

**MINUTES**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL**

Executive Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, July 2, 2024  
5:00 p.m. MT

**Present:**

Bruce Baumgartner, President, Chairman  
Kerry McCoy, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Joan Fulp, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Don Reynolds, Treasurer  
Van Stokes, Secretary  
Rob Cate  
Nate Engel  
John Stefanowicz  
Pat Ream  
Zac Dominguez  
Craig LaMont  
James Ravannack, Past President  
Rich Bender, Executive Director  
Megan Ball, Executive Assistant  
Kenya Dixon, Manager of Safe Sport and Compliance  
Aphthen Sterling, Director of Business Development  
Tony Black, Director of State Services  
Greg Dana, Director of Finance

**Absent:**

Mike Macchiavello  
Mallory Velte  
Veronica Carlson  
Stan Dziedzic, United World Wrestling

**1. WELCOME**

President Bruce Baumgartner welcomed the committee and called the meeting to order. He asked Van Stokes to read the Declaration of Conflict of Interest and Oath of Confidentiality. No conflicts were present.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR JUNE 5, 2024**

Joan Fulp made a motion to approve the June 5, minutes; James Ravannack seconded. Motion approved.

### **3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Baumgartner noted a busy month ahead as we head into Fargo and teams head out to France for the Olympic Games. He will head to Colorado Springs next week for Media Day and the Olympic team send off. Then he's off to Fargo where he hopes to meet with many on the call. He will go over to Paris at the beginning of August and then be back in Colorado Springs for the State Leaders Summit and Board meeting. He appreciates everyone's hard work and efforts in the month ahead and is available if anyone has any questions.

### **4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT/USOPC/UWW REPORT**

Rich Bender proudly announced that the Olympic Team has expanded with the addition of Kamal Bey at 77 kgs for the Greco Roman team due to further vetting by the IOC of the Russian and Belarussian teams. All three Olympic Teams are in Colorado Springs for the last camp before they head over to Paris to gear up and participate in Opening Ceremonies and then the delegation will up to Normandy for acclimation.

USA Wrestling staff have officially submitted next year's budget to the Finance committee for approval before the Board officially approves at the August meeting. It is expected that Junior Nationals will be the largest ever with already 1200 more registered athletes than last year.

As of today, membership is at 342,000 which is 47,000 more than last year at this time. We have completed the Safe Sport audit but are awaiting the finalized report and our Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies have finally been approved and will go into effect on September 1. Senior World Team Trials are planned to be in Omaha September 14-15.

Lastly, the UWW Congress will be held October 27<sup>th</sup> in Tirana, Albania between the U23 World Championships and Senior World Championships. President Baumgartner will be on the ballot for the UWW Bureau, and the election will take place during Congress.

### **5. FINANCE REPORT**

Don Reynolds began his report by sharing a summary of the organization's financial position. Currently, we are at a 12% positive variance over budget for year to date. April events contributed significantly to the positive variance. The committee officially recommended that the board approved the submitted budget in their meeting last week. The Finance Committee has put together an ad hoc committee to review membership card prices and has recommended a price increase. Those increases are not included in the recommended budget. Further details will be communicated regarding the increase through Fargo and the State Leaders Summit.

### **6. ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Johnny Stefanowicz shared all was smooth sailing. There has not been much going on as athletes are preparing for the Games. Athletes are very happy with camps and logistics. Further work will be done to ensure committees are populated and all athlete representatives feel comfortable and confident with their roles.

## **7. WOMEN'S WRESTLING UPDATE**

Joan Fulp shared there has been a lot of discussion around how to address the growth of Fargo since girls have been added as well as when the right time would be to add Greco for girls. Moving into the further grassroots discussions, there has been a push to add a neutral start for the girls at the Tour of America events, kids folkstyle and 16U and Junior girls' events. We need to continue looking at what is best for girls. Some of that involves looking through a different lens as we continue to grow.

## **8. STATE LEADERS/GRASSROOTS UPDATE**

Pat Ream reported that with Junior Duals going on there isn't a lot to update on. The bigger movements will come during Fargo and at the State Leaders Summit. He gave a shout out to Washington state for the growth they've had in the last year.

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

Bruce reminded the committee that all committees need to be populated prior to the board meeting to ensure we have the correct number of representatives and minimize folks holding two positions.

Rich shared that Megan Ball will go to Paris early to work for the organizing committee as the wrestling coordinator to assist with some wrestling expertise. She will head out next Friday. She will complete all her duties here as well, just virtually with a bit of a time difference. Along with Megan, Pete Isais, Rob Cate, and a few of our other key volunteers will be volunteering in Paris for wrestling.

Lastly, there has been an offer made to a candidate for the Men's Freestyle Development coach. Once all the candidates are notified, and the candidate accepts, then the announcement will be made.

No further new business. Bruce let the committee know there would not be an August meeting unless it is required.

Motion to adjourn by Don Reynolds. Meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.MT.