

NWCA Board Meeting Minutes
August 3, 2017
Daytona Beach, FL

Attendance: Mike Moyer, Jim Fallis, Pat Tocci, Don Shelly, Pat Popolizio, Tom Ryan, Darrell Randall, Joe Geiger, Terry Shockley, Nick Mitchell, Jeff Voss, Dennis Stromie, Anthony Holman, Jim Guinta, Nathan Shearer, Elliot Hopkins, Carl Murphree, Dave Crowell, Craig Hanson, Joe Renfro, Brett Clark, Jason Wartham, Rich Bender

Meeting to Order:

Tom Ryan is running late due to a probable with his flight, so Pat Popolizio calls the meeting to order. Pat thanks everyone for attending and appreciates the work of the board.

Executive Director Report:

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

- 15 New programs in 2017-18; NWCA instrumental in getting start up fund; 170 new programs since 2001
- New program at Fresno State
- Over 600 coaches will now have gone through the college CEO Leadership Academy
- APR numbers are improving
- Concerns with college include the loss of Boise State and distribution of new revenue share formula and how the wrestling APR could be impacted.
- Women's wrestling is continuing to grow; Working towards NCAA emerging sports status. Application has been applied to the NCAA
- Participation numbers are dropping at the scholastic level which is concerning. The NWCA has commissioned a Blue Ribbon Task Force to look at this
- The Blue Ribbon Task for college is in its final stages and will give an update later
- NWCA getting ready to launch a high school CEO Program as we have a shortage of well-trained coaches
- Have agreed in principal to having Wrestlers in Business Fall under the NWCA umbrella

Approve Strategic Plan:

Mike Moyer presents the Strategic Plan for approval.

Mike hits on the highlights of the strategic plan that was close to what was in the Executive Directors Report.

Mike reviews the main goals of the strategic plan that includes:

- 500 coaches for the scholastic CEP Academy
- Increase in revenue for the Track Wrestling partnership
- Goal Recommendations of the Scholastic Blue Ribbon Task Force
- Expand the number of WIBN Chapters to 20
- 10 new college men's and women's programs
- Establish leadership groups for each collegiate division
- Increase the number of individuals using the NWCA Coaching Education programs

A motion was made by Joe Geiger to approve the strategic plan. Motion was 2nd by Pat Popolizio

Motion to pass the 2017-18 Strategic Plan and Goals was approved unanimously

Board Action Items:

Approval of Minutes:

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

A motion was made by Jeff Voss to approve the minutes. Motion was 2nd by Joe Geiger/

Motion to pass the 2016 Board Meeting Minutes passed unanimously

Approval of 2017-18 Budget

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

- Possible loss of 12,000 in fiscal year 2017
- Still have an outstanding sponsor we are waiting on for 30K that could impact the final number if it does not come through
- Lost money on the scholastic CEO Academy
- Additional staffing changes resulted in a bigger loss of the fiscal number
- Challenges with sponsors around the national duals
- Very reliant on donations

Don and Darrell present the 2017-18 budget. Key points included:

- Showing a small profit for the year
- Need to replace revenue for the DI Duals
- Continuing to be reliant on several large donors
- 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 2nd Jon McGovern.

The motion to approve the 2017-18 budget was approved unanimously.

Approval of WIBN & NWCA Resolution

Joe Geiger presents to the board, the WIBN-NWCA Resolution that was presented to the NWCA. The board is asked to sign a document that they approve the merger of WIBN into the NWCA. The final logistics of the process will be handled by the NWCA Executive Committee. The full board is approving the concept of the merger and the Executive Committee will be handle all the facets of the merger.

Anthony Holman asks what liabilities financial and otherwise the NWCA might have. Darrell Randall expresses there is no risk to the NWCA and only has upside for the NWCA.

A motion was made by Jim Guinta to approve the WIBN-NWCA Merger resolution and was 2nd by Craig Hanson.

The motion to approve the merger was approved unanimously and all forms were signed and provided to the NWCA Staff.

Approval of By-Law Changes:

Two by-law changes were submitted to the board for approval:

4.2.1. At Large Members of Board: The Board of Directors must elect a minimum of One (1) at-large board members who must be a college administrator and four (4) business leader with a wrestling background. The board may add up to (5) additional at-large members with two (2) of those spots being allocated to Division I head coaches. The members selected must possess qualities capable of enhancing the work of the Corporation.

6.1 Executive Committee. The Executive Committee in intervals between meetings of the full Board of Directors shall possess and exercise all of the powers of the Board of Directors in the management, direction and control of the operations, business and affairs of the Corporation, such manner as the Executive Committee shall deem in the best interests of the Corporation, except the Committee shall not have the authority to amend the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws, adopt a plan of merger or consolidation; sell, lease, exchange or dispose of all or substantially all of the assets of the Corporation other than in the usual and regular course of business. The designation of such Committee shall not operate to relieve the Board of Directors, or any member thereof, of any responsibility imposed by law. The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors shall consist of the President, President Elect, Past President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Scholastic Board Member, WIBN Business Leader and addition members from the board not to exceed three (3) nominated by the President and approved by the Board of Directors. Ex-Officio members of the committee are the Executive Director, Deputy Director, Assistant Treasurer/Assistant Recording Secretary, and the Assistant to the Executive Director (Scholastic Affairs) who are without voting powers.

