

USA Wrestling Board of Directors Meeting

Denver, Colorado – Hilton Garden Inn

August 15, 2019

Present:

Jay Antonelli, Armed Forces
Sam Barber, UWW Jr. World/University Div.
Bruce Baumgartner, President
Brian Beck, NJCAA
Veronica Carlson, AAC Chair
Rob Cate, Folkstyle
Zac Dominguez, Coaches Council
Dave Foxen, Fed. Of Clubs
Joan Fulp, at-large
Krista Graff, NWHOF
Bill Grant, Chair, FS Women's Sport
Adeline Gray, WM FS Athlete
Eric Guerrero, at-large
Mike Juby, at-large
Craig Lamont, Vice Chair Kids/Cadet
Kerry McCoy, Coaches Council, Secretary
Mike Moyer, NWCA
James Ravannack, Immediate Past President
Mark Reiland, Jr. Division, 1st VP
Mike Ritchey, NAIA
Louis Rosbottom, JOWC

Pat Smith, GR Athlete
John Stefanowicz, GR Athlete
Matt Stevens, WM's Age Group
Van Stokes, Chair GR Sport, Treasurer
Greg Strobels, Chair FS Mens Sport, 2nd VP
Bill Swink, at-large
Stephen Thorpe, Chair of State Chair

Staff:

Rich Bender, Executive Director
Tony Black, State Services Director
Les Gutches, Associate ED of Programs & Strategy
Ryan Johnson, Corporate Sponsor Director
Dave Mathews, Application Developer
Alex Pernice, Partnership Marketing Coordinator
Dan Prochnow, Safe Sport Director
Haley Scherr, Executive Assistant
Derek Sikora, State Services Manager
Meredith Wilson, IT Director

**USA Wrestling Board of Directors Meeting
Hilton Garden Inn Union Station Denver, Colorado**

August 15, 2019

WELCOME & ROLL CALL

President Bruce Baumgartner welcomed the USA Wrestling Board of Directors to Denver, Colorado and confirmed quorum.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion - Bill Grant - "to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2018 Board of Directors meeting as presented".

Second: Greg Strobel

Motion carried.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Bruce Baumgartner thanked staff, board, and volunteers for their leadership of the organization. He congratulated Rich Bender on his election to the USOPC Board of Directors, appointed in December of 2018.

He provided a handout to the Board with USA Wrestling highlights since the last Board of Directors Meeting.

- The 2018-19 membership year, which will close officially on August 31 has set a record number of total members, record number of athletes, record number of coaches, and a record amount of membership revenue.
- Total membership in USA Wrestling as of July 31, 2019 was 252,360, which breaks the previous record of 237,572 by 6%. The total number of athlete members through 11 months was 214,691 and Wrestling Leader (coach and/or officials) members was 37,669.
- For the 11th straight year, a record number of female athlete members of USA Wrestling were registered – 18,325, which is a 14% increase from last year's record.
- USA Wrestling amassed 36 World Medals in 2018, breaking the previous record of 32 set in 2017. It was led by a historic 12 medals at the 2018 Senior World Championships (previous record at a single Senior World Championships was 10) and impressive performances at the Cadet, Junior, and U23 World Championships. Of the 36 medals, eight were gold medals.
- Of the 12 Senior World medals won by the USA in 2018, nine were in Olympic weight classes, a tremendous indication of the potential for U.S. success at the 2020 Tokyo Games.
- Over the first two years of this quad, the Men's Freestyle Team has earned 13 World Medals with five different individuals winning World titles, which is the best start to a quad in U.S. history. In 2018, Men's Freestyle earned 20 World Medals in all age groups, an amazing 52% medal rate.
- Adeline Gray won her fourth Senior World gold medal in 2018, tying for the U.S. record for World titles with John Smith, Jordan Burroughs and Tricia Saunders. Both Gray and Burroughs have made the 2019 U.S. World Team, with a chance to break the record this year.
- Adam Coon won a Senior World Greco-Roman silver medal in 2018, pinning all four of his opponents to qualify for the finals. It was the first Senior World medal for the USA in Greco-Roman since 2015.
- Emily Shilson and Robert Howard won gold medals at the 2018 Youth Olympic Games, the first U.S. wrestlers in history to win this prestigious event. When Shilson won her gold medal, she won the first gold medal for the USA in any sport during the 2018 YOG, which was a big honor for her.
- USA Wrestling Executive Director Rich Bender was nominated and then selected to serve on the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Board of Directors, representing the National Governing Body Council (NGBC). This is a 16-member volunteer board, which provides direction for the U.S. Olympic movement. This selection is a major honor for him, for USA Wrestling and for the sport of wrestling.

- The 2018-2019 National Events season was highlighted with record setting numbers. The largest event was the 2019 USMC U.S. Open with 5,753 participants followed by the 2019 USMC Junior Nationals with 5,380 participants. Other events that had record breaking participation in 2019 include USMC Girls Folkstyle Nationals (1,399), Women's Nationals (1,094), and Kids Nationals (1,393)
- The 2019 Junior Nationals in Fargo has six different national events and all six divisions broke the record in participation. Overall, there were 381 more athletes than last year's record total. the biggest jump in the 16U Women's Freestyle Nationals of 102 wrestlers, an amazing 39.5% growth.
- In the second year of Final X, all three styles were showcased, and there were two events instead of three. Final X: Rutgers set the Final X record for attendance with 3,811 total tickets sold. Final X: Lincoln, hosting for a second year, sold roughly 3,000 tickets, which matched the previous year.
- Results of all activities for the 2019 fiscal year through June 30, 2019 show that the organization has brought in \$13,728,901 in total revenue and had total expenses of \$12,836,213 for an increase in net assets of \$892,688. The increase in net assets through June 30 is above the budgeted year-to-date increase in net assets of \$551,186.
- USA Wrestling led a coalition of wrestling organizations applying for NCAA Emerging Sport Status through the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics (CWA). The process moved on to the next stage on June 3, 2019, when the NCAA CWA recommended that all three NCAA Divisions add women's freestyle wrestling as an emerging sport. Official Emerging Sport Status could be achieved as early as August 2020.
- The NAIA hosted its first official Women's National Invitational at the University of Jamestown in March, the first such event by a national collegiate organization.
- USA Wrestling Girls High School Development Committee, led by Joan Fulp and Andrea Yamamoto has helped high school girls wrestling has explode. Less than three years ago, only six state athletic associations had official girls state high school championships. Counting the states which will launch its program in the Fall of 2019, there are now 18 official state championships for girls.
- A representative of USA Wrestling attended official and unofficial girls state wrestling championships, to present certificates to local wrestling leaders in Colorado, Kansas, Idaho, Arizona, Georgia, Missouri, New Mexico, New Jersey, Maine and Massachusetts. More such presentations are scheduled next year and beyond.
- The 2019 fiscal year was an historic one for the Sponsorship department, with a new record for annual cash sponsorships at a projected \$385,000. Based on current projections, the 2019 total will be close to 10% higher than the previous record.
- Sponsorships surpassed \$1 million in total cash sponsorships for the Tokyo 2020 quad. This is a 25% increase through first three years of Tokyo 2020 quad compared to Rio 2016.
- USA Wrestling has over 1.17 million followers/subscribers in the four big social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and You Tube). This includes 469,000 Facebook followers, 375,000 Instagram followers, 211,300 Twitter followers and 116,329 YouTube Channel subscribers.
- USA Wrestling hired a full time developer to build and maintain a company-owned membership system. The Membership system developed by USA Wrestling staff has continued to grow and add additional features and functionality since its inception in 2017. Key additions through the 2019 year have included
 - Event Registrations
 - Results and Seeding
 - Coaches Certification Courses
 - Club Management Features
 - Native SafeSport
 - Membership Analytics
 - Media and Sponsor Accreditation
- On March 23, 2019, the U.S. Center for SafeSport implemented the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP), and on April 15, 2019 it completed the first amendment to the SafeSport Code. In response, USA Wrestling has revised its Safe Sport Program Handbook which was passed by the Board on April 27th.

