



**General Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**August 24, 2013**  
**Hal Holmes Center, Ellensburg**

**Board Members present:**

Jay Terry, Jim Burchett, Mary Ann Douglas, Beth Michaelson, Kim Burchett, Ron Beard, Sean Ekerson, Chris Feist, Ty Michaelson, Tom Martin, Andy Cook, Dave Gilbertson

**Board Members not present:**

Craig Hanson, Luke Leifer, Melissa Simmons, Suzie Velarde

**Attendance:** Auburn Slam, 3D Wrestling Club, Arlington Youth Wrestling Club, Askeo International Mat Club, Bad Draw Wrestling Club, Bear Claw Wrestling Club, Big River Wrestling Club, Cruiser Wrestling Club, Elma Wrestling Club, Extreme Takedown, Ferndale Force Wrestling Club, Freedom Wrestling Academy, FW Spartans Wrestling Club, Montesano Mad Dogs, Mount Vernon Pitbulls, NWWC, Olympia Wrestling Club, Overtime Wrestling Club, Relentless Wrestling Club, Sedro Woolley Steelclaw Wrestling, Skagit Valley Yellow Jackets Wrestling Club, Snoqualmie Valley Wrestling Club, Sons of Thunder Wrestling Club, Takedown Express Wrestling Club, Team Takedown, TriCity Wrestling Club, Tomahawk Wrestling Club, Tumwater Freestyle Wrestling Club, Twin City Wrestling Club, Vandit Wrestling Club, Victory Wrestling, Wrestling Rhinos

**Call to Order**

Chairman Jay Terry called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm and opened with the pledge of allegiance. Secretary Beth Michaelson read the list of clubs in attendance.

**Acceptance of Minutes**

MT Ayers, TriCity Wrestling Club, moves to accept minutes from September 2012 meeting. Andy Cook seconds. Motion passes.

**Old Business:**

- By-law changes
  - Article 3 Section 1 MT moves to strike bylaw change from 2012 and go back to the bylaw as written previously and remove "in August". Jason Dick, Elma, seconds. Motion passes
  - Article 6 Section 2 motion by Misty Marenco, Snoqualmie Valley WC, to strike changes from 2012 and reinstate. Hal James, Tumwater WC, seconds. Motion Passes
- 2013 State Tournaments
  - 1,666 participants at Folkstyle State
  - Overall successful besides technology problem at Folkstyle State
  - Need more help from clubs
  - MT noticed table help thinned out as day went on

- Discussion on how to improve table help
- John Lane, Olympia WC, makes a motion that as part of sanctioning a tournament clubs are required to run a table per sanctioned tournament at the respective state tournament. Jason Dick seconds  
Jay Peth, Skagit Valley WC, makes a motion that Novice league tournaments are excluded. Andy Cook seconds. Vote on amendment 26 no 14 yes. Amendment fails.  
John Lane accepts MT's suggestion to amend his motion to read,  
"Each Season Clubs are required to work a table for each tournament they sanction at the respective State Tournament. In the event there are not enough sanctioned tournaments to fill tables clubs that bring 20+ participants may be asked to work tables." Jason Dick re-seconds. Motion passes.
- The audit has been suspended. Board discusses types of audits and benefits vs. costs. **Mary Ann moves that we form an audit committee and establish financial controls. Sean seconds.** Motion passes unanimously.
- Review of \$2 fund. The majority of states have a similar program and use it to fund state team travel. The states that have similar funds are the more competitive teams at Fargo and Duals. Board decides to keep \$2 fund as is.

#### Board Member Reports

##### **Chairman, Jay Terry:**

##### **A) State Chairman's Summit recap:**

- The Board has decided to follow USA Wrestling tournament procedures and use line bracketing for Freestyle and Greco
- CPOW is coordinating a drive to Save Olympic Wrestling. The Board has decided to donate \$1,000.
- Western Regionals will now be run by a council of the states. Each state will provide table help as well as officials. Ron Beard as Washington's representative on the council.
- USA Wrestling has purchased 50 subscriptions to Sports Ngin (engine) and would like each state to use the page as their states home page. The Board will look into the option.
- Attendees at duals will be guaranteed 6 matches
- Jay wants to encourage the clubs to use these options. He tried it last year and it made his tournament run smoothly. The head pairer wrote him a check immediately. It took about two weeks for the association to get a check from trackwrestling.
- Dual team costs will remain the same for 2014. \$250/ participant. 2013 was best showing ever at Jr. Duals. Funds generated at the State Tournaments helped with this.
- Folkstyle February 23<sup>rd</sup> Jay noted that Monday is not a holiday this year the day following State.
- Freestyle/Greco May 2,3,4

