

**NWCA Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 28, 2016**  
**Fort Lauderdale, FL**

**Attendance:** Mike Moyer, Mark Cody, Tomy Ryan, Pat Tocci, Don Shelley, Terry Shockley, Troy Nickerson, Nick Mitchell, Jeff Voss, Dennis Stromie, Anthony Holman, Jim Guinta, Nathan Shearer, Pat Popolizio, Jacque Davis, Elliot Hopkins, Carl Murphree, Dave Crowell, Craig Hanson, Austin Devoe, Joe Geiger, Darrell Randall, Jim Fallis (Guest)

**Meeting to Order:**

Mark Cody calls the meeting to order at 5:43. Welcomes all to the meeting and thanks everyone for their efforts. Mark also thanks the NWCA staff for their hard work.

**Executive Director Report:**

Mike Moyer gives opening welcome message with the Executive Director report. Mike's highlights include:

- 15 New programs in 2016
- Challenges at the Division I Level – New Cost of Attendance and DI legislation
- Women's wrestling is continuing to grow; Working towards NCAA emerging sports status
- Participation numbers are dropping at the scholastic level which is concerning
- NWCA getting ready to launch a high school CEO Program
- Provided over 500 scholarships at the collegiate level
- Shortage of well trained coaches
- Launch of the Blue Ribbon Task Force that is focusing on Division I
- Working with the WIBN to establish new chapters to strengthen college wrestling in those areas

### **Ratify New Board Structure:**

Joe Geiger reviews the new board structure and why it was put into place. He asks the full board to ratify the new board structure.

A motion was made by Dennis Stromie to approve the new board structure. Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Guinta.

Motion to ratify the new board structure passes unanimously.

### **Board Action Items:**

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

Pat Tocci presents the minutes to the board of directors for approval.

A motion was made by Craig Hanson to approve the minutes. Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Geiger/

Motion to pass the 2015 Board Meeting Minutes passed unanimously

#### **Approval of New Board Members:**

Three new board members were submitted to the Board of Directors for approval as at-large members.

- Pat Popolizio (NC State Head Coach)
- Nathan Shearer (Washington and Lee head Coach)
- Jacque Davis (Beat the Streets – NYC)

A motion was made by Dennis Stromie to approve the three new board members; Jim Guinta 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion

The motion to approve Pat Popolizio, Nathan Shearer and Jacque Davis to the NWCA Board of Directors was approved unanimously.

#### **President-Elect:**

Pat Popolizio was recommended by the Executive Committee to the full board to serve as President-Elect.

A motion was made by Joe Geiger to approve Pat Popolizio as President-elect. Tom Ryan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

The motion to approve Pat Popolizio, as president-elect was approved unanimously.

**Strategic Plan:**

Mike Moyer reviews the NWCA Strategic Plan for 2016-17. Reviews Core competencies of the NWCA that centers around the acronym of CASE.

- Coach Development
- Advocacy
- Student Athlete Welfare
- Ensuring the financial stability of the NWCA

In addition, outlined in the Strategic Plan were the goals for the 2016-17 season which was outlined in the board manual.

A motion was made by Joe Geiger to approve the 2016-17 Strategic plan; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Anthony Holman

The motion to approve the strategic plan was approved unanimously.

**Approval of 2016-17 Budget**

Don Shelly and Darrell Randall provide a financial report of the 2016 year to the full board. ‘Key Points Included’

- Possible loss of 3K for 2016
- Very reliant on donations
- Partnership with Track has brought in over a 100K
- Challenges with sponsors due to existing partnerships with DI schools for the National Duals; Lost two title sponsors

Don and Darrell present the 2016-17 budget. Key points included:

- Showing a small profit for the year
- Donor Driven on the coaching development areas
- Partnership with Track over 100K; funds leadership academy and new programs
- Will not have many sponsorship restrictions this year

A motion was made by Joe Geiger to approve 2017 budget: The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> Jon McGovern.

The motion to approve the 2016-17 budget was approved unanimously.

