

WISCONSIN WRESTLING FEDERATION

***** Annual Meeting Minutes *****

10/30/2011

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Dave Black, Chairperson, welcomes the clubs and individuals and introduces the Board of Directors. Board of Directors in attendance were Dave Black, Chairperson; Eric Lehrke, Vice-Chairperson; Kevin Black, Secretary/Women's Director; Jeff Jones, Membership Director/Tournament Director; Mel Dow, Kids Director; Scott Schmitz, Cadet Director; Duffy Brelsford, Junior Director; Mike DeRoehn, University/Senior Director; Bob Empey, WWCA Liason; Skip Farina, Mat Officials Director; Lorraine Smith, Pairings Official Director; Sandy Russell, Membership Secretary; District Directors Todd Schaaf (2)... Scott Kleuver (7), Terry Stone (8) and Member At-Large Mark Hemauer. Chuck York, Treasurer was not present.

GUEST SPEAKER – MARK HULL

Send a text message to Mr. Hull at (715) 829-9055 if you want more information.

Dave Black introduced Wisconsin National Dual team leaders and thanked each of them for their commitment. Schoolboys – Scott Kleuver; Cadets – Scott Arneson and Todd Schaaf; Juniors – Lewie Benitz.

Raffle ticket drawing.

TOURNAMENTS REPORT

Tournament Director Jeff Jones tournament reports on the tournaments that the Wisconsin Wrestling Federation will operate during the 2011-12 season.

- Kids Folkstyle Regionals changes: weigh-ins will be held on Friday only (no Saturday morning weigh-ins). Satellite sites will be open until 7:00 PM; the regional host site will be open until 8:00 PM.
- Dominate in the Dells will be held on Saturday, March 17th.
- A new event will be held on Sunday, March 18th in Wisconsin Dells for athletes who participated in Kids Folkstyle Regionals, but did not qualify for the Kids Folkstyle State Tournament. There is no formal name for the event yet.
 - Scott Arneson asked if the event would serve as an additional qualifier. It will not.
- Kids Folkstyle State changes: the event will now include 18 competition circles/mats and wrestling will begin at 5:00 PM on Friday, March 23rd. The oldest two age groups will weigh-in 3:00-4:00 PM (3/23) and the youngest age groups will weigh-in 5:00-6:00 PM (3/23). The girls will weigh-in 9:00-10:00 AM on Saturday (3/24) and begin wrestling at 11:00 AM. In response to a question from the floor by Scott Benitz, wrestling areas will be 23-24 feet.
- Freestyle/Greco-Roman State Tournament will be held in Wisconsin Dells at Chula Vista – Wisconsin Center. Weigh-ins will be the same and include eight weigh-in sites. The University Age Group (18-24 years old, not in high school) will be added to the event. Athletes in the University Age Group must be a resident in the State of Wisconsin or a student at a state college/university.

PAIRINGS OFFICIALS REPORT

Pairings Officials Director Lorraine Smith introduced three new pairings officials. Two individuals moved up in ranking throughout the season. Kayla Spurlee was selected as a technical official for the 2012 Olympic Games.

MAT OFFICIALS REPORT

Skip Farina was recently elected as the new Mat Officials Director. Being new to the position, he is excited and has a lot of thoughts and ideas. He is interested in talking to coaches and districts about hosting officials clinics and adding officials from Wisconsin.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership Director Sandy Russell gave the report that Wisconsin has increased its overall number of USA membership and have two new sanctioned clubs. Russell added a sheet in each club packet in order to have clubs send her more contact names from each club to assure communication.

Russell reminded members to check to see that athletes are current members by checking their actual card or looking online. A member id does not guarantee that an athlete has an active membership.

To coaches and officials, background checks must be completed online and the check is good for two years. The pull down menu (coaches) offers a list of credentials/certifications.

Russell encouraged everyone to inform her of their event as soon as possible. E-mail a copy of the event flyer so it can be attached to the WWF website.

