

**FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA
USWOA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2017**

Members Present: Rick Tucci, Bill Stecklein, Zach Errett, John Heyman, Sue Hesser, Ginger Lile, Tim Pierson, Tom Kuisle, Chris Curtis, De Heyman, Jerry Kuntz, Casey Brennan-Goessel and Toby Tobiasson. **Absent:** Sam Julian with Jason Salley, on phone. **Others present:** Bill Grant, legal counsel; Derek Sikora, USAW Representative.

CALL TO ORDER: Rick Tucci called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

President's Welcome and Report: Rick Tucci welcomed everyone to the meeting. Rick presented and commented on a handout that he will present to the general membership at our Sunday night meeting. He commented on the loss this past year of five respected individuals who contributed for many years to USWOA success. They include Alice Riggle, Tom Clark, Jerry Matsumoto, Joe Scalzo and Julian Findley. Rick mentioned Board member changes, event manning, stipends, the website, and the transition from the USWOA Administrative Assistant to USAW assuming those duties. People noted included Jaimie McNab, Derek Sikora, Pete Isais and Rich Bender.

Secretary's Report: Toby Tobiasson presented draft minutes of the 21-22 October 2016 USWOA Executive Board Meeting. John Heyman **moved** and Jerry Kuntz **seconded** to approve the minutes as presented. **Vote: passed unanimously.** Toby also submitted draft minutes of the 17 July 2016 USWOA Annual Membership Meeting to be approved at Sunday night's General Membership Meeting.

Financial Liaison Report: Bill Stecklein reported that USWOA is well within the budget, in fact, we have a considerable excess for the fiscal year. A discussion ensued about using excess budget funds. Zach Errett requested that USWOA authorize more officials to go to UWW events. Zach noted that, due to USWOA fiscal restraint, it appears resources may be available. He recognizes the importance of expanding the exposure of the eminently qualified USWOA UWW officials. The Board acknowledged the benefits of having more officials at UWW events, especially, since we have the most qualified officials. Zach and Bill Grant will develop a proposal to present to USAW.

The Board also discussed sending more pairing and mat officials to the State Leaders' Conference. Consensus of the Board was that a proposal needs to be presented to USAW for funding.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Election Process-Executive Board: Tom Kuisle discussed the procedures for the elections at the General Meeting on Sunday night. Tom presented the slate of candidates running for election to the USWOA Board of Directors as Officers or At-large positions. De Heyman will develop the ballot for this year's election but Toby Tobiasson will bring the ballot in subsequent years. Tom will propose a slate of seven tellers to count the ballots, for approval by the membership.

Mat Officials Evaluation Procedures - Fargo: Rick Tucci spoke about the procedures for evaluations. All national level officials will only be evaluated by the Mat Chairmen on their assigned mats. International officials will be evaluated on the elevated mat.

Fargo and Other Tournament Concerns/Reports 2017: Tom Kuisle reported that the tournament reports are indicating the events are generally being run much better except weighins need more focus. Our biggest issue is the implementation of the stipend program.

OEP Reports/Concerns: Tim Pierson reported on this year's OEPs including an informational statistical analysis. Tim reminded the Board that, per our Policies and Procedures, no shows for the OEPs will not receive rooms at events during the following year.

Policies and Procedures Update: John Heyman presented a handout of Policy and Procedure changes, specific to Mat and Pairing Officials, the Board made at the October meeting. He will discuss this compilation at the General Meeting.

UWW Report/Update: Zach Errett presented a handout and gave a report on UWW courses and upgrades, a proposed new Education Pathway and possible rule changes for 2018.

USWOA Awards: A written report was submitted by Sam Julian from the Awards Committee with a recommended slate of candidates. Sam suggested that the Mort Geller Award become the Mort Geller/Tom Clark Award. After discussion, John

Heyman **moved** and Jerry Kuntz **seconded** to make the Sandy Cageao Award for Freestyle and the Tom Clark Award for Greco-Roman while leaving the Mort Geller Award as it is. **Vote: passed unanimously.**

The Board voted on the slate as presented and the winners are as follows:

Glen Blackman Award – Na Humma AZ
Phil Portuese Award – Tom Clark IN
Mort Geller Award – Mike Swisher VA
Official of the Year Award – De Heyman FL

Ginger Lile announced the Pairing awards. They are:

Ivan Olsen Award – Renee Schoettle IN
Bernie Norris Award – Debbi Kallai OH

The Lifetime Achievement award winners are Ed Bernshausen NE, Carrie Learn MN, Mike Dilworth WA, Dick Wince NC, Don Tolin WY, and Tom Clark IN.

Office Report: The Board engaged in a general discussion of the transition from the USWOA Administrative Assistant to USAW staff. As expected, there have been some rough spots but overall things have gone well. Rick Tucci informed the Board that Jaimie McNab is still working as the Board Liaison but her other duties require that we contact Derek Sikora on anything we need so he can direct the request to the proper person at USAW.

Hall of Fame Recommendations: After a short discussion, Toby Tobiasson **moved** and Tim Pierson **seconded** to recommend Dave Errett as this year's USWOA representative for election to the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. **Vote: Passed unanimously.**

Fall Board Meeting Information: Rick Tucci said the fall Board meeting will be in Fort Lauderdale but the hotel will change. The dates will be 19–21 October. He will provide more information in the near future.

OTHER BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT: At 5:35 PM, Tom Kuisle **moved** and Casey Goessl **seconded** to adjourn the meeting. **Vote: passed unanimously.**

DRAFT