**Deputy Director, Jim Burchett:**

- 2013 Fargo Report
  - 91 athletes
  - Self travel from the coaches and director's prospective worked well for the most part. A few parents didn't read the travel instructions which caused a few hiccups.
  - Base price \$258 + travel compared to Oregon which was \$1200 + travel.
  - Camp was split with women at Merle's facility and men at Eastern Washington University.
  - used a charter bus in Fargo which saved about \$10,000

Recommends officials and coaches receive a \$1,000 stipend and make their own arrangements to simplify process

- Tom agrees, but recommends setting dates and establishing a process

**Membership Director, Kim Burchett:**

- made \$627 more on card sales than last year with 800 more participants due to the availability of Limited Memberships. Feels like Folkstyle Only/Limited Membership is successful.
- Please sanctions tournaments ASAP

**WSWA Membership Report  
August 24, 2013**

**Clubs Chartered For the 2012-2013 Season:**

144 (133 last year)

**Tournaments Sanctioned for the 2012-2013 Season:**

43 (29 last year) – cancelled events this year not included in numbers

**Cards Sold for the 2012-2013 Season:**

Athlete	6,197 (5398 last year)	1,268 folkstyle only cards
		4,929 full cards

Offering of the limited folkstyle card increased our athlete participation by nearly 800

Coaches	1,144 (882 last year)
Officials Memberships	214 (168 last year)

**Other Information:**

1. Card prices are as follows (plus \$4.75 processing fee for all cards except athlete):

<b>Athlete Limited Folkstyle Only Card:</b>	\$15
<b>Athlete Full Membership Card:</b>	\$40
<b>Athlete High Performance Card:</b>	\$100
<b>Coaches Cards:</b>	\$42

<b>2-year Coaches Cards:</b>	\$84
<b>Officials Cards:</b>	\$25
<b>2-year Officials Cards:</b>	\$50

**Club Charters:** \$140 (base prices without insurance) (plus \$5 processing fee)  
Purchasing a charter does not include insurance; you must select the option to add club insured during the process to have the \$25.00 insurance added to have your site protected. Event sanctions have this option included in price, club charters do not.

**Insurance for Charter:** \$20 each site (plus \$5 processing fee)

**Event Sanctions:** \$115 for one style one day (plus \$5 processing fee)  
If you have more than one style OR have more than one day, an additional \$75.00 will be charged for each style OR each additional day to cover the Trackwrestling fees assessed to WSWA.

Examples:

- 1) There is a one day event that has both FS and GR - the charge would be \$120.00 for the first style and \$75.00 for the second.
- 2) There is a three day event that has GR the first day, FS the second day and Folkstyle the third day - the charge would be \$120.00 for the first day and style, \$75.00 for the second day and style and \$75.00 for the third day and style.

2. USA Wrestling offers a 2-year Coaches and Officials Card. The benefit to this is that you save the \$4.75 processing fee that is assessed and you only have to do the whole background/ purchasing of your card every other year. You will not be able to print your coaches card or officials card until your background screening is completed. The screening can take a few days to complete so don't wait until the last minute. You will be prompted to complete the screening after you have purchased your officials or coaches card.

3. Clubs need to ensure that a USA card has been purchased by every athlete and coach who steps on a practice mat before they are on the mat. No exceptions. The wrestlers can get hurt on the first practice and they are NOT covered.

4. All cards – Coaches and Athletes are sold online in Washington. You need to purchase yours early in case there are problems with the records online. Cards for the 2013-2014 season are available for purchase on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. They are good until August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014.

5. Remember the deadline dates for the Event sanctions per the By-Laws.

*The following deadline dates must be met for any WSWA tournament sanction to be approved: For the WSWA Folkstyle season, all clubs who scheduled events at the Fall General Membership meeting must have their sanctions and fees submitted and*

*approved no later than September 30th of each year. After September 30th, if an event is not approved, the first club in that specific region to e-mail a request to the Membership Director and submit all required paperwork and fees by October 15th, will be allowed to have an event for that date on the WSWA Folkstyle schedule. After October 15th of each year, there will be no events added to the Folkstyle Schedule.*

