

NWCA Full Board Meeting
August 6, 2009
Fort Lauderdale, FL

Attendees: Pat Tocci, Mike Moyer, Tammy Tedesco, Jerry Fulmer, Pat Pecora, Les Combs, Randy Steward, Bob Colgate, Steve Garland, Dan Zottarelli, Rich Bender, Neil Turner, Jack Childs, Shawn Kelley, Rob Koll, John Cook, Jim Beichner, Jay Hammond, Jason Borrelli, Joe McFarland, Dave Kemmey, Roger Crebs, Darrell Randall, Brad Traviolia, Jim Makovsky, Dan Hinkel, Dave Pacheco, Paul White and Brian Anderson

Jim Beichner opens the meeting at 1:15pm and welcomes everyone to the board meeting. Jim has everyone make introductions.

Jim mentions that Rob Koll will be here in place of Jay Weiss and Jason Borrelli will be here in place of Jim Zalesky.

Prior to starting the board meeting, Jim gives congratulation to Mike Moyer and the NWCA staff on the college coach's academy. He mentions that it was a great success and we should all take pride in it.

Board Action Item:

Mike Moyer introduces Joe Geiger to the board. Mike is making a proposal to have Joe join the board as an at-large board member. Joe is currently the Executive Director of PANO and would bring wealth of non-profit knowledge to the association. Joe gives a few words to the board on his background and then leaves the room. Mike and Darrell reiterate the strengths that Joe would bring to our board. They believe this is a crucial board position. No further discussion.

Jack Childs makes a motion to accept Joe Geiger as an at-large board member to the NWCA board of directors. Rich Bender seconds the motion. The motion to accept Joe Geiger to the NWCA Board of Directors passes unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

The board is asked to review the 2008 board minutes. John Cook is listed twice in the attending section.

Shawn Kelly makes a motion to accept the 2008 board minutes as written. Joe McFarland seconds the motion. Motion to accept the 2008 board minutes passes unanimously.

Executive Director Report:

Mike gives an overview of his Board of Director report. The NWCA will be centering themselves around three main cornerstones:

- Coaching Development
- Student-athlete welfare
- Promotion of wrestling

Everything the NWCA does should fall under one of these three areas. We should be using those three areas as our guiding principles when making decisions on the association.

Darrell reinforces that we should be doing everything that centers around the coaches. As we developed and institute new programming and initiatives it should be through the coach. The consensus in the room is that they agree with this notion.

Mike gives a quick overview of the coach's leadership academy and what we are trying to do with our live scorebook system. The live scorebook system will be integrated with Live Sports Video.

Mike thanks his staff for their time and efforts.

Board Re-structure plan:

Darrell presents a plan to the full board about re-structuring the current structure and make-up of the board. The synopsis would be to reduce the total number of board members from 32 to 28. This would include reducing the number of college board members, eliminating the NWOA, NWMA and retired coaches. We would then add four additional scholastic board members and a youth wrestling position. The idea would be that we have 9000 high school coaches across the country for only four board members.

In addition, we are trying to start making progress in the youth community.

Darrell speaks about the trend to reduce board sizes and we are trying to get the right mix. Rich Bender speaks that USA Wrestling is currently looking at reducing their board as well.

Jim Beichner speaks about the need to have the right size board to manage which Brian Smith agrees about. Brad Traviolia mentions that believes that the re-structuring has a good re-alignment but would have some concerns about eliminating certain board positions. Jack Childs also says that he has concerns about eliminating certain board positions and that in the future we might not get their support.

Roger Crebs speaks about decreasing the number of Division I members to 3 or 4 and not two. Jim Makovsky brings up a concern about Division II and NAIA constantly increasing the number of member schools and being to add new board members in the future. Roger believes we would need to revisit this every year.

Joe Geiger speaks that since this is the first time the board is seeing the document there is some concern and trepidation. Joe mentions that we should not vote on an item that comes up at the board meeting. All voting items should have at least a ten day period to be reviewed.

