part of our bylaws now so we are going to keep going with that same process as we did last year. This is my opportunity to thank a few people, I would like to thank the state tournament committee. District director Joe Knecht, Richard Salyer, Rich Zimmerman, and Steve Woody for all the work they do getting ready for the tournament. Those guys as well as the rest of the state body jumped in and were mopping mats and running tables along with everyone else. Couldn't ask for any better help then we have in our leadership up here. We have an operations committee I'll recognize those guys Joe Knecht, Lonnie Woodman, Scott Edwards, and Steven Foster kind of helped keep the Track and the Track stuff going. Rich Zimmerman out of district 3 is our weigh ins coordinator gathers up all those volunteers and makes the weigh ins go smooth as possible with all the 1500 kids weighing in. Really everyone in this room needs to pat yourselves on the back. We have a really good thing going. This is something we should all be proud of. I want to draw special attention to Cheryl Seaton and Jason Ogden have both been working state tournaments since way back. Both are going to be stepping back this year and spending time with their families as they should but I wanted to draw attention to them if you see those guys walking around at tournaments thank them for their years of service. One more person is Lonny Woodman is going to be deployed this whole season, Lonny is behind the scene with Track. If anybody wants his email address to wish him well. He will be back in May. We have big shoes to

fill as far as helping run the state tournament anyone with those skill sets with administrative side as well as TrackWrestling reach out to me by phone, email or at a tournament. You don't have to know everything we will teach you.

### **Freestyle/Greco Director- Will Cokeley**

Something I have heard over the last twelve months is that freestyle and Greco are for the elite wrestler. My message today is it is not for the elite but freestyle and Greco are how you become elite. If you want to be an elite wrestler you need to be on the mat 11 months of the year. Only way you will do that is to get involved in the freestyle and Greco programs we offer from March through the end of July. We have opportunities like Freestyle and Greco state in May that goes on into the southern plains camp and then the southern plains tournament that is still hosted in Dodge City. These are all great freestyle and Greco opportunities we have a ton of clubs throughout the state. On top of that we have the school boy duals which we sponsor two teams that go to Indianapolis to compete against the best school boys in the country turnaround and do the same thing with cadet duals with two teams and then Junior duals in Oklahoma City. So, each year we send six teams of Kansas kids out to wrestle the best in the country. These are not just for the elite we take two teams and we take alternates there are other kids who are involved in football, summer camps, baseball and everything so you can get involved. What we would really like to encourage is that you get involved at the youth level, we traditionally have 150 to 200 kids at the high school level but always a percentage less at the kid's level most of our card members here are in 14 and under below so we need to get these kids started on freestyle and Greco early. WE have a regional training center program Wichita, Ft. Hays and a bunch of them in KC. This year we are going to support the local training centers. We will be grouping the kids by skill set so that if we have some kids that are new and they are not comfortable working with kids who have been doing it for a few years that they can get it in kind of the novice freestyle Greco level and not be intimidated by being in there with kids who are a lot better. Idea is that coaches are going to say you are ready to move up to intermediate then when you get good enough at intermediate you can move on up to the excellent group. We are going to have local training centers, regional training centers, and something we are going to try this year is state training centers. We are going to have four of these one in each district we are going to move them around and they will be two day training centers anyone who is a USA card holder are welcome to come to these. Staff of coaches there will help with skill sets needed and rule changes. After Junior duals we have Fargo biggest high school tournament in the world. Annual we take 50 to 60 kids. We can take up to 5 per weight. We want to offer this opportunity because it really shows you what is out there as far as competition across the country you get a week long camp and get a week long of competition experiences and practices it is \$550.