- USA Wrestling has completed its three-year partnership with WIN Magazine, in which USA Wrestler, the organization's official magazine, has been published. The organizations have agreed to extending the deal another three years, and the contract is in its final stages of completion.
- The USOPC provides quarterly statistics on Digital Engagement for each of the National Governing Bodies in the Olympic family, in comparison with all U.S. Sport Franchises. In the second quarter of 2019 (Q2 – April-June), USA Wrestling had its best finish ever. USA Wrestling ranked No. 81 among the 222 U.S. Sports Franchises, which put USA Wrestling as the No. 2 NGB, behind only USA Soccer. In fact, USA Wrestling was also ahead of the USOPC for Q2, which finished at No. 103. Many NBA, NFL, NHL, MLB and MLS franchises were below USA Wrestling.
- A new Safe Sport webpage is part of TheMat.com which provides complete information on Safe Sport including easy reporting options, educational opportunities, and best practices for clubs.

We're working with the Foundation on a pilot program to grow HS wrestling. USAW will continue to grow member, provide good services to our members. We need to continue to grow and always strive towards becoming better in every way. If you review our annual report – we do a lot of great things aside from winning medals. We provide great opportunities for kids, youth to college – and we recognize we do need to improve in areas and will work hard to do so to continue to grow.

Rich Bender welcomed Denise Parker, VP NGB Services USOPC. Denise was an Olympic medalist, the youngest ever in the sport of archery. She served as the CEO of Archery for many years.

Denise echoed Bruce in agreeing that leadership is important. In the role of NGB services, they are trying to get more proactive in the services to NGB's. We are focusing a lot of effort to help boards become better as an organization. It's important to have people that know the sport but also to lead the organization.

They started the process with the assessment and currently building out onboarding. USA Wrestling was the first organization that had a committee focused on strategic planning. The USOPC now uses that as part of best practices.

Denise highlighted key elements of board governance to include Board legal responsibilities.

SAFE SPORT

Written report provided to Board (and attached)

USA Wrestling is committed to creating the safest possible environment for participation in the sport of wrestling. We pledge to protect, support, and empower our athletes and members. The Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017 was passed by Congress Feb. 14, 2018. The Act creates a new paradigm for all NGB's through the lens of the SafeSport Code for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement.

On March 23, 2019, the U.S. Center for SafeSport implemented the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP), and on April 15, 2019 it completed the first amendment to the SafeSport Code. In response, USA Wrestling undertook a revision of our Safe Sport Program Handbook which was passed by the board on April 27th. The Handbook, which can be found at [takedownmisconduct.com](https://www.takedownmisconduct.com), includes sections dealing with the Code, Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies, Background Screening, and procedures for reporting and handling claims of misconduct.

USA Wrestling Policies require SafeSport Training for all adult individuals seeking the privilege of membership who will have regular contact with, or authority over, minor athletes (“Adult Participants”). Approximately half of the State Affiliates have appointed a Safe Sport Coordinator who have been instrumental to USA Wrestling in proactively implementing our Safe Sport Program (the other half of States have the State Chair in this position). Education will be the key to maintaining a robust program. USA Wrestling is consulting with experts in the field of minor abuse prevention, and creating materials to supplement the training available through the U.S. Center for SafeSport. Dr. Sandy Wurtele will be addressing the Board on some relevant topics at our Board meeting.

A new Safe Sport webpage is part of TheMat.com which provides complete information on Safe Sport including easy reporting options, educational opportunities, and best practices for clubs. 2019 will see the roll out of our campaign “Stand Up for Kids, and Takedown Misconduct.” USA Wrestling encourages all parents and athletes to get actively involved in our Safe Sport Program. The more knowledge there is, the less place there will be for bad actors to hide in our sport.

The Director of Safe Sport has been meeting with National Team members throughout the summer when they are at the USOPTC for training. Safe Sport requirements for adult athletes are addressed, along with clear direction on how to report any misconduct. USA Wrestling Concussion Protocol is another subject discussed with the all athletes. Materials for coaches and athletes has been produced to make everyone aware of the signs and protocol to be followed.

Finally, National Team members will be asked to consider becoming “Safe Sport Ambassadors” for USA Wrestling’s Takedown Misconduct campaign. As in any sport, these Elite athletes will have a great impact on minor athletes in our sport. Each Ambassador will receive additional Safe Sport training, and coaching on how to mentor and talk to minor athletes on the subject of Safe Sport within the wrestling community.

USA Wrestling SafeSport cases Sept. 2018-present:

Non-Sexual reported to USA Wrestling: 48 total

a) 14 no finding b) 9 Warning letters c) 9 State handled d) 2 referred to USCSS e) 4 Short term suspensions f) 5 Informal resolution g) 5 cases open

Sexual Misconduct at USCSS: 66 reported

a) 12 closed w/o sanction b) 13 Jurisdiction declined (sent to USAW) c) 10 Admin Hold d) 7 Ineligible sanction e) 24 open (plus 12 from prior season for total of 36 open)

Prochnow welcomed and introduced Sandy Wurtele – PhD, Professor in Psychology at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.

She addressed the epidemic of sexual abuse cases, and minor athletes are at a high risk of sexual abuse by their coaches.

