

South Dakota USA Wrestling  
Annual Board Meeting /9-29-2019

The required annual board meeting was held on Sunday, September 29, 2019 at the AmericInn in Chamberlain, SD. Meeting was called in order by Chairman Ringstmeyer at 1:30 CT.

**Members in Attendance:** Cory Neuharth, Sean Sailor, Tony Schunke, Terry Pack, Mike Smit, Bradyn Neises, Ray Ringstmeyer. Member call in: Jared Webster Non-member call in: Beau Larson Non-member presence: Beau Vogeli

- There were other members of public present for the wrestler of the year awards presentations. We went around the room and did basic introductions of member positions, present wrestlers, and family members attending.

**2018-19 Memberships:** Ray discussed 2019 membership numbers (Sept. 1, 2018-August 31, 2019). Total athletes from 2018 (712) to 2019 (575) were down by 132, but our Wrestling Leaders numbers increased by 12 from 128 (2018) to 140 (2019). This shows that despite SDWCA running the state Freestyle tournament at AAU in 2019 our adults and coaches are still going to take the time to get the required training needed to become a part of USA wrestling.

**Financials:** Cory went through QuickBooks financials from the operating year. We made some adjustments throughout the year to help save some money where possible. Travel expenses (lodging and transportation) are still the largest expenses for national team travel. Financially we came out much further ahead than the last operating year. We had some big purchases of awards and gear that were made last year that did not need to be made this year. All financials WILL BE posted on the SDUSAW website for public review.

- A raffle ticket fundraiser was also held this year for any athlete or club holding a USAW membership or chartered club. The main goal was to help off-set travel costs for athletes traveling to events throughout the summer. Cash awards were awarded to the following people: Mike Jones, Justin Hood, Greg Gutknecht, Aaron Althoff, Christina Althoff, and Deb Froke. We personally thank all those that purchased tickets for supporting our athletes and South Dakota USA Wrestling!

**Awards Presentations:** Awards were presented to the individuals who were nominated for their accomplishments in USA wrestling this season. Those in attendance for their awards:

Boys HS Wrestler of the Year: Nash Hutmacher

Boys MS Wrestler of the Year: Ayson Rice

Boys 3-5 Grade Wrestler of the Year: Shea Richter

Boys K-2 Wrestler of the Year: Layton Ringstmeyer

Girls HS Wrestler of the Year: Alisha Vanscoy

Girls MS Wrestler of the Year: Taylor Fierbach (not present)

Girls Elementary Wrestler of the Year: Britney Rueb

Volunteer/Friend of SDUSAW of the Year: Nathan Juelfs > Nathan is full time with SD Army National Guard. He helped out tremendously by providing Volunteer shirts for our Triple Crown event and providing athlete t-shirts for Fargo participants.

Bob Johnson Scholarship: Wyatt Turnquist > This award, in the amount of \$250 (funded by SDUSAW) is given to a student athlete who will be attending a South Dakota college institution to continue their education and wrestling career. This individual represents themselves and SDUSAW in the classroom and on the mat. Both individuals we had apply for this scholarship were well deserving.

**SafeSport Training:** Discussed the new policy updates from USAW and SafeSport. All those chartered clubs will be responsible for making sure their specific athletes, coaches, volunteers, etc will have the required SafeSport training before any regular contact with and athlete. The USAW governing body will start doing SafeSport checks starting in 2019-20. More information on how to become SafeSport trained will be posted on our website.

#### **Sponsored Teams 2019:**

- **Heartland Duals:** Need to determine team qualifier. Had 1 team for Elementary and 1 team for MS.
- **Junior Duals:** Need more numbers to be competitive and to rotate bodies
- **Fargo:** Highest number of wrestlers we've ever had > (16) 16-U and (19) Juniors
  - Had multiple All-Americans in 16-U and Juniors
  - RTC Format is a good thing
  - Kids really embraced the RTC format and helped with numbers

#### **Sponsored Teams for 2020:**

- **Cadet and Junior Duals:** Discussions between numbers of Cadets and Juniors. Kids are struggling to choose between Cadets and Juniors.
- **Northern Plains:** Do we think about sponsoring a team for 2020? Had really high numbers attending in 2019.
- **Heartlands:** Team qualifier is key to making this work and logistics. We know it is hard to work around other wrestling events going on at this time, but kids will need to choose. Teams will be determined by ONLY by attending the Heartland qualifier. Date: Terry motions, and Tony seconds to have on Sunday; Feb.16<sup>th</sup> on location TBD.
- **Triple Crown Weekend:** Discussions on tournament date(s). Tony motions and Sean seconds to have tournament on the first weekend in May. There is also a motion by Ray, and seconds by Bradyn to keep the Triple Crown weekend after the US Open so schools can plan for facilities.
- **Regional Tours/Series:** To promote USA wrestling around the state. Sean motions, and Terry seconds to provide \$250 to each Director location for those that host a series of three events. Money can be used for promotional items. Events can include camps, tournaments, clinics'.

**Zoom Meetings:** Decided to have meetings every other month right now, and will go back to monthly meetings during the peak of USA season (April-July).

**Regional Format:** Leave as it

**Secretary/Treasurer Split and Webmaster:** Discussed about having a split position of Secretary/Treasurer and having a potential paid position of a Webmaster to keep up with updates of website. Sean mentioned he could assist with website upkeep along with Ray and Cory. Decision to keep secretary/treasurer as one position.

**Fall Meeting Date:** Sean motions that we have our annual meeting by the end of September, Tony seconds.

- Will need to update in the by-laws

#### **Election of Board Members**

- Sean resigns his position as West Director, Tony accepts his resignation. Sean nominates Beau Vogeli as candidate for West Director, Terry seconds. Beau accepts his position as the new West Director.

- Tony motions to nominate Sean as Girls Director, Beau seconds that nomination. Sean accepts the position as the new Girls Director.
- All board members in attendance accept new 1 year terms to their respective positions.
  - SE Director- Mike Smit
  - NE Director- Phil Downs (Was not present but did email the board stating he was still interested in being the NE Director).
  - Officials- Bradyn Neisis
  - Kids- Terry Pack
  - Junior/16U- Jared Webster
  - Sec/Treasurer- Cory Neuharth
  - Vice Chair- Tony Schunke
  - Chairman- Ray Ringstmeyer

Ray motions to adjourn annual board meeting at 2:30, Tony seconds.