### **Women's Director- Joe Knecht**

It is an exciting time in the sport for women I keep feeling that same way. Nationally we are seeing growth in the State we are seeing growth we had 68 additional athletes this past year. Getting additional participation in our state tournament still not where I would like to see it I am still pushing to increase that percentage of our in state participation in that tournament. I took team Kansas to a number of events last year we went to Iowa competed individually the next day we went somewhere else in Iowa to Midwest mat of dreams where the high school team took second to a very tough Illinois team. We went to folkstyle nationals. 18 all Americans', 6 finalists, 4 runner ups, Nicole Moore, Devin Geier and Bri Douglas. 2 national champs Jordan Knecht and Julia Cokeley. High School age wrestled duals the next day where they ended up placing 6<sup>th</sup> nationally. We are adding growth and depth. Our skill set is growing tremendously. After that we went to the women's national that's called body bar it is also the world team trials for school girls on up. 6 all Americans in that tournament. After that we took a dual team up to the Lady Lincoln duals in Chicago where they ended up winning it. Then on to Fargo we took 9 girls up there. 5 all Americans, 3 finalists. We are really trying to make a statement that they belong and they are training to show that. We also participated in the duals in Fargo we ended up going 2 and 2 up there. As far as the high school letter we have a proposal that has been presented to KIAAA meeting to the athletic directors within KSHSAA we have strong support from 4A and below but we have some uncertainty in 5A and 6A. We have some work to do so we have developed a task force trying to resolve the doubts and solve problems and really help them understand how they can do it. We are riding a wave it is a worldwide wave at all levels. It is an exciting time. If you have concerns please come contact me. Also, the state tournament will still be in MacPherson for the ladies. I want to recognize a couple of girls from the state that are going to participate on a US team headed to Estonia in the end of March Mya Kretzer and Jordan Knecht are going to go compete internationally. Girls state will be February 10 in McPherson.

### **Official's Director- Keith Ashpole**

Any brand new official that goes through the effort of getting signed up for KSHSAA and goes to a meeting and takes the test we will reimburse him his first year of KSHSAA so that is \$50. Last year we had a few guys who did not take the test. They don't have to pass it they just have to take it. Through KSHSAA we have found that every sport has gone down in the number of officials but wrestling has either gone up a little or maintained. That is an issue because every year I am getting 25 to 30 new guys so we should be going up every year. So, what's going on is a kid signing up and they get out there and then decide it is crazy and they don't come back or they don't get jobs. We all need to work together on this. I encourage you if you are having a tournament to go through and use people on the list. I encourage you to use these guys. We don't want to throw brand new people out there. I will ask them if I can bring in a couple first year officials we will pay them \$100 but I will be in their pocket that entire day. If the clubs

would do this and send me the receipt I will even pay you back. We have high school coaches here, I would encourage you when you have a tournament to at least pull in one young official as soon as you can. In five years we will lose 10% of our high school officials if we do not do this. We had one guy who had votes in all four districts good job on your voting. Brett Lang offered to help me set up a site I will have the officials post their picture and the tournaments they have been out so you can see the officials and they can get their names out there. Mistakes will be made but they have to learn from their mistakes and keep working. Email me with any questions.

Couple of rule changes that won't affect us that much:

2-piece uniforms

Points of support if you are in bounds and there is a wrestler who is out of bounds and shoulders are down the offensive wrestler can earn near fall points or get a fall if the offensive wrestler puts his knees down. This will be a learning process. I kind of have a dilemma with this because at the rules meeting they had two pictures one picture had a guy totally out of bounds and the offensive wrestler was on his hands and they said this was legal. The next one showed he was on his toes and it was illegal. I want clarification on that. What we are going to run into is that our mats but up against each other so if guys are over here and wrestling is going on we have to stop it or if they touch the wood or if they touch the table. If there are environments and it is full side mats at your coaches meeting before that you have to get clarification on it. The last thing they emphasize is when the referee is starting in the referee position on down position he has to be inside the wrestlers. If you have a contract with an official and he doesn't show please let me know. I will reach out to them. Mouthpieces are strictly national. Our state events this rule did not change. I think step out is good and I would like to see it go across the board. It is only National level at this point.

#### **District 1 Director- Joe Knecht**

We had our district one meeting here this morning.

District tournament will be at Blue Valley South West on March 10.

#### **District 2 Director- Richard Salyer**

District tournament will be at Kansas Star Arena Saturday March 10

District director- Richard

Assistant director- Kurt Lang and James Bilby

Olympic Styles Director – Ed Edison

District Person of Year- Dal Eck

State person of the year- Zach Campbell

Official of the year- Dillon Eck

#### **District 3 Director- Rich Zimmerman**

West director- Crystal Clanaghan

East director- James Otter

Rules Rep- Brady Sowers

Freestyle Director- Danny Grater

We are having subs this year: Jackson County will host East and Abilene will host West side.

Districts will be at Topeka Blue Thunder

District person of the year- Lonny Woodman

State person of the year- James Cook

Official of the year- Steven Plott

#### **District 4 Director- Steve Woody**

Scott Edwards will be taking over as director next year.