She is presenting as an advocate for children – to address preventing sexual misconduct to our minor athletes. She is hoping to add to the education that SafeSport has provided to the parents. What seemed to be missing in the parent material is a better understanding about how the offenders systematically groom the athletes, their parents and the entire organization. She hopes to provide materials to better understand the offenders and the process they use to manipulate the entire environment. She shared a brochure to share with not only parents, but staff to keep everyone abreast of the signs one would use to cross the boundaries.

Staff is working with to incorporate coaching grooming techniques and what to be aware of and what to avoid in the coaches education materials.

There was discussion of presenting/framing it appropriately to coaches so as not to create a fear factor, especially this being a contact sport.

The SafeSport website provides training for youth up to adult and it is advised that parents review this with their children.

RICH BENDER – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Bender provided a live update on two US matches in Estonia at the Junior worlds -- Colton Schultz just won the GR match to put him into the Jr World finals, and Vitali Arujau unfortunately just lost her gold medal match, but will bring home a silver!

He thanked and recognized our leadership of President Bruce Baumgartner as well as the staff and the Board of Directors. He echoed Denise Parkers' comments that USA Wrestling is setting the pace in the Olympic Movement in relation to the effectiveness of our governance and Board.

USAW continues to operate the organization based on our 4 major pillars – grow the base, build the brand, network the online community and maintain competitive excellence. Bender tied our record setting membership (hit April 3, 2019) to growing the base, and our association within the safe sport movement to building the brand; networking the community online – USA Wrestling had a monumental year with online traffic on our social media platforms, even beating the US Olympic Committee at one point and lastly sustaining competitive excellence – winning. USA Wrestling won't lose sight that in addition to winning and medals, providing athletes with an opportunity to succeed not only in their own human potential but also competitively noting that last year was a record year.

Bender congratulated Pat Smith on his gold medal at the Pan Am Games in Lima Peru.

As part of Bender's presentation, each Director was given the opportunity to address the Board with departmental highlights since the last Board Meeting.

Les Gutches, Associate Executive Director, Programs provided a National Teams update. USA Wrestling is coming off one of its most successful years ever, something that was only possible through a strong partnership with our state associations and the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC).

USA Wrestling set a record in 2017 with 32 World Medals, a mark that would only stand for one year. Led by a historic 12 medals at the 2018 Senior World Championships (previous record at a single Senior World Championships was 10) and impressive performances at the Cadet, Junior, and U23 World Championships, USA Wrestling

amassed 36 World Medals in 2018. This success across all age groups shows the health of our program for years to come.

Men's Freestyle - 20 World Medals in 2018 (52% medal rate):

- 7 Senior World Medals (3 Gold, 1 Silver, 3 Bronze)
- 3 U23 World Medals (3 Silver)
- 5 Junior World Medals (1 Gold, 2 Silver, 2 Bronze)
- 6 Cadet World Medals (1 Gold, 2 Silver, 3 Bronze)

The Men's Freestyle Team had an amazing year with seven total medals at the Senior Worlds, including three first-time World Champions in Kyle Dake (79 kg), David Taylor (86 kg), and J'den Cox (92 kg). Kyle Snyder was Silver at 97 kg and U.S. athletes had a trio of Bronze Medalists in Joe Colon (61 kg), Jordan Burroughs (74 kg), and Nick Gwiazdowski (125 kg). The Men's Freestyle Team was very close to repeating as team World Champions but ended up finishing a narrow second to Russia.

Over the first two years of this quad, the Men's Freestyle Team has earned 13 World Medals with five different individuals winning World titles, which is the best start to a quad in U.S. history.

The United States won its 14th career World Cup in 2018 with an impressive 6-4 Gold Medal finals win over Azerbaijan in front of a record crowd at Carver-Hawkeye Arena in Iowa City, Iowa.

Women's Freestyle - 11 World Medals in 2018 (28% medal rate):

- 4 Senior World Medals (1 Gold, 1 Silver, 2 Bronze)
- 2 U23 World Medals (2 Bronze)
- 1 Junior World Medal (1 Silver)
- 4 Cadet World Medals (2 Gold, 2 Bronze)

Adeline Gray continues to add to her legacy as one of the greatest U.S. wrestlers in history. With a dominant performance in the 2018 World Championships, Gray won her fourth career World Gold, scoring a 13-1 technical fall over the 2017 World Champion. To reach the finals, Gray defeated four World/Olympic medalists. She beat past World medalist Epp Mae of Estonia by a 10-0 technical fall, then pinned Olympic Bronze Medalist Elmira Syzdykova of Kazakhstan in 4:49. In the semifinal, she won a clutch 3-1 match over 2016 Olympic Champion Erica Wiebe of Canada. In the finals, she scored a 13-1 technical fall over 2017 World champion Yasemin Adar of Turkey.

Gray's performance led the Women's Team to a third-place finish, while Japan and China took the first and second spots, respectively. At the age-group levels, several rising stars emerged in the 2018-19 season. Macey Kilty won Gold at the Cadet World Championships and followed that up by winning Silver at the Junior Worlds. Emily Shilson won Gold at the Cadet Worlds and then picked up another Gold at the Youth Olympic Games.

USA Wrestling is optimistic that the Women's Freestyle Team can overtake Japan as the dominant women's team very soon. Due to strong developmental performances, we don't believe there will be a dip in performance after the Games.

With the NAIA recognizing Women's Freestyle and the NCAA voting on Emerging Sport Status for Women's Wrestling, our pipeline will be strengthened even more. In fact, Coach Steiner believes this development could eventually help the U.S. overtake Japan.

Greco-Roman - four World Medals in 2018 (10% medal rate):

- 1 Senior World Medal (1 Silver)
- 2 Junior World Medals (1 Silver, 1 Bronze)
- 1 Cadet World Medal (1 Bronze)

Heading into 2020, the United States Greco-Roman Program is gaining momentum. Our longest-tenured Senior-level athletes are reaching their prime, and several of our newer arrivals have progressed more rapidly than expected. The Greco-Roman program has several athletes who can medal at the Games.

Led by returning World Silver Medalist Adam Coon and established stalwarts like Ellis Coleman and Max Nowry, the U.S. took home a team title at the 2019 Pan-Am Championships, bringing the total number of international medals earned by Americans this year to 20. Six of those medals belong to G'Angelo Hancock, who earned Gold at the Hungarian Grand Prix and is one of the few athletes in the world to Medal at the first three UWW Ranking Series events this year.

He remarked that FY 2020 Budget carried both the 2019 World Championships and the 2020 Olympic Games and noted that there has been a discussion about a possible 4-year quadrennium budget planning.

Adeline thought it would be useful for coaches to have an informational pamphlet with a better description of the steps an athlete needs to take to make a cadet team, etc. for both women and men.

President Baumgartner also requested that staff work to create a document/poster connecting the benefits of GR/FS help in developing folkstyle techniques.