A motion was made by Darrell Randall to approve the two by-law changes. Elliott Hopkins 2nd the motion.

Anthony Holman asks if the President should have sole discretion of selecting a member to the Executive Committee. Pat explained that the executive committee is his/her working committee and has autonomy in that. The members of the executive committee must come from the full board in which the board approves.

Motion to approve the two by-laws approved unanimously.

Approval of New Board Members:

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

- Paul White – Retired Coach
- Shawn Weltzin – Scholastic
- Ron Higdon – Scholastic
- Jonathan Koch – At-Large

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

The motion to approve all four board members listed above to the NWCA Board of Directors was approved unanimously.

Discussion Topics:

Position Statements:

Headgear

Mike speaks about the potential NCAA Rule that would make the headgear optional. Mike speaks about the concerns he hears when speaking to campus leaders about this. The NWCA has developed a position statement that would encourage the use of headgears at all times.

Anthony Holman speaks on this and gives an update on the NCAA rule. He says this was not approved but there would be nothing wrong with still putting out the position statement.

Since this will not be a rule, the board will not come out with a position statement on the headgear.

Women's Wrestling

The NWCA has developed a board position statement on Girl/women's Wrestling:

“The NWCA is committed to doing everything possible to foster the growth of girls/women's wrestling at every level.”

Terry Shockley speaks about the sense of urgency on female wrestling. There is a prevailing attitude towards it now and we need to jump on it.

Jim Guinta talks about his growth of wrestling at the NCWA Division.

Mike makes mention that with emerging sports status, we should see an explosion of growth at the high school level and will see many more programs added.

The board is in approval of the board statement to promote women/girl's wrestling

High School Wrestlers in College Open

Jim Fallis gives some background on the new NCAA Rule that will allow high school wrestlers to compete in college opens.

Anthony intervenes that their group has been working on this and gives some history of how we got to this point. They are trying to find a solution for this year and then put in legislation for future years.

Jim Fallis says in conversation that Greg Dana mentioned the use of performance standards as a way to ensure that high school wrestlers were not entered but wanted to be concerned that it is not so restrictive it prevents red-shirt or current collegiate athletes competing.

Jim G asks about just putting in something that says just make it a collegiate open. It is explained that the word collegiate would then make it restrictive.

All of the board is in agreement that high school wrestlers should not be competing in opens. The group was in approval of the following position statement:

“The NWCA Board of Directors is opposed to allowing high school wrestlers to compete in college open tournaments during the regular season.”

Blue Ribbon Task Force:

Scholastic:

Jim gives an update that we had an initial meeting of the Scholastic Blue Ribbon Task force in Providence in July. It was a productive first meeting and we are now on the move putting together committees and groups to help move it forward.

College:

Jim Fallis provides an update on the Blue Ribbon Task Force and where the committee is at in the process. He mentions that the BRTF is closer to some resolutions.

This would include the following areas:

- Recruiting Calendar
- One Semester Sport
- Change of Calendar for the Season
- National Duals after the regular season

These ideas all had strong support of the BRTF.

In addition, looking at having a summit with compliance officers to discuss other issues such as the Regional Training Centers. The Regional Training Centers have lots of good upside but there are some other areas that need to be looked at closer. This would tie into a National Development oversight committee.

Nick Mitchell brings up concerns about the other divisions and how this might impact them. He has concerns in that they wrestle a lot of DI teams and this would impact that. The concern is that other division are not being

taken into account as the BRTF moves forward with recommendations on changes of the season.

It is agreed that this is a valid concern but we need to look at moving this long for DI as that is where it is needed most right now.

The other divisions would have the option of looking to change as well later.

Old Business:

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:

Coach of the Year Process:

Jim Fallis gives an update on a change to the Coach of the Year voting process for each division. Jim mentions that he is working with the leadership groups of each division to develop this process. The hope is to have a Coach of the Year that encompasses the entire season.

Committee Group to Develop Marketing Campaign:

Mike mentions that we want to develop a committee that would develop a social media marketing campaign around wrestling. One thought would be 'WhyWeLoveWrestling'

Joe Geiger mentions that we should look at using 'Wrestling MATters'

Mike says we will reach out to the board and see who would like to work on this project.

Constituent Groups:

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 reports that we have made a change to the uniform for this upcoming season
- USA Wrestling: Rich Bender gives an update on the success of USA Wrestling and the upcoming World Championships
- NCWA: Jim Guinta reports the growth of the NCWA and a 172 schools for the NWCA

Other:

No additional business was discussed.

Tom Ryan thanks everyone and adjourns the meeting.