*For the Freestyle and Greco Roman Season, all clubs who scheduled events at the Fall General Membership meeting must have their sanctions and fees submitted and approved no later than December 31st of each year. After December 31st, if an event is not approved, the first club in that specific region to e-mail a request to the Membership Director and submit all required paperwork and fees by January 31st, will be allowed to have an event for that date on the WSWA Freestyle and Greco Roman schedule. After January 31st of each year, there will be no events added to the Freestyle and Greco Roman Schedule.*

*For the WSWA post-season, which is defined as being after completion of all WSWA Freestyle and Greco Roman State Championships, any club can submit a sanction and fees and obtain approval for an event no later than a deadline of April 15th of that year.*

6. Clubs who wish to host a sanctioned Washington State Wrestling Association / USA Wrestling event must have both a current year licensed Mat Official and a current year licensed Pairing Official associated with the club, and they both must be available to work the entire event in order to receive approval for the sanctioned event. The club Mat and Pairing officials must be age 18 years of age or older. The mat and pairing officials must have their backgrounds completed and their USA cards purchased for me to approve the sanction and this must all be done before the deadlines.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Burchett  
Membership Director

**Treasurer, Mary Ann Douglas:**

- The state made money last year
- See attached report for details

**Pairings Officials Director, Mary Ann Douglas:**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> highest number of officials in the country
- Sherry Bullard was honored at Fargo with the Volunteer of the Year Award
- Working on training and replacing equipment

**Mat Officials Director, Tom Martin:**

- 19 M2s
- Is planning on having officials at tournaments earlier to train and go over new rules
- Please let Tom know how many mats you are running at your tournament and how many club mat officials you have

- Officials from out of state came to work Freestyle and Greco State
- Please be patient with young officials and don't intimidate them

**Coaches Director, Craig Hanson:** (Craig wasn't at meeting, but sent in the following report)

## Coaches Director Report

### August 24, 2013

#### State Tournaments and Bronze Clinics

We had 1144 coaches registered this year and we bronze certified over 300 new coaches at a variety of classes held around the state most of which were at the state tournaments. This year was the first year for hosting our state tournaments at the Tacoma Dome. The experience was great overall and the problems that happened at the Folkstyle state tournament were corrected and smoothed out dramatically before the Freestyle/Greco state tournaments. The bronze clinic held at the Folkstyle state tournament was somewhat of a disaster but we managed to get through it. Here is a list of what happened at that bronze class.

- We had approximately 45 preregister for the class but we had 175 show up to get certified that day. This created quite a log jam in registration and we had to run out and make more copies of tests and materials.
- USAW was not very responsive about getting testing materials to us and they said to run the class anyway. We were instructed to go over the test question by question, but with that many people discussion was not great and people were restless due to sitting on floor and other. Overall the coaches were generally understanding of what we were dealing with.
- USAW promised to get books and shirts out right away and they did not. They said that they had trouble with the publisher sending out the materials on time. To my knowledge everyone has received their materials.

NW Regionals and Freestyle/Greco state went much more smoothly. We put a bigger emphasis on preregistration and got a better response ahead of time. The classes had appropriate materials and classroom discussion and coursework went much more smoothly.

On a side note, I am not a big fan of the quick certification process we go through prior to tournaments (especially state tournaments) to get coaches on the mat. These coaches should have been certified already assuming they have been coaching this whole time at their club. Classes held on their own are much more informative and foster greater discussion and lead to more professional coaching. I have considered other ways to enhance the certification process rather than the speed classes offered at this time. Our problem lies with the need to get coaches/parents on the mat that day to coach at the state tournaments. The Folkstyle state tourney presents the biggest obstacle as it has many coaches who are new to USA wrestling and it is handled differently in their leagues.

#### Silver College

We attempted to hold a Silver College this year at the National team training camp but were unsuccessful in getting it in place. Cody Bickley, USAW coaching director was largely unavailable

to help us this year and that is where the problem came in. We are currently in contact with USAW and hope to get one set up for this next year's camp. Andy Cook attended the Silver College in Colorado Springs this past fall and learned a great deal. I plan on attending this year and bringing back more information to our state.

## Training Camps/Clinics

I have had several conversations with directors and coaches about what we may need in our state and how to go about achieving these.