Recommendation that coaches council, state chair and NT staff might need to discuss additional funding towards cadets.

FINANCE REPORT & FY2020 BUDGET APPROVAL

Treasurer, Van Stokes addressed the importance of financial sustainability noting that you can't disconnect it from leadership. He commended the Board, staff and the finance committee for their leadership and desire to help the organization meet their organizational goals.

Stokes reviewed Financial summary and explained that funds are recognized when donation pledges are made, versus when they actually come in and then when they are expended. He echoed Les' earlier statement that the 2020 budget year includes 106K budgeted for both the World Championships and Olympic Games being accounted for in the same FY budget and also noted that there is a \$350K donation expected in FY2020.

The Board has charged the Finance Committee/Staff to create 4-year / quadrennium projection budget.

Motion: Bill Grant – "to approve the FY2020 Budget as presented".

Second: Louis Rosbottom.

Motion carried.

Written Report Provided by Dwaine Cooper, USAW Associate Executive Director:

The department has completed the internal procedures for preparing the Fiscal Year 2020 Proposed Budget. After detailed review and discussion, the Finance Committee has forwarded this Fiscal Year 2019 Proposed Budget to the Board of Directors for their review and approval, with the Finance Committee's recommendation to accept the Fiscal Year 2020 Proposed Budget as presented as of July 29, 2019.

The Finance Committee has met seven times during fiscal year 2019 and reviewed and accepted the monthly internal financial statements, which have also been conveyed to the Board of Directors. Results of all activities for the 2019 fiscal year through June 30, 2019 show that the organization has brought in \$13,728,901 in total revenue and had total expenses of \$12,836,213 for an increase in net assets of \$892,688. The increase in net assets through June 30 is above the budgeted year-to-date increase in net assets of \$551,186. The organization is continuing efforts to increase revenue and control expenses. The unrestricted cash balance is also being carefully monitored to ensure that the organization can meet the obligations of the final month of the current fiscal year and those of the first few months of the new fiscal year at a time when lower amounts of revenue are projected along with higher expenditures. Unrestricted cash was at \$2,574,042 at June 30, 2019.

Elections will be held at this Board of Directors meeting for Committee positions on the Finance and Audit Committees. After the Board Meeting, the Treasurer will assist Finance Department staff to devise a schedule for future Finance Committee meetings, which are anticipated to resume on a regular basis sometime after the beginning of the new fiscal year on September 1, 2019. Monthly internal financial statements will continue to be conveyed to the Finance Committee after they are completed and the Board of Directors after they are accepted by the Finance Committee, as will the approved Minutes of Finance Committee meetings following their resumption, and quarterly financial statements will continue to be sent to the State Chairs of the organization along with the approved Minutes of Finance Committee conference calls.

Finance Department staff are preparing for the upcoming end of Fiscal Year 2019, working on finalizing the accounting for several recent and pending events such as the Junior and Cadet Nationals and the Cadet World Championships, as well as Senior team training and competitions occurring in preparation for the World Championships, which will be held in September.

After the completion of accounting for the fiscal year, the organization will host external auditors for their field work while the auditors are assessing the fairness of the presentation of the USA Wrestling financial statements and the strength of internal accounting procedures. Following the completion of the external audit for Fiscal Year 2019 and the acceptance of the audited financial statements by the USA Wrestling Audit Committee, the audited financial statements for the year ended August 31, 2019, will be conveyed to the Board of Directors and the State Chairs of the organization.

Marketing / Sponsor Development Report - Ryan Johson

The 2019 fiscal year was an historic one for the sponsorship department. Highlights include:

- New record for annual cash sponsorships at a projected \$385k
 - As the fiscal year has not concluded, this is an estimate. Based on current projections, the 2019 total will be close to 10% higher than the previous record (2016)
- Surpassed \$1 million in total cash sponsorships for the Tokyo 2020 quad
- 25% increase through first three years of Tokyo 2020 quad compared to Rio 2016

While there is much to be proud of when reviewing the 2019 fiscal year, we believe there is still significant opportunity for growth. A vast majority of our sponsorships are based on communicating with our members, not the broader audience of the sport of wrestling as there has traditionally been no way to aggregate these fans together in a way that USA Wrestling could monetize. Also, considering the fact that most of our members are minors, there are certain categories that typically invest heavily in sports but have not shown any interest in USA Wrestling (i.e., automotive, banking, etc.).

In order to be truly transformative and grow sponsorships exponentially, we have to be able to attract more major corporate sponsors, which will require tapping into the global audience of wrestling fans. There are a number of factors that make this more plausible than ever before:

- United World Wrestling's increased global distribution of live events/content
- The recent competitive success of our teams
- LA 2028
- Potentially hosting age group and/or Senior World Championships in the USA

All of these elements create higher interest in the sport which leads to more opportunities to engage with potential partners. By collaborating with our domestic media partners and UWW, we will have the opportunity to generate massive national and worldwide exposure for our sponsors, something we have never been able to provide before.

However, due to the rights held by the USOPC around the U.S. Olympic Trials and by the IOC around the Olympic Games, we do not see the 2020 year as a prime opportunity to establish these types of sponsorships. Therefore we are targeting 2021 as the year to have several media-based (as opposed to members-based) sponsors. By opening up a new type of USA Wrestling sponsorships, we expect to see a seismic shift in major corporate interest and cash sponsorships.

Development / Fundraising Report – Steve Fraser

The Development Department exercises management oversight of over \$5 million (including quadrennium pledges) and over \$2Million annual fundraising. The efforts encompass VIPs, booster donors, alumni, and fans. The department is responsible for raising funds for general operations and all three major styles of wrestling as the elite age group and senior level. Fraser reviewed some of programs he oversees: The Living the Dream medal fund – created to incentivize and reward Olympic and World medalists, which has raised over \$2million since its inception in 2009; Wrestling for Peace created to promote wrestling as a positive force globally; The Wrestler for Life club created to re-engage former wrestlers and fans by providing a web based platform updating members of special events and activities.

The department also oversees the license plate fundraiser, the Combined Federal Campaign, giving Tuesdays and the Alumni Association – which is an ongoing project to expand the engagement of Wrestlers.

State Services Department – Tony Black

The Department of State Services is nearly finished with the 2018-19 membership year, which will close officially on August 31. As we wind down the year, we know that on nearly every measure it was a banner year – record number of total members, record number of athletes, record number of coaches, and a record amount of membership revenue.

Total membership in USA Wrestling as of July 31, 2019 was 252,360, which breaks the previous record of 237,572 by 6%. The total number of athlete members through 11 months was 214,691 and Wrestling Leader (coach and/or officials) members was 37,669. For the 11th straight year, a record number of female athlete members of USA Wrestling were registered – 18,325, which is a 14% increase from last year's record.

