

MINUTES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

Executive Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 15, 2024
5:00 p.m. MT

Present:

Bruce Baumgartner, President, Chairman
Joan Fulp, 1st Vice President
Kerry McCoy, 2nd Vice President
Don Reynolds, Treasurer
Nate Engel, Secretary
Rob Cate
Veronica Carlson
Zac Dominguez
Pat Ream
Mike Macchiavello
Johnny Stefanowicz
Mallory Velte
Rich Bender, Executive Director
Megan Ball, Executive Assistant
Cody Bickley, Director of
Greg Dana, Director of Finance

Absent:

James Ravannack, Past President
Craig LaMont
Stan Dziedzic, United World Wrestling

1. WELCOME

President Bruce Baumgartner welcomed the committee and called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm MT. He asked Mallory Velte to read the Declaration of Conflict of Interest and Oath of Confidentiality. No conflicts were present.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 17

Joan Fulp made a motion to approve the September 17th minutes; Mallory Velte seconded. Motion approved.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Baumgartner thanked and welcomed all for joining the call. Following the last call, Megan and Bruce reviewed the board and committees for full population and to ensure our boards and committee compositions reflect the bylaws. AAC elections are taking place shortly,

following those we will be able to complete the process and have all fully populated by the Board meeting in December.

The gender challenge that was brought forward a few months ago is in process and we will have a report for next meeting.

Bruce and Rich sit on the LA 28 Legacy committee. The goal is to enhance the relevancy of wrestling in the LA area beyond the Games. Additionally, Bruce and Rich are working with the Division 1 Women's Wrestling Group to increase the number of clubs at D1 colleges and universities across the country.

Bruce just returned from Croatia, where he attended Veterans and Beach Worlds. He will head to Washington D.C. on Friday for the Wrestle Like a Girl Gala, and then will leave for Albania on Sunday. The UWW election takes place on October 27th.

Bruce previously tasked Rich to look into options for a new office building as staff are quickly outgrowing the current space. Rich and Greg have met with a few groups and city foundations to request their assistance in the procurement of a new space. Ideally, we would move in the next 18 months prior to hosting any World Championships and with plenty of time before the LA Games.

The Executive Committee approved staff moving forward to explore building options. If it is appropriate, an update will be on the next meeting agenda.

The next Executive Committee meeting is Wednesday, November 20. The next Board meeting will be December 3rd. We will have a scheduled Executive Committee meeting in December, following the board meeting if it is not necessary the committee can discuss cancelling it.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT/USOPC/UWW REPORT

Rich stated it is a busy time with camps in town, prepping for Worlds and the election on the 27th. Pete and the events team keep setting records with registrations, and all systems are a go for Tirana and the year end.

About a month ago, the wrestling community lost Alan Vera. Rich and many staff members as well as other USA Wrestling related folks attended his funeral service. USAW is in the process of identifying additional ways to support Elena and their young daughter.

Rich attended a USOPC Board meeting last week. Gene Sykes and Alison Felix are both IOC members now, and both will hold USOPC board positions. Gene previously held the independent member position, so his position will be filled. IOC President elections will take place in March 2025.

Rich recognized Chris Brown and his work with the Veterans teams. They had significant success in Croatia and a lot of credit to Chris and Cody Bickley for their efforts.

Rich turned the call to Greg Dana for an update on the new HR company USAW is working with. Greg thanked Megan for her assistance in the process of identifying the best firm. We have partnered with Vida HR, a Colorado based company that provides a dedicated support person, but also a team of specialists that can support our staff and organization as we continue to grow.

5. FINANCE REPORT

Don Reynolds shared the finance committee schedule, they will meet at least once monthly, and occasionally multiple times if needed. At the next meeting, they will review July and August financials to officially wrap up the year end. Don has reviewed the preliminary statements, and they are slightly better than the projections put forward at the board meeting. It is projected that the organization will end the year with a \$2.9 million positive net surplus of revenues over expenses.

Don congratulated all on the call and said it is amazing that we had the increase in revenue and only a nominal increase in expenses due to the diligence of all involved. Membership numbers are already significantly up, but that may be due to folks signing up and registering earlier than usual.

6. ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Johnny Stefanowicz shared the AAC nomination window concludes tonight, and tomorrow the committee will review nominations. The AAC will look to update their bylaws this winter once elections are complete.

Mallory shared that she will attend the USOPC Assembly and her first term as the Team USA Representative will conclude at the end of this calendar year. Team USA AC elections for USA Wrestling will start as the AAC elections conclude. Mallory also shared that organizations like the US Center for SafeSport have started contacting athlete reps directly and that is a step forward.

7. STATE LEADERS/GRASSROOTS UPDATE

The JOWC recently met. There were minor language changes for modified folkstyle rules for girls that were voted on and passed unanimously. Tony Black has requested copies of 990s from each state, and many have submitted, but he is still missing a few that Pat is working on helping him track down.

8. NEW BUSINESS

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Rich let the committee know that RFPs for the official apparel partner have gone out. He will hopefully have an update for the committee on that at the next meeting. Additionally, the organization received an Article 9 notice from an athlete regarding uniform requirements for the Bill Farrel tournament. He will update the committee as that progresses.,

Bruce reminded everyone to ensure their board requirements are up to date. Once all are completed, conflict of interest forms will be sent out.

There was no additional new business.

Motion to adjourn by Nate Engel. Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm MT.