

Wisconsin Wrestling Federation
Annual Meeting
Mauston, WI
October 6th, 2024

Todd Schaaf called the meeting to order at 12:08 am. Roll call was completed.

Gabby Lord-Klein presented the Wisconsin Wrestling Federation year in review. Highlighted that all athletes and staff were nothing short of spectacular. Gabby shared WWF takes pride in serving our members with high-quality opportunities and unwavering commitment as we strive to be USA Wrestling's best state association. Gabby spoke of all WWF representation at all divisions for USA Team Championships. Mainly highlighting that our Junior men's dual team won 1st place at the USA Junior Championships.

Gabby continued to address the success of our athletes at Fargo and the dedication of our coaching staff. The representation of Wisconsin in Fargo was hard to miss as six distinguished awards were presented from USA to members within WWF Organization.

Wisconsin Coach Coordinator Scott Kluever gave his insight and updates. This included a training system for Greco camps to encourage more of this style along with the Freestyle camps. Scott informed the plan to send two girl's freestyle teams and two JR Boys Freestyle teams to the Junior Dual Championships. He shared that the WWF subsidizes almost \$100,000 to offset expense for wrestling families whose athlete participate in Dual team championships and Fargo. This shows the investment and proven outcomes that come with investing in our athletes. Scott shared success comes from providing opportunities and that will continue to be the vision. He is proud to be part of Wisconsin and our ability to continue to provide trainings and opportunities for continued growth within Wisconsin.

Mat Official Director Brett Van Vooren was introduced by Todd Schaaf as newly appointed. Brett shared his officiating experience and potential goals of growing the number of officials in the next course of his term.

Operation Official Director Jolene Bonte shared that Wisconsin has 17 operation officials that have worked not only in Wisconsin, but at National events for USA. Jolene informed the attendees Hollie Satona was upgraded to a P1 Official and Kayla Spurley and Jeff Jones received distinguished awards from USA Wrestling this past year. She also reminded members that Wisconsin is always looking for additional officials and to reach out if there is any interest in joining the operation officials team.

Mel Dow gave WIAA Update. Highlighting the women's growth has engaged or encouraged additions within current high school girl's programs and for additional schools to add girls

wrestling at the high school level. He shared WIAA restructure at High School State Wrestling Championships will allow more rest and better experience to accommodate athletes, coaches and spectators. It was shared that he is confident WIAA will move to the USA Membership System and discussions are currently taking place.

Mel explained that continuing working relationship with WIAA and WWF will enhance the continued growth in high school wrestling. Mel stated that relationships within WIAA Board has also strengthen due to having the right people working with the right resources available in the movement in the sport of wrestling. He is confident that as wrestling continues to grow, more opportunities will become available.

Jeff Jones discussed all tournaments hosted by WWF and went over some upcoming changes and updates to these events. Big update was Wisconsin will host the USA Junior Team Championships in Milwaukee for the next 4 years. Jeff informed the upcoming changes with the WWF Qualifiers hosted in March 2025. These updates are:

- Registration will be done through the USA Membership program.
- Weigh-ins will also be completed through the USA Membership program for on-site and satellite weigh-ins.
- It is decided to use the new USA Wrestling Membership System, USABracketing that will roll-out January of 2025 for the state qualifiers.
- Onsite weigh-ins were approved to be held between 5:30-7:30pm. This will also allow bracketing to be started earlier. Off-site will remain 5:30-6:30pm.
- Bracketing will be completed with using the pin system within the USA Membership Program. Board approved seeding only the top 25% of each weight class similar to national events.
- Additional weight classes will be added to the girl's divisions to minimize the weight various between classes. This will also allow more opportunities for participation due to large weight allowances in some divisions.

Jeff also discussed that WWF will be fully running the WWF Kids Team State Championships. This event will be held on Saturday & Sunday, March 15 & 16th at JustaGame Sports dome in Reedsburg.

WWF State Youth Championships will be held March 28th-30th at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison and will run the same structure as last year due to the success of additional day for girls and weigh-ins held in the side building. Jeff and Todd shared that a major change due to SafeSport Auditing, no more parents will be allowed to accompany their wrestler to the floor unless they have a coach's pass. Only those who have a coach's pass will be

allowed on the competition floor. Lastly, due to safety concerns by the venue, no inflatables are allowed.

Dave Mathews from USA Wrestling presented a demo for the new platform USA Bracketing. The creation to design a program affiliated with USA Wrestling was to ensure the tournament platform's longevity and establish a program built from the actual needs of tournament operations. This program was not made to make money from it, but to enhance the usefulness all users will need. He explained the platform was designed to accommodate all levels of wrestling and for tournament users. This program will be more user-friendly for tournament administrators, coaches and parents. It also has a weight management program. USA Bracketing will be available for tournaments in Wisconsin on January 1st, 2025. Program is open to create a user account and to navigate the platform.

Budget was prepared by WWF Treasurer Mike Errthum and presented by Todd Schaaf and Mike Errthum. Discussions of revenue from hosting events and expenses from each event and team costs were discussed. Board was also notified of audited financials coming due. Mike has been working with the accountant and informed he may be reaching out to individuals for updated W9 form for tax purposes. Scott Kluever made a motion to approve the budget and seconded by Randy Ferrell. No further discussions were requested. Motion to approved passed unanimously.

Vice Chairperson Matt Verbeten took the floor for election of age level directors. He opened nominations. Scott Kluever nominated Neysa Bianchi for Women's Director. Randy Ferrell second the nomination. No other nominations were received. Neysa was elected as Women's Director.

Matt opened nominations for Junior Director. Scott Kluever nominated Chris Persike and was seconded by Ernie Millard. No other nominations received. Chris Persike was elected Junior Director.

Matt opened nominations for 16U director. Newton Smerchek nominated Randy Ferrell and was seconded by Ernie Millard. No other nominations received. Randy was elected as 16U Director.

Matt opened nominations for Kid's Director. Scott Kluever nominated Tony Schaaf and was seconded by Ernie Millard. No other nominations received. Tony was elected as Kid's Director.

No additional business was discussed, and a motion was made to adjourn by Randy Ferrell and seconded by Ernie Millard. Motion carried. Adjourned at 1:50PM.

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Executive Board met to complete election of officers. Todd Schaaf called the meeting to order at 1:55PM.

It was asked if all current executive board officers are open to continuing in their positions. All agreed. Brett Van Vooren made a motion to keep all current officers in their position. Todd Schaaf as State Chairperson, Matt Verbeten as Vice Chairperson, Hollie Satona as Secretary, Mike Errthum as Treasurer and Jeff Jones as Membership Director. The motion was seconded by Ernie Millard. Motioned Carried unanimously.

Tony Schaaf made a motion to adjourn the Executive Board Meeting and Neysa Bianchi second. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:05PM