USA Wrestling's membership system continues to change the way that we do business. No longer is the system viewed solely as a membership system; the system now houses SafeSport training and NCEP courses, allows for registration for USA Wrestling clinics, camps and tours, serves as a database of domestic and international results, among other capabilities. The membership system continues to drive membership and customer satisfaction, with tutorial videos and in-line chat functions for users.

Throughout the course of this membership year, the Department of State Services has made significant progress in several areas addressed in USA Wrestling's Long Range Plan. Working within the framework of the strategic plan and using its objectives as a guide for the department has proven to be the primary driver of USA Wrestling's membership strategy.

With a membership base, the department handled a broad range of program needs and assisted USA Wrestling state leaders with their ever-growing programs. Each week, the department staff handled matters pertaining to member insurance benefits, membership processing and form distribution, state chairperson and committee support, correspondence and program reporting to state leaders and extensive work with USAW's age-group councils, Junior Olympic Wrestling Committee and other departments within USAW.

The department has continued to provide bi-weekly newsletters to USA Wrestling members for the sixth consecutive year. Each newsletter includes a feature article, expert technique tip, news and updates, upcoming events, and an Instagram section for our members to engage with. This benefit of membership continues to be well-received by our membership, and also serves as a key communication piece with our members.

Since the last USAW Board Meeting, in August of 2018, the Department of State Services has the following to report:

- Successfully completed another year of the Athlete Appearance Program. Nearly 40 such appearances took place, impacting thousands of wrestlers and coaches nationwide.
- Successfully hosted a Silver Coaches College alongside Final X in New Jersey. 23 coaches received world-class instruction from USA Wrestling staff members, college coaches, and renowned high school coaches from around the nation.
- Conducted its annual Fall Coaches Clinic at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo. 45 coaches received instruction from USA Wrestling and US Olympic Committee staff members.
- Completed another outstanding National Convention held in association with the U.S. Marine Corps Junior/16U National Championships in Fargo, N.D.
- Will be hosting the annual USAW State Leaders Conference in Denver, Colo. from August 14th-16th. Over 115 leaders from 45 states are expected to attend.
- Over 5,000 Wrestling Leader members completed certifications in the four different levels in the National Coaches Education Program (NCEP).
- Currently developing materials for a series of fall athlete/coach clinics.
- Continued with the coordination of the USWOA Officials Education Program
- Continue to evaluate membership offering to determine opportunities of growth for USA Wrestling.

For the 2018-19 USA Wrestling membership year, the department will continue to improve relationships with the organization's State Associations. This will be done by providing excellent service, continuing in-person visits, and assisting in developing products to ensure that the State Associations continue to thrive.

There will be continued development of marketing and Safe Sport materials for coaches and club administrators, along with brochures aimed directly at parents that outline the benefits of wrestling for their child(ren).

Also for the upcoming membership season, USA Wrestling will continue providing its members with a bi-weekly newsletter. Timely and consistent communication will continue to enhance the value of membership for athletes, parents, coaches, and officials.

ELECTIONS

Finance Committee

The following individuals were nominated prior to the Board Meeting: Bryan Davis, Duane Morgan, Anthony Petro, Mark Reiland, Don Reynolds and Greg Zavala.

There were nominations from the floor. There was a Motion to close nominations, seconded and approved unanimously.

Results: Duane Morgan, Mark Reiland and Don Reynolds.

Audit Committee (Board Members)

Mike Juby and Zac Dominguez were nominated prior to the meeting and appointed by acclamation.

Audit Committee (at-large members)

The following were nominated prior to the Board Meeting: Bryan Davis, Anthony Petro, Bryan Thompson, Greg Zavala. There were no nominees from the floor and a motion to close nominations.

The following were elected: Bryan Davis, Bryan Thompson.

LONG RANGE PLAN UPDATE

Van Stokes facilitated a meeting along with the Executive Committee, Long Range Planning Committee and the USOC Business Development department in June of 2018 where Long Range Strategic Plan (2018-2024) for USA Wrestling was developed. The Board approved the document last year and it became active this year. USA Wrestling is held together by the values identified in the document. There is discussion as to athlete safety being added as a fifth pillar of the organization.

The LRP includes a SWOT analysis and the 5 strategic goals of the organization to include: athlete support & well-being, collaboration and strategic partnerships, customer experience and engagement, female participation and organizational excellence.

This past January (2019) USAW staff, athletes and the USOC Business development department met to develop the 2019 Operating plan. The five goals referenced above, were broken down in terms of priorities and identified a lead in order to have short term objectives and a clear task list.

Board Span (who provided an evaluation of the organization and presented to our Executive Committee in April of 2019) addressed one of our weaknesses as diversity and this is now a specific board objective.

Bender informed the Board that this is now a part of Directors/Staff review process and acknowledged that while this is an important document and task list and staff will work diligently to address the items, their day to day job duties

MAN & WOMAN OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

Nominees for Woman of the Year – Joan Fulp and Andrea Yamomato. Rich stated very few times in his time with USAW, has he seen any volunteers so driven to take an initiative (to increase women wrestling participation in highschoools).

Motion – Mark Reiland “to close the nominations and to approve co-nominees as Woman of the Year, Joan Fulp and Andrea Yamomoto”.

Seconded.

Motion carried.

Man of the Year:

Nominee is Dave Lehman. Bender informed the Board that he was introduced to Terry Steiner and Steve Fraser by Stan Zeamer. Lehman took a particular interest in the opportunity that exist for the sport to offer wrestling to the female athletes. It is because of his support there are national level camps and opportunities for women wrestlers. Lehman has been an incredible supporter and leader for womens wrestling

Motion – Greg Strobel - “to close the nominations and to approve Dave Lehman as Man of the Year”.

Seconded.

Motion carried.

CONSTITUENT REPORTS

Krista Graff, representative filling in for Lee Roy Smith

Graff informed the Board that the HOF would have their Board meeting in October where all of the elections will be finalized and the slate for the class of 2020 will be submitted to the Board for approval and should be announced early November. The Chapters have had a great year in 2019 with 31 banquets being held across the nation. There is new leadership at the Waterloo Museum and a new museum which closely resembles the HOF in Stillwater but also includes more Iowa ties.

Armed Forces, Jay Antonelli

The Armed Forces has focus on the World Team Trials, talking about the possibility for the Olympic Trials for next year, currently only the gold medalist of the Armed forces trials qualifies for the Olympic Trials but they are hopeful to include the top two medalist. Bender encouraged Antonelli to speak with Cody Bickley about this matter as soon as possible as the Greco Roman Olympic Trials procedures has already been approved.

They are working to schedule the 2020 Armed Forces Championships and hopefully ramping up their marketing by co-branding with USA Wrestling.