Joe Geiger makes a motion that any voting items should have at least a 10-day review period prior to being voted upon. The motion is 2nd by Dave Kemmey.

The board believes this would be beneficial but is not always practical with our board. The concern would be certain items would not be able to be voted on. Joe Geiger agrees and understands where the board is coming from and agrees to withdraw the motion.

Joe Geiger removes his motion for the 10-day review period.

Joe Geiger makes a recommendation of putting together a task force to further study the board re-structure plan. The task force would present their finding or recommendations at a later time to the full board. Depending on the recommendations the full board would have the opportunity to vote on this.

Shawn Kelly makes a motion that we put together a task force to look further into the board re-structure plan. The motion is 2nd by Dave Kemmey. The motion to have a task force look at a board re-structure plan is approved unanimously.

By-law change:

Darrell Randall makes a recommendation for a by-law change of 5.2.12, 7.1.6 and 8.4. The reason for the by-law change is to reflect the same protocol for the NWCA President, Executive Director or both to sign/execute agreements.

Joe McFarland makes a motion to accept the wording changes for by-law 5.2.12, 7.1.6 and 8.4. The motion is 2nd by Steve Garland. The motion to accept changes to by law 5.2.12, 7.1.6 and 8.4 is approved unanimously.

Ethics Component:

Mike Moyer introduces Todd Hibbs to come in and talk about the ethics component. Todd gives an overview of “Wrestling with Ethics” draft code of conduct starting point. Todd mentions how he has spoke with General Steele about integrity and the importance of relationships. For the leadership academy to have credence and weight, it must have an ethics standard to it. Todd speaks about how most universities have an ethics committee and the need of the NWCA having one.

Joe Geiger and Brad Traviolia agree with the draft of the ethics piece.

The concern many of the board members express is how to handle ethical behavior by fellow coaches and the NWCA being an enforcement agency.

Jim Beichner makes a recommendation that we create a task force to review the draft and report back by next year's convention with their findings. The task force will be made up of Todd Hibbs, Dan Zottarelli, Randy Steward, Jim Makovsky and Shawn Kelley.

Revenue:

Pat Tocci gives a detailed overview of the new live scorebook system. He speaks about the features for this and what would believe the financial possibility of it could be. Pat also reviews the other revenue generating items: This would include the following: Scholastic and collegiate resource manuals, and the coaching technique library.

Pat also talks about how the system will be integrating with Live Sports Video. Live Sports Video has come on a partner of the NWCA in helping launch the scorebook. They have committed a 150K to this project.

Scholastic Reps:

John Cook gives an overview of the scholastic reps. John reviews their duties and responsibilities. He then asks the college coaches if they know someone who could be a good state rep to please let John know.

Membership Report:

Pat Tocci gives a membership report. Membership continues to hold strong each year. We have a seen a small decrease in the number of retired coaches and officials members.

We are seeing more and more college institutional assistants being added to the membership.

It is thought that we should make a more concentrated effort on trying to get retired coaches and officials signed up as members.

Coaching Development:

Neil Turner gives an overview of the NWCA Coaching Development program on the scholastic community. Neil talks about how we have partnered with the NFHS in launching the NFHS Fundamentals course. The hope is that this course will become part of a requirement to coach at a high school. The NWCA receives a royalty check for each coach that takes the course. The NWCA was one of the first sport groups to partner with the NFHS on this.

Neil also reviews the courses we have launched with Teknow training. The courses that launched with Teknow include: Best Practices for the Recruitment and Retention of wrestlers ages 6-12 and 13-18 and Reducing Risk and Liability in Wrestling.

These courses are also available online. The NWCA also receives a royalty for each course that is taken.

Wrestling Center of Excellence:

Mike Moyer gives an overview of a proposal which is in the manual. The proposal is that the wrestling group from Princeton will develop a program that can be used to grow wrestling at all levels. The program would be a collaborative effort between the PAWS group and the NWCA. The PAWS group will help solicit donations that can be used to underwrite the partnership. The cost would be zero to the NWCA.