### **Discussion Topics:**

#### **Blue Ribbon Task Force:**

Presentation was made by Jim Fallis on the recommendation of the Blue Ribbon Task force that was developed to develop a research based strategies designed to improve/enhance Division I wrestling for the Student-Athletes, Fans media and universities.

Key points include:

- Marketing
- Academics – 1<sup>st</sup> year retention
- Regional Training Centers
- Change of Season
- Redshirts
- Health and Safety

Good feedback and discussion each of these areas. Lots of talk about this will benefit college wrestling and how we market the sport. There was also discussion centered around how this might impact the other collegiate divisions.

Terry Shockley from the Hall of Fame provided great feedback on the need for marketing the sport. Anthony Holman of the NCAA also provided guidance on this from a NCAA perspective.

The general feedback that it was very positive and wanted to know the next steps.

Jim mentioned that the next steps would include presenting the college coaches and then reporting back to the full committee in the Blue Ribbon Task Force.

Once the sub-scommittees review their final feedback , it will then go back to the full committee for forwarding to the NCAA.

Anthony Holman provided great feedback in that all recommendations has to address these three key areas:

1. Student-athlete wellness
2. Student-Athlete Time Commitment
3. Financial Implications

### **National Duals Discussion:**

Tom Ryan and Troy Nickerson talk about the national Duals. They did a review of the previous year.

Tom Ryan spoke about some of the conflicts they had this part including the challenges. Tom also spoke about the solutions we have in place for the new year. The hope is that this event can and will grow.

The discussion then centered around the low number of contracts that are currently into the NWCA Office.

There was a discussion on an idea that we should have a 100% of all contracts in by August 31 or we should pull the plug on the event. Pat mentioned that we already have several schools that have declined and so this means the event is over.

The discussion then centered around that 24 Non-Big Ten Schools and 8 Big-Ten schools would need to submit a letter of intent to compete by August 31 for the event to go forth and contracts must be in by October 31.

A motion was made by Joe Geiger for the 24 and 8 commitment. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Craig Hanson.

The motion carries by 80%.

### **Growth of Women's Wrestling**

Mike Moyer and Jacque Davis reported that earlier in the day, they both met with a group of Women's program coaches and they will developing a number of sub-committees based off this year earlier meeting.

We will be deferring this discussion area based off what happened at the earlier meeting.

They will report back to the full board at a later date.

### **Old Business:**

#### **WIBN:**

John Licata provided an update on the growth of the WIBN and the new chapters being formed. He also spent some time reviewing the events from the past year.

He believe that WIBN will continue to grow each year and in turn be able to help with the college programs in the area.

Mike thanks John for his hard work with the WIBN.

### **Scholastic Leadership Academy:**

Mike gives an update on the scholastic CEO leadership academy and the progress. We just did a pilot program out in Nebraska this week. We hope to launch several more pilots in the fall with a full launch in the Spring of 17.

## **New Business:**

Mike asks the constituent groups to provide any updates they have in their respective areas if they have anything to add.

- Scholastic: George Way gives an update on the initiatives of the scholastic state chairs. Lots of focus on growth of wrestling and combatting the forfeit issue. In addition, talked about prospective rule changes at the scholastic level we would like to see
- NFHS: Elliott Hopkins reported that NFHS Participation numbers are down again for the boys side but happy to report that the girls numbers are up. We are continuing to monitor participation and how we can grow it. He also reported an update on the possible uniform change.
- NCAA: Anthony Holman gave a short update on the NCAA's at Madison Square Garden. He touched base on what he will be speaking to the DI Coaches about on Saturday of the convention. He mentioned that combined championship format which includes both duals and tournaments is still on the table.
- NCWA: Jim Guinta reports the growth of the NCWA. In 2016-17, all NCWA teams will be members of the NWCA.
- NWHOF: Terry Shockley reports on the new upgrades to the NWHOF building. He mentioned that it was open at Hall of Fame weekend and it is very stunning.

## **Other:**

Mike Moyer thanks Mark Cody for his years of service to the NWCA and serving as president. Tom Ryan will officially take over as president and Pat Popolizio as President-Elect.

Mark Cody thanks everyone and asks if there is any additional comments. With no additional comments, the board meeting is adjourned at 8:55PM.