Armed Forces delegation will send 4 athletes per weight, as wrestling has been included in the World Military Games in China but with a limited amount of weight classes allowed.

NAIA, Mike Ritchey

Grandview won their 8th in a row, and Menlo won their first NAIA Championship. The NAIA is working towards an official championship for women’s wrestling. The men’s championship will move to Topeka, KS for a couple years.

All teams in the NAIA are in a conference and up to about 70 teams for men. Bender asked whether there is an opportunity (as USAW is part of a group that is working to develop a national collegiate championships, if women are designated as an emerging sport) whether the NAIA would consider a collegiate championships that includes both NCAA schools and NAIA school. Mike will follow up with Rich Bender once he has an opportunity to discuss this further.

NJCAA, Brian Beck

Two years ago, there was a leadership change at the NJCAA and one of the initiatives is to become more engaged with our National Partners and so Beck apologized for the lack of involvement in the last several years. This past year the NJCAA had 52 member colleges sponsoring a varsity wrestling program. Moving into the 2019-2020 membership year, three additional wrestling programs have already been added to the list.

The 2018-19 NJCAA Wrestling National Championships were contested in Council Bluffs, IA on March 1-2, 2019 at the Mid-America Center. A total of 48 member colleges were represented and over 300 wrestlers participated. The top final three teams were Iowa Central Community College from Fort Dodge, IA finishing third, Northeastern Oklahoma A&M, out of Miami, OK, runner-up, and Clackamas Community College from Oregon City, OR being crowned national champion.

The NJCAA looks forward to another competitive wrestling season this coming year with the season culminating at the Mid-America Center in Council Bluffs, IA on March 6-7, 2020.

Beck stated the NJCAA sees the void that exists for a national competition in the wrestling community and would love to see a collegiate partnership to host an event for student athletes both NJCAA but all student athletes.

NFHS

Representative Eliot Hopkins was not in attendance.

NCAA

Representative Anthony Holman was not in attendance but provided a written report, included here.

The NCAA Division I Wrestling Committee is providing this information to outline key actions taken by the committee during the past year. In addition, if you have any questions regarding this information, please contact a member of the committee or Anthony Holman, managing director, championships and alliances.

1. 2019-20 Committee Members.

Matt Azevedo, Drexel University (Term begins Sept. 1)
Bob Berda, Big 12 Conference (Term begins Sept. 1)
Rob Hjerling, The Citadel
Karen Langston, California State University, Bakersfield
Andy Noel, Cornell University
Phillip Wille, University of Wyoming
Secretary-Rules Editor: Chuck Barbee
National Coordinator of Officials: Tim Shiels
Certified Athletic Trainers' Liaison: Jim Thornton

2. Legislative Updates.

The committee put forth the following recommendations to the NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee.

- To amend NCAA Bylaw 17.27.5.1.1 to allow institutions to count not more than two two-day meets and not more than two occasions in which the dual meets are held over a three-day period each as a single date of competition.

3. Officiating.

Tim Shiels, NCAA national coordinator of officials, will be conducting a series of officials training and enhancement clinics over the coming months. The materials and information shared at the clinics will also be available to coaches on "Center Mat".

4. Rules.

Visit the link below to review the rules changes that were approved by the NCAA Wrestling Rules Committee and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel. They will be incorporated into the rules book for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 seasons.

<http://www.ncaa.org/championships/playing-rules/wrestling-rules-game>

5. Dates for 2020 Championships.

Selections March 9-11

Championships – Minneapolis, MN March 19-21

Future Dates and Sites.

2021 March 18–20, St. Louis, MO – Scottrade Center

2022 March 17–19, Detroit, MI – Little Caesars Arena

6. Selection and Seeding Criteria.

It was recommended that the minimum number of matches required for a wrestler to be eligible to earn a rating percentage index (RPI) be reduced from 17 to 15.

7. Selection, Seeding and Committee Procedures.

The coaches ranking panel will be increased from one to two coaches per weight class per conference. Adding a coach per weight class and conference will provide supplementary perspective to assist in the selection process.

8. At-Large Consideration.

Wrestlers not in a conference that conducts a qualifying tournament will be considered for at-large selection if they meet the established standards in two or more of the secondary selection criteria.

9. Third-Party Video Review.

A third-party video review system to be used at the national championships. An independent reviewer, without consultation from the working referees, will review the call and make the final decision.

10. Schedule of Events.

- Doors will open to the public 90 minutes before each session.
- Weigh-ins will take place two hours prior to competition each day.
- Practice times on Wednesday will be 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

11. Primary and secondary criteria. The committee agreed to eliminate Gold, Silver and Bronze as identifiers for wrestlers who meet or exceed threshold levels and simply state that wrestlers who meet or exceed threshold levels for two of the three measures will earn a pre-allocated spot for their respective conference tournament. Wrestlers who meet or exceed two or more of the established criteria shall be considered for at-large selection.

12. Competition order. The committee agreed that to keep fans engaged during session two, the 10 pig-tail matches will be contested first, followed by splitting the consolation and championship round matches among four mats to run simultaneously. This format change also will limit the number of conflicts with coaches having multiple wrestlers competing at the same times in the championship rounds.

13. Annual Meeting.

The NCAA Wrestling Committee's 2020 annual meeting will take place April 14-15 in Indianapolis.

14. Center Mat.

Coaches have complimentary access to Center Mat to review rules updates, as well as search registered officials. Coaches are encouraged to routinely visit Center Mat for rules updates and officiating points of emphasis.

<http://ncaawrestling.arbitersports.com/front/107525/Site>

15. Coaching Staff Contacts.

Coaching staff contacts will now be managed through the online team registration site instead of a paper form. Staff contacts will need to be entered into the team registration site by November 1 and should continue to be updated throughout the season. The portal will be available in the fall on the Division I Wrestling page. Teams must submit staff contacts to be issued credentials.

<http://www.ncaa.org/championships/division-i-wrestling>

NWCA

On behalf of our NWCA President Coach Pat Popolizio and our Board of Directors, I want to extend a heartfelt thanks to USAW for its tireless efforts to strengthen wrestling at all levels. The NWCA is trying its best to support the renaissance of scholastic and collegiate wrestling and here are some very encouraging vital signs that we should all celebrate:

- Since 1999, the NWCA has helped to establish over 225 new college programs in all divisions (men & women).
- There are 27 new men's and women's intercollegiate teams established for the 2019/20 season and several more on the verge of announcing.
- There are now over 19,000 young ladies wrestling in high school across America, 18 state associations sponsor state championships, and 63 intercollegiate women's teams.
- We have seen growth as high as 400% (Missouri) in one year in states that added a girl's state championship in 2019.
- NAIA hosted the first ever National Invitational for women's wrestling this year.
- The NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics has recommended Emerging Sport Status for women's wrestling and we are working with a coalition comprised of USAW, Wrestle Like a Girl, NCWA, NWHOF, and the USOC to secure an affirmative vote by the NCAA general membership in early 2020.
- We now have 17 Wrestlers in Business Network Chapters established across the nation and more are forming every month. We are confident that these chapters are vital to keeping wrestling strong at every level in their respective communities/regions.