Mike asks for feedback on the program. Everyone on the call believes the program is a no-brainer and would be a great thing for the NWCA. Mike will execute the program with the PAWS group.

WIN Magazine Partnership

Bryan Van Kley of WIN Magazine makes a proposal to the NWCA about combining our membership with their magazine subscription. The idea would be the NWCA would increase the cost of their membership and every NWCA Member would receive a free WIN Magazine. Bryan spoke about our current dues are cheaper than the majority of the coaches associations. The concern from the board is how it would be perceived to increase our membership dollars. The idea is that we would be able to get our word and message of the association out to the membership. In addition, all of our people who get a free membership as part of doing the OPC would see a positive benefit. We would be able to sell what we are about. The board agrees that it would be hard to increase our dues at this time. Mike says that he will explore a little further possible sponsorships to cover the cost. We will continue to look into and report back later.

Financial Report:

Prior to giving the financial report Pat reports that we need would like to make a by-law change. We want to change our by-laws to reflect a new ending to our fiscal year to go from July 1 – June 30.

Joe Geiger makes a motion to approve our by-law change of 8.1. The motion is 2nd by Dave Kemmey. The board approves unanimously to change by-law 8.1 to go from July –June 30.

Pat gives a quick introduction to Jerry Fulmer before giving the financial report. Pat also gives a letter to the full board from treasurer Bob DeHaven, who apologized for not being able to attend but has reviewed the current financials and the 2009-10 budget. Bob had approved both financial reports.

Jerry gives an update on the current financial report to the board. He believes that we will be close to break even at the end of the fiscal year.

Jerry then proceeds with the 2009-10 budget review. The 2009-10 budget will be a 10-month budget.

Mike expresses his concern that we still have a major dependency on donations. We need to look at other avenues (scorebook, manuals, etc) and coaching development to reduce this dependency.

Joe Geiger makes a motion to accept the 2009-10 budget report. The motion is 2nd by Dave Kemmey. The board approves unanimously to accept the 2009-10 budget.

Committee Reports:

Pat Tocci asks the board to review the committee reports in the book:

- All-academic
- Coaching Awards
- Ranking Committee – Pat mentions the NWCA will cease doing individual rankings since InterMat has been shut down
- Legislative
- Marketing
- Newsletter
- Technology

Pat asks if there are any questions to the committee reports which there are none.

Collegiate Board Member Reports:

- **Division II:** Pat Pecora gives a Division II report. He mentioned that he felt that the Division II Sports festival was a success. He talks about how Division II wrestling is growing at a rapid pace. It is growing in large part that many Division II schools are enrollment driven schools. Pat also expresses some concern about what would happen if wrestling goes to a one semester sport for DII.
- **Division III:** Dave Kemmey says he has nothing to add to the committee report in the book.
- **NAIA:** Shawn Kelley says that the only thing he has to add to his report is that some schools are being affected by the economy. We need to be aware of how schools are being affected by the economy.
- **CCC:** Dave Pacheco says he has nothing more to add to the report that is in the book
- **NJCAA:** Ron Mirikitani reviews his report and the schedule for next year.

Affiliate Reports:

- **USAW Wrestling:** Rich Bender has nothing more to add to his USAW report
- **NFHS:** Bob Colgate reviews his report in the book. Bob mentions the hot topic the NFHS is looking at is changing weight classes. Bob mentions that the NWCA assisted in providing assessment data to the NFHS. It will be in their hands to review it and report back next March. A decision will be made in April. Bob also talks about the new rule with the optional start.
- **Media:** Jay Hammond reviewed the report that was prepared by Johnny Johnson and Jason Bryant.
- **Retired Coaches:** Dan Hinkel was not at the board meeting. The committee was told his report is in the binder.
- **NWHOF:** The board reviewed the NWHOF report and their funding request. The funding request was absorbed into the 2009-10 budget.
- **NWOA:** BOD was told that no report was submitted for the officials association.
- **Scholastic:** John Cook and Neil Turner give a short update on the scholastic reps. Turner reviewed how we are trying to work more closely with state coaches associations and become more joined at the hip. The hope would be to further develop the relationships with the coaches in those states.