Assistant director to the North- Jamie Harding

South director- Scott Edwards

Secretary/Treasurer- Jeanie Day

Freestyle Director- Bryce Baughey

#### **State Chairman- Mike Juby**

Doug Vander Linden came and talked to me about the possibility that we have a summit where we brought in the college coaches, high school coaches, and our organization to get together and try to find things we can do to improve wrestling. Doug said ages 4-24. Did some more talking about it and Doug did all the leg work on it and we got the first ever summit put together last night. It started out sometime in the evening and ended sometime around midnight. We ended up coming up with two broad categories that we are going to work on now trying to find things to improve:

1. Recruitment and retention of members.
2. Working with some of the limitations brought on by KSHSAA that covers things like the ability of high school coaches to coach our kids in the Olympic styles. Dealt with things like coming up with a common Middle School season thing like that would fall under the KSHSAA limitations.

Doug stated "We did put some statistics on [Kansaswrestling.org](http://Kansaswrestling.org). There was a PowerPoint there that shares a lot of things we started with. When we say 4-24 the thought is as they continue to move through the sport they should continue to say I want to be involved I want to do something there is a passion for the sport." How are we turning those kids into the next set of officials what are we doing at the local level to begin developing those officials that will continue at 19 20 or more importantly how do we turn this on so it is not just a college job? How do we get those guys to want to continue to do it and go to 25 or 30? How do we grow those kids to want to coach and comeback in our communities and get involved? We are going to put our notes together and create some electronic forms.

Safesport- This is a nationally driven drive. They are going to put requirements on the national governing bodies like our organization with how we report things. The idea with Safesport is that we need to protect these kids, we need to protect them not from just sexual abuse and those types of things but from just straight out abuse. From the dad that grabs his kid and yanks him over and slaps him against the wall. The safesport policy puts a requirement on us that if we see something we have to report it. They recognize that some people are uncomfortable reporting it. USA wrestling has a reporting system that is entirely anonymous you don't have to give them any information just give them what happened. You do have a requirement under safesport policy to give the information. Everyone who wants to be a coaching member or a USA wrestling officially must be safesport certified it is free there is no cost for this. It should take 1.5 hours. You can break it up into session but the final test must be done in one sitting.

Question was asked what is going to happen if they are reported? What is our organization going to do at the state level? Answer: Depends on what is reported. Currently USA Wrestling policy is any allegation of sexual abuse will be forwarded to the National Safesport who investigates sexual allegations in all sports. Whatever they say must happen; USA wrestling will then pass it along to us. If it is not sexual in nature then USA wrestling will review it and determine what steps need to be taken.

Very likely that tournament workers may need to be informed of the requirement to report. If you are working a table and you see someone abuse a kid you are required to report it. Right now, only members are required to be safesport certified. This certification only must be done one time at no charge.

Two adults must be present with the kids at all times. This includes innocent things such as waiting for a parent to show up or driving a child home. Both adults do not need to be Safesport certified but there MUST be two adults.

Only coaches need to be Safesport at this time; no other board members.

New national membership site. EVERY coach needs to be on it. If you go to [usawmembership.com](http://usawmembership.com) it doesn't matter how long you have been a member you MUST create an account. Once you create your account you can claim your profile or make your profile if you have never been a previous member. You must do one of those two things to get your membership this year. You can link multiple accounts to your profile. Parents can link to profiles for their kids so they can see all their information. Once you go to your profile it will show you if you are current on your safesport check or background check. If you click on the links it will then give you the sites to update that information. Once you have a green dot on both the Safesport and the background check you are then allowed to request a card from Kathy. Directors of clubs can see the clubs in which you have chartered and members of the team that have profiles, including their membership status. You will also be able to print out the cards from the site.

You really must be aware of this if you want to charter a club or sanction a tournament the person listed as the director must be a current member of USA wrestling. Some of you are going to say “my tournament director doesn’t coach does he have to buy a coaching membership to sanction the tournament?” My suggestion is to take one of your coaches and put his name down as the director for the sanction that will get the sanction through. Then with the information you give to Kathy tell her who the true director is. On our website we will list that person. The person on the form for a club charter or an event sanction must be a current member of USA Wrestling.

DO NOT use an old spreadsheet, only use the current year’s spreadsheet. Kathy will send old spreadsheets back to you and say “sorry, I can’t use this”. There is a new column on the spreadsheet that shows if a coach has a current background check and if they have taken their Safesport.