I could go on for pages with other encouraging vital signs for wrestling that have contributed to the renaissance of our sport. Suffice it to say, we have come a very long way but more work needs to be done. Here are a few specific initiatives we've launched that are designed to keep our existing programs strong while insuring all newly established programs are sustainable:

- We have worked with a recently retired Deloitte Consulting executive to develop a confidential, internal report card for every college wrestling team across the nation. We are evaluating everything including but not limited to a college's endowment, how much financial aid per student they allocate, admission acceptance rate, enrollment trends, wrestling roster health, wrestling team competitiveness, a wrestling team's eligibility and retention rates, and so forth. This enables us to be much more focused on our most vulnerable collegiate programs.
- We are in the final stages of wrapping up a Blue Ribbon Task Force for Division I wrestling that is positioned to make some potentially bold recommendations to the NCAA. These recommendations are designed to substantially improve the academic performance of Division I wrestling programs as well as the student-wrestler experience.
- We provide upwards to 100 full scholarships for deserving men's and women's intercollegiate coaches to participate in our CEO Leadership Academy each year (over 650 coaches have completed the training since 2010).
- In fall of 2017, we launched the scholastic (high school & middle school) version of our CEO Leadership Academy. We've hosted 28 Academy workshops (over 800 boys and girls wrestling coaches participated) across the nation so far with another 20 workshops scheduled for the 2019/20 season. This program focuses primarily on recruitment and retention of wrestlers.
- The development of leadership groups with each collegiate division, has improved the communication and legislative process for each collegiate division.
- We continue to establish more Wrestlers in Business Network (WIBN) chapters across the country. New chapters are forming in Michigan, Delaware, Pittsburgh, Oklahoma, and Allentown PA. These chapters

serve as a platform to facilitate wrestling alumni doing business with each other and/or to inspire wrestling alumni to hire wrestlers. As the networking events of each chapter prosper, the revenue generated can be reinvested back into our sport.

Perhaps, the single greatest threat to college wrestling are the retention and eligibility rates. While we should celebrate the fact that collegiate wrestling has the second largest percentage of First Generation College Bound Students of all NCAA sports, we must also be keenly aware that research indicates they are a much more academically “at risk” population. Now that the NCAA has incorporated an academic component into the “revenue share” formula, it is more important than ever that we implement strategies to substantially improve eligibility and retention rates.

In summary, we are extremely grateful for the extraordinary and ongoing support we receive from USA Wrestling and other affiliated organizations across the nation. Together, there are no challenges that we can’t overcome and we have every reason to believe that amateur wrestling is positioned very nicely to enjoy a very prosperous future.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Athlete Advisory Committee

Veronica Carlson, AAC Chair

Veronica will be serving on an ad-hoc onboarding committee and believes this is setting the athletes up for continued involvement. Tony Ramos created a website for athletes, and while they aren’t seeing that its facilitating much more engagement it is creating a channel to communicate.

There was a deficit in members with the Committee this year, due to compliance issues with athletes and Richard Perry being unavailable, in addition to Jess Medina leaving the committee to join the staff.

The committee is working on a model similar to USADA/SafeSport with a pamphlet/one sheet providing direction to athletes with a “how to” communicate with the AAC for direction and assistance. In addition, prior to camps – the AAC members have been carving out a half hour for Q&A regarding the Athlete Advisory Committee and Board Committees, and provide a contact and open a line of communication.

Audit Committee

Mike Juby, Committee Chair

The purpose of the committee is to work with the independent auditor so that there is a fresh set of eyes on the financials.

The last audit had some fairly minor items that need to be addressed and one significant item which caused an amended tax return filing – and impacted the financial statements; accounting for any unconditional pledges that should be reported on our statements. The audit committee endorses the concept of a 4-year quad planning for a clearer picture of the overall annual budget.

Bruce Baumgartner recommends Mike Juby as the Chair.

Motion: Greg Strobel- to accept the recommendation of Mike Juby as the Audit Committee Chairperson , seconded. **Motion approved.**

Women's Sport Committee

Bill Grant, Chair – The Women's Sport Committee call is scheduled Aug. 29th. The Committee is preparing to Tokyo 2020. Bill stated there is outstanding athlete engagement on the women's sport committee. Grant commended the staff, athletes and the grassroots support for the women's program. Grant encourages the Board to consider to divide the women's age group council –to identify the girls versus the women's age groups to expand the women's program. He also recommends that USAW considers the new chair of the Committee is a woman representative.

Membership / Ethics Committee

Kerry McCoy, Chair

The Committee has addressed a couple of issues related to both membership and ethics.

Executive Committee Report

Bruce Baumgartner – The minutes are included in the Board Packet.

GR Sports Committee

Van Stokes, minutes are included in the Board Packet. The committee addressed multiple team procedures.

Freestyle Sport Committee

Greg Strobel, Chair – the committee has met 7 times, and set multiple trial procedures to include the Olympic Games, including coaching assignments. The minutes are included in the Board Packet.

Junior Olympic Wrestling Committee

Louis Rosbottom, Chair – reviewed the document provided here within, and asked for approval of the recommendations.

Motion: Louis Rosbottom – “to approve the JOWC recommendations”. Seconded, Mark Reiland. Motion carried.

During the 2019 National Convention, the National Kids/Cadet Council, National Junior Council, Women's Age Group Council and the National Coaches Council passed recommendations that were submitted to the USA Wrestling National Council of State Chairpersons for approval. Also throughout the year, the JOWC met to provide additional recommendations. In addition, the National Council of State Chairpersons also proposed recommendations for consideration for the USA Wrestling Board of Directors.

The report below is comprised of the recommendations to the USA Wrestling Board of Directors related to USA Wrestling's grassroots programming. These policies are intended to have an effective date of September 1, 2019 unless otherwise noted.

A. Girls Developmental Age Groups

Current: 9U, 12U, 14U, 16U, Junior

Proposed: 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U, Junior

B. 14U Weight Classes (Boys)

Current: 71, 77, 83, 87, 90, 97, 102, 106, 110, 114, 119, 125, 130, 136, 149, 165, 197, 250

Proposed: 71, 77, 83, 87, **92**, 97, 102, 106, 110, 114, 119, 125, 130, 136, 149, 165, 197, 250

C. Regional & National Championship Weigh-Ins

Any weigh-in shall only be valid for the day of weigh-ins plus 2 additional days.