NCAA Wrestling Committee Report:

Brad Traviolia gives a report from the NCAA wrestling committee. Brad believes that wrestling needs to start thinking outside the box. We need to find new ways to market the sport and use the championships as a tool for marketing the sport. Brad mentions that he is not going to talk much about the change of season because we will talk about it a lot at the convention.

Discussion turns to creating a recruiting blackout period during the convention. The hope would be by having the blackout period more coaches would be able to attend the convention. They would not have an excuse that they are out recruiting. Rob Koll does not believe we should be creating additional rules. This year's convention is going to be the best attended. Lot of this has to do with the leadership academy and the fact we have really good discussion topics. If there is strong topics, coaches will support the convention.

Shawn Kelley mentions that groups like the NAIA, NJCAA and CCC could conduct their business meeting in conjunction with the convention.

The ultimate goal is to get more coaches to focus on 3 days a year at the convention to address issues and work with others.

Everyone agrees this should be a goal.

Event Reports:

Due to time constraints the board was asked to just review the event reports. There were no questions or concerns with any of the event reports.

Change of Season:

Mike Moyer reviewed the change of season concept. The idea would be to move the season six weeks later. The NCAA wrestling committee and the NWCA worked together as a task force. Mike reviewed the guiding principles of why a change of season would be important. This would include academics, shortening the season, a national dual meet championship and getting away from March madness.

The one major downside is that the championships are doing very well.

The idea would be to do it for a couple years and see how it goes. If it does not go well, then we change it back for a couple years.

Some of the coaches in other divisions express their concerns. They are concerned how it might affect their division.

The board members feel this is something we should continue to vet to our general membership.

College Sports Council:

Eric Pearson from the College Sports Council was invited to speak to the board about a funding request for the College Sports Council. Eric gave an overview of Title IX and its urgency. In addition, Eric brought a letter of support from Dennis Hastert on their initiatives. Eric spoke about how wrestling is under great threat. The CSC needs monetary support. They need the money so they can be out in front of the media. They are requesting a 25,000 a year for three years. They are looking for leadership from the wrestling community.

Eric was asked what other sports groups have been donating. Eric mentions that gymnastics is the one sport that is stepping up. He did not give a dollar figure. The BOD also asked what they would do with the funding. Again, Eric spoke about the PR side and being out in the media.

The BOD thanked Eric for his time and they said the BOD would discuss it further.

After Eric left the room, the BOD supported the CSC and Eric. Everyone agrees what they are doing is good but is it something we want to support. We are currently putting

the majority of our resources into saving wrestling into programs such as the college coach's leadership academy.

Everyone in the meeting agrees that we should be putting our focus on those areas. The concern is that in our budget.

The BOD said they would like to do something but we need to research it more. We should see what other groups are going to step up and support the CSC. If other groups support the CSC, then the NWCA could make a donation as well.

Jim Beichner also mentions that if we feel very strongly about it, we could all donate the stipend checks back and that would raise almost 15K.

The BOD decides that the best bet would be to have a committee that Jim Beichner will put together later that will review the request. The committee will report back later.

Other:

Due to the length of the meeting, Jim Beichner requests that the meeting be adjourned. The executive committee will then have the responsibility to vote on the coaches awards and any site selections for the All-Star Classic.

Jim Beichner asks if there is any other questions or requests.

With none, the 2009 NWCA Board of Directors meeting is adjourned at 7:14.

The minutes from the August 6, 2009 NWCA Full Board Meeting have been reviewed and approved by the NWCA Board of Directors.

NWCA Secretary

Date