Dave Black reported that Wisconsin has the 4th largest number of USAW members behind California, Illinois and Kansas, being only 14 members behind Kansas. He also shared the Roddy White, NFL All-Pro for the Atlanta Falcons, spent time at the US Olympic Training Center with USA Wrestling. USAW made a promotional poster that outlines White's involvement in wrestling and how it helped his football career. Posters are available after the meeting and will be sent to every sanctioned club.

STATE COACH REPORT

The WWF is currently operating without a State Coach and has done so since March, 2011. Currently, there are nine applicants for the newly revised State coach position. The new job description is posted on the WWF website and available upon request. The hiring committee is looking at applicants and reviewing the status of the position and will move forward very soon.

The WWF will offer eight Training Centers – one per district.

HIGH SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP

Dave Black described a great new opportunity offered from USA Wrestling – the High School Membership. It has already been done in Oregon and Georgia. High school wrestling teams can sanction their entire wrestling team for \$300. Every athlete gets a USAW athlete membership card. As a result, more athletes get involved with the USAW mission and vision. USAW decided to take a financial risk for the positive gain for athletes. High school programs can register their team between November 14 and December 2. Athletes who join the wrestling team after December 2 must purchase a card. Coach's membership cards are not required, however, they are strongly encouraged. In Wisconsin, the average team size is 20.2 athletes per team. 323 high schools in Wisconsin offered wrestling.

Jeff Matczak asked if the team membership is available online. Black answered that information is on the WWF website and to process the High School Membership, coaches must deal directly with USA Wrestling by contacting Tony Black by e-mail or directly on the phone. USA Wrestling will be sending an e-mail to every high school coach with more information.

COACHES EDUCATION

The WWF is interested in providing the clubs with more education opportunities. There is also an expressed interest to require USAW coach's cards to be allowed to coach mat side at WWF state tournament events.

Mike Todryk is hosting a Bronze Clinic on December 3rd. More information is available on the WWF website.

WEBSITE

The WWF website will present a new look be ready very soon. It will include links to the new WWF Twitter and Facebook accounts. Information will be delivered by e-mail, Facebook, Twitter and text messages to assure that members will receive the information in the way they choose. The WWF believes that the website should contain more information relative to the members. When the WWF announces anything new (clinic, tournament), it will go on the new webpage, Facebook and Twitter. Riot Sports is also a partner with us.

Raffle drawing – 2 winners

ELECTION: MEMBER AT-LARGE

Mark Hemauer, Dave Black, Eric Lehrke and Chuck York are on the ballot as incumbents. Nominations were open to the floor and Mike DeRoehn nominated Lewie Benitz. DeRoehn described that Benitz has played an integral role in the WWF and has volunteered a lot of his time. DeRoehn said there is one word that defines Benitz: success. He has been involved for many summers, give hours and hours, looks for the best interest of Wisconsin.

Members are told to vote for no more than four at-large members. Sandy Russell collected and counted the ballots.

OTHER BUSINESS

BUDGET: The WWF is purchasing new clocks for increased visibility and an internal router. Old clocks will be sold. Daily operational costs and capital expenditures budgeted differently. Dave Black talks to people across the US said the WWF has the prices anywhere.

Scott Schmitz moved to accept the budget, Lorraine second. Unanimously passed.

The four winners for the Member At-Large position are Mark Hemauer, Dave Black, Eric Lehrke and Chuck York.

Kevin Black asked if the Dominate in the Dells tournament held in Wisconsin Dells on the weekend between Youth Folkstyle Regionals and Youth Folkstyle State is in the best interest of the athletes within Wisconsin. He explained that there are a lot of opportunities available and when the WWF runs a tournament, they are effectively endorsing the event and encouraging participation even if participation hurts the long term development of the athletes and leads to "burn out." Black asked the WWF consider having a discussion about the event to see what others think. Tournament Director Jeff Jones said the WWF will host the Dominate in the Dells in 2012.

Making A Difference Program – Mike DeRoehn will host a *Making A Difference* tournament Sunday, November 13th – age groups will be novice, schoolboy, Cadet and Junior. As per the vision of USAW, money will go to Wisconsin collegiate wrestling in a collaboration project. The event will be held at Lakeland College. No USA Card is required.