D. National Dual Championships

When teams from the same state match up against one another, the teams will have an option to either wrestle OR not wrestle and declare the winner. In the instance when the teams decide to not wrestle but instead declare a winner, the final team score shall be 1-0.

E. National Dual Championships

At the National Dual Championships, out-of-state wrestlers shall be allowed to compete on a specified team, but the match takes place and is scored as a forfeit (5-0 team score). In this instance, a release is not required for the out-of-state wrestler to compete on a different state's team. If a state sends a team, no wrestler from that state can be on another state's team as noted above.

F. Removal of Rule Modifications for Kids Divisions

For all age divisions 14U and below, remove the prohibition of the straight back suplay or salto.

G. Video Review

For all matches at USA Wrestling National Championships, video review shall be utilized.

H. Separation Criteria – 16U Nationals (Boys)

Current Level 6: 16U/UWW Cadet & above National 2nd-4th out of style (Olympic styles only)

Current Level 8: 14U National 2nd-4th in style or 16U/Junior Folkstyle National Champion

Proposed Level 6: 16U/UWW Cadet & above National 2nd-4th out of style (Olympic styles only) **OR U15 National Champion in style**

Proposed Level 8: 14U National 2nd-4th in style, 16U/Junior Folkstyle National Champion **OR U15 Nationals 2nd-8th place in style**

I. Separation Criteria – 16U Nationals (Girls)

Current:

Level 1 – UWW Cadet World Champion

Level 2 – UWW Cadet World Place Winner

Level 3 – UWW Cadet Women's Nationals Champion

Level 4 – UWW Cadet Women's Nationals Runner UP

Level 5 – USAW 16U National Champion In Style

Level 6 – USAW 16U National Champion Out Of Style

Level 7 – USAW 16U Women's Nationals 3-8 place

Level 8 – USAW 16U National In Style 2nd-4th
Level 9 – USAW 16U National Out Of Style 2nd-4th
Level 10 – USAW 16U National In Style 5th-8th
Level 11 – USAW 16U National Out Of Style 5th-8th

Proposed:

1. UWW Cadet **or above** World Champion
2. UWW Cadet **or above** World Place Winner
3. UWW Cadet **or above** Women's Nationals Champion
4. UWW Cadet **or above** Women's Nationals Runner UP
5. USAW 16U National Champion In Style
6. USAW 16U National Champion Out Of Style
7. USAW 16U National In Style 2nd-4th **or U15 UWW World Champ**
8. USAW 16U National Out Of Style 2nd-4th **or U15 UWW World Medalist**
9. USAW 16U National In Style 5th-8th **or U15 UWW World Team Trials Champ**
10. USAW 16U National Out Of Style 5th-8th **or U15 UWW World Team Trials Placer**

J. Separation Criteria – Junior Nationals (Girls)

Current:

Level 1 – UWW Junior World Champ
Level 2 – UWW Junior World Place Winner OR UWW Cadet World Champ
Level 3 – UWW Junior Women's Nationals Champion OR UWW Cadet World Place Winner
Level 4 – UWW Junior Women's Nationals Runner Up OR UWW Cadet National Champ
Level 5 – USAW Junior National Champion In Style OR UWW Cadet National Runner Up
Level 6 – USAW Junior National Champion Out Of Style OR 16U/Cadet National Champ
Level 7 – UWW Junior Women's Nationals 3rd-8th Place OR 16U/Cadet National Champ Out Of Style
Level 8 – Junior National In Style 2nd-4th Place OR UWW Cadet National Placer 3-8
Level 9 – Junior National Out Of Style 2nd-4th OR 16U/Cadet National placer 2-4
Level 10 – Junior National In Style 5th-8th Place OR 16U/Cadet National placer 2-4 Out Of Style
Level 11 – Junior National Out Of Style 5th-8th OR 16U/Cadet National placer 5-8 Out Of Style

Proposed:

Level 1 – UWW Junior **or above** World Champ
Level 2 – UWW Junior **or above** World Place Winner OR UWW Cadet World Champ
Level 3 – UWW Junior **or above** Women's Nationals Champion OR UWW Cadet World Place Winner
Level 4 – UWW Junior **or above** Women's Nationals Runner Up OR UWW Cadet National Champ
Level 5 – USAW Junior National Champion In Style OR UWW Cadet National Runner Up
Level 6 – USAW Junior National Champion Out Of Style OR 16U/Cadet National Champ
Level 7 – UWW Junior **or above** Women's Nationals 3rd-8th Place OR 16U/Cadet National Champ Out Of Style

Level 8 – Junior National In Style 2nd-4th Place OR UWW Cadet National Placer 3-8
Level 9 – Junior National Out Of Style 2nd-4th OR 16U/Cadet National placer 2-4
Level 10 – Junior National In Style 5th-8th Place OR 16U/Cadet National placer 2-4 Out Of Style
Level 11 – Junior National Out Of Style 5th-8th OR 16U/Cadet National placer 5-8 Out Of Style

Motion: Louis Rosbottom – “to approve the JOWC recommendations”. Seconded, Mark Reiland. Motion carried.

Federation of Clubs

Dave Foxen, Chair

The teams and clubs are doing well. We will be hosting the Bill Farrell National tournament this year, November 15-16 and is a qualification for the Olympic Trials (only the 6 Olympic weights). 15th – WM/GR & 16th- Freestyle. Les suggested that it should be scratch weight being that it is a qualifier event.

Folkstyle Committee

Rob Cate, the principle mission of the Committee is to expose what USAW has to more of the folkstyle committee.

New Business:

*Bruce would like a position statement from the Board to justify supporting RTC's. We'll spend some time and effort into strategizing to correct the document.

Financial Aid and recruitment needs to be addressed to keep the RTC programs in place. The RTC should fulfill to bring diversity, youth, etc to campus (to align with the mission of the University). There should be contact restrictions. Staff will work to obtain the NCAA legislation to be able

Adeline questioned whether there was a place for para athletes. USA Wrestling has an affiliation with Ed Liddie at USA Judo to direct athletes in the event there was a para athlete looking for competition. Bender stated that there has been a decent amount of reasonable transition between Wrestling and Judo (for Para opportunities).

This is currently USA Wrestling's position on the matter and may at some point, look to apply for the para games.

Adeline would love to see a bigger connection between athlete and board. Adeline would like to see a focus on photos and accessibility to athletes images.

The US Olympic Committee commissioned an independent committee to look at ways to make suggestions as to how the Amateur Sports Act could be revised to better support athletes. This was done in anticipation that Congress may open the topic up for discussion.

Meeting adjourned – 5:07 PM

DRAFT