Every club needs to be verifying birthdates of every wrestler. After a birth certificate is check then it can be marked on the spreadsheet that yes you have seen it.

## **Old Business**

### **Proposed rule changes- Approved by board.**

1.) Article II (14): Change the state tournament date to the weekend two weeks earlier than currently scheduled. The format and age groups would remain the same as we have now.

Joe Knecht made the motion and Richard Salyer seconds the motion.

A vote was made on the motion as printed on the Agenda.

Only 13 clubs opposed the motion so the motion was passed.

2.) Article 1 (4) Rule 1-2-3: Change the time between matches to 15 minutes.

Joe Knecht made the motion and Richard Salyer seconds the motion.

One vote for opposing this motion. The motion was passed.

3.) Article II (13): Use a draw system each year after the conclusion of the district tournament.

Richard Salyer made the motion. Steve Woody seconds the motion.

5 voters opposed the motion. The motion passes.

4.) Article II: Eliminate the application of Article I (4) Rule 4-4-2 for state qualifying series tournaments. This removes the maximum weight spread for the sate series, relying on existing NFHS rules.

Richard Salyer made the motion. Joe Knecht seconds the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

5.) Article 1 (4) Rule 6-1-1: Change High School division to 1:30 periods (instead of 2:00).

Doug Vanderlan made the motion. Richard Salyer seconds the motion.

2 votes opposing the motion. Motion passes



6.) Article II (6): Change the Qualifying series entry fees to \$25.00.

Ed Edison made the motion. Richard Salyer seconds the motion.

56 votes for and 13 opposed. Motion passes

7.) When USAW-KS sponsors or supports teams that participate in events, such as dual team formats or individual tournament competitions, Kansas wrestlers will not be allowed to participate in these events outside the USAW-KS process. For example, Kansas wrestlers will not be allowed to participate in these events as individual competitors not affiliated with USAW-KS, or with additional teams formed outside the USAW-KS process. If there is a USAW-KS qualifying process, such as a qualifying tournament or application process, to make any of these USAW-KS teams, everyone must participate in the required qualifying process to attend these events. If an individual participates in the qualifying process and is not asked to be a part of the USAW-KS team, then he may participate outside the USAW-KS teams if allowed to do so by the event. A Kansas wrestler is an individual who is either a resident of Kansas or attends a Kansas school.

Richard Salyer made the motion. Rich Zimmerman seconds the motion.

30 votes opposed, 31 votes for. Motion passes.

#### **Proposed By-Laws Changes- not approved by board.**

1.) Section II (2): Add statement/sentence that says, "If the individual being ejected is a minor (i.e.: student) the Rule 8, Article 8 of the High School rulebooks will be enforced by the host of the sanction event".

This would not kick the child off the premises.

Lance from Hays made the motion. Jason Storm from Labette County Seconds the motion.

two votes opposing the motion. Motion passes.

2.) Proposal to move to 8 Districts.

No motion is made.

3.) Requirement that all USAW-Kansas sanctioned tournaments must use TrackWrestling.

No motion is made.

4.) Disregard new High School out of bounds rule with exception of tournaments who have full mats.

25 votes opposing and 13 for the motion. Motion fails.

5.) Section III Article II (4) - Each qualifying tournament may have one weigh-in at or near the qualifying tournament location and up to two additional satellite weigh-ins, to be determined by the district director, within the qualifying tournament boundaries. The weigh-in at each location shall be held at the same time on scales that are verified. Each weigh-in location must be supervised by a State or District officer, and a USAW-Kansas registered official.

This rule will be changed to say: Each qualifying tournament may have one weigh-in at or near the qualifying tournament location and up to FOUR additional satellite weigh-ins, to be determine by the district director, within the qualifying tournament boundaries. The weigh-in at each location shall be held at the same time on scales that are verified. Each weigh-in location must be supervised by a State or District officer, and a USAW-Kansa registered official. Motion made by Steve. Bobby seconds the motion. 2 votes opposing the motion. Motion passed.

#### **Election of officers:**

State Chairman- Mike Juby  
Folkstyle Director- Matt Treaster  
Assistant Folkstyle Director- Mark Stanley  
Freestyle/Greco Roman Director- Will Cokeley  
Women's Director- Joe Knecht  
Officials' Director- Keith Ashpole  
KWCA/University Representative- Randy Hinderliter  
Coaches Development Director- Robert Bovaird

#### **New business**

No new business meeting adjourned.