- **Coaches Curriculum.** We are in some need for an available curriculum to all coaches in Washington. The most obvious choice should be to use the Coaches Core Curriculum as found in the coaches tab of the website [themat.com](http://themat.com). It was put there for this reason by USAW, however, we may need to take time to host clinics to go over using this information and they could be done around the state at various times. Details need to be worked out but it may be a good way to get parent/coaches more professionally trained and knowledgeable.
- **State Coaches Clinic,** I am considering holding an annual state coaches clinic that would focus on Freestyle and Greco and would feature USAW staff along with coaches from around the state. This could be the extension of the bronze and silver clinics in some way. Timing of this event is difficult but we are exploring the possibility of such event.
- **Regional Camps,** each spring we hold a series regional training camps focused on our national dual teams and summer national team. We need to have a Regional camp practice plan in place so that all 3 regional camps have the same technique focus and are teaching from a planned curriculum. This information needs to be as current as we can get based on current FILA/USA rules and techniques we are seeing. This information should be gathered from all the big events (eg. Fila cadets, US Open, Fila Jrs, etc.) and incorporate that information as best we can.
- **National Camp,** there is a real need to have the practices very focused and reduced instruction (except on individual need) and more training based on pre-tournament readiness. I would like to meet with a panel of coaches and determine how best to do this. My plan is to meet with USAW staff and review a model with them. I and many other coaches I had discussions with at camp, feel this need to train more efficiently. I will assemble a group of coaches and directors and put together a plan for the upcoming year.

## Coaches Applications

This past year we had 34 coaches apply for positions on national dual teams, nationals, Orca duals, and western regionals. There were 23 coaches selected from this pool to represent all the teams. Respectfully submitted,  
Craig Hanson  
WA Coaches Director

**Cadet Director, Chris Feist:**

- Cadets took 8<sup>th</sup> in Greco Duals. 3 All Americans
- Freestyle had 5 All Americans
- Camps were organized

**Western Kids Director, Sean Ekerson:**

- Schoolboys took 4<sup>th</sup> place in Greco
- 3 kids went undefeated
- Fun tournament, no one was hurt, all around a good experience

**Eastern Kids Director, Ron Beard:**

- Western Regionals Report
  - 2012: 346 kids entered in 3 styles
  - 2013: 419 kids entered in 3 styles
  - Freestyle: 39 placers, 9 champs. 1<sup>st</sup> as a State with 102 pins
  - Greco: 52 placers, 9 champs. 1<sup>st</sup> as a State with 95 pins
  - Folkstyle: 47 placers, 11 champs. 1<sup>st</sup> as a State with 152 pins
- Kids Nationals Report
  - Freestyle: 63 participants from Washington. 3<sup>rd</sup> most out of all states. 2<sup>nd</sup> as State with 35 pins. 30 All Americans, 6 Champions.
  - Greco: 1<sup>st</sup> with most entries, 1<sup>st</sup> with number of pins. 37 All Americans, 5 Champions.
- Competitive Cadets and Juniors start with younger kids
- Western Regional States have to provide table help. Each state will cover 2 mats including table help and cleaning. States will split the profit, if any.

**Open Director, Andy Cook:**

- 5 participants from Washington at USA Nationals

**Travel Director, Suzie Velarde:** (Suzie's report was presented by Jay)

- Travel went smoothly
- In 2014 coaches and officials will book their own travel

**Promotions Director, Ty Michaelson:**

- Apparel Sales were up 50%
- Pursuing title sponsors

**Website Director, Dave Gilbertson:**

- Maintains 3 websites. Converted them all to wordpress
- Tournament information is added to the website as tournaments are approved

**New Business**

- Pedro Almaguer and MT Ayers asked about participating in NW Jr. Duals under the name "Team Washington" Jay said that was fine as long as there was no expectation of funding from the State Association
- Election of Officers:



- As no one ran for the vacant positions of Pairings Director and Women's Director Mary Ann moves to include Sherry Bullard as Pairings Director and Chuck Bullard as Women's Director on the ballot. Chris Feist seconds. Motion passes.
- Sean moves to add himself to the Western Kids Director ballot. Andy Cook seconds. Motion passes.
- Motion by Brad Roberstein, Mt Vernon Pitbulls. Seconded by MT Ayers to accept by acclimation Board Members who are running unopposed.
  - Jay Terry, Chairman
  - Beth Michaelson, Secretary
  - Sherry Bullard, Pairing Official Director
  - Chuck Bullard, Women's Director
  - Kim Burchett, Membership Director
- Voting for other positions. Results:
  - Andy Cook, Cadet Director
  - Chris Fiest, Western Kids Director
- Jay asks for recommendations for Athlete reps. Ty Almaguar, Matt Floresca, Brian Burchett, Aryann Carpionne
- Break for tournament sign-ups

### **Adjournment**

Ferndale Force moves to adjourn. Auburn Slam seconds. Meeting adjourns.