

**2009 TX-USA Youth Folkstyle Division Annual Meeting  
 July 18, 2009  
 Carver Library  
 Austin, Texas**

Call to Order – 11:56am – Wayne Hill

1. Roll Call – Team (#present plus proxies) 62 total votes

<b>Club</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Votes (present+proxies)</b>
Aawa Bailey Wrestling Club	C	3
Capital City Wrestling Club. Inc.	C	2
Lake Travis Wrestling Club	C	1
LCP Wrestling	C	2
New Braunfels Wrestling Club	C	2
San Antonio Wrestling Club	C	3
Vista Ridge Youth Wrestling Club	C	3
Westlake Youth Wrestling Club	C	3
Wildcat Wrestling Club	C	1
Eastside Wildcats/team El Paso	FW	3
El Paso Spartan Wrestling Club	FW	1
El Paso Westside Wizards Wrestling Club	FW	3
Allen Eagles Youth Wrestling (ASA)	N	3
Arlington Storm Wrestling Club	N	3
Dallas Dynamite	N	2
Frisco Bombers Wrestling Club	N	3
High Voltage Wrestling Club - Keller Central	N	1
Mckinney Mat Rats Wrestling Club	N	2
Cy-fair Wrestling Club	S	3
Space City Wrestling Club	S	1
Spring Klein Wrestling Club	S	3
Texans Lone Star Wrestling Club	S	1
The Ranch Wrestling Club	S	3
Dumas Youth Wrestling Club. Inc.	W	2
Randall Youth Wrestling Club	W	3
Sandpitt Wrestling Club	W	2
West Amarillo Wrestling Club	W	3

2. Minutes from 2008 Annual Meeting – Motion made to accept minutes from 2008 Annual Meeting as posted. 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
PASSED by voice vote.

3. Region Reports:

a. Far West (El Paso) – Sergio Martinez

About 300 wrestlers. Only held 4 local tournaments this year as having problems w/ facilities. Also, very difficult getting officials and have had to pay large fees for officials. Sun City – increased entries by adding to Rookie tournament. Made about \$1,000 on the tournament.

Account balance is \$5,000 (still need to donate to Team Texas).

State Tournament -

Had problems w/ awards, still need to order patches.

Made about \$3,000.

b. Central – Debbie McLemore; financials – Jim Dorsey

Membership continues to grow in all areas - ~670 wrestlers, 19 clubs, 90 coaches. Held 5 local tournaments plus Heart of Texas/Novice State. Also held Purler Foundation Wrestling Camp over the Christmas break. Donated \$1,000 to Middle School Duals and Fargo, \$500 to Women's team.

Account balance is ~\$6,500 which is down ~\$3,500 after buying one new mat and one used mat. In addition to Team Texas contributions, we also helped sponsor our Middle School Duals wrestlers and our wrestlers.

c. Houston – Doug Koger

Membership up at 538 wrestlers, 73 coaches, same number of clubs. Held 12 local tournaments this year, but did not have a National.

Account balance is \$17,000. We broke even for the year after contributions to Team Texas and loaning money to the state.

d. Jim Curtiss – North

Membership at 1072 wrestlers and 222 coaches. Required coaches to show cards at tournaments which probably increased those numbers. Cotton Bowl had 900 entries and profits used to complete pay off of our 7 mats.

Account balance is ~\$21,000 after a profit of \$13,000 on the year. We plan to purchase clocks for the region for ~\$11,000. Contributed \$2,000 to Middle School Duals, \$1,000 to Fargo, and \$1,000 Women's team. We also have a loan out to the state for \$4,000.

e. West (Amarillo) – Ivy Maye Porter (for Justin Taylor)

Membership at 351 wrestlers which is down again. Held only half as many local tournaments as normal. Panhandle had 656 entries this year without a high school division. Made \$1,230 on the tournament after having to pay for extra awards (HWT). Bought 2 mats and a copier for the region.

Account balance is \$2,013. Also have \$4,000 out on a loan to the state.

4. State Report – Wayne Hill

After a lot of effort we finally paid off the 2008 Team Texas Fargo expenses except for loans from several regions.

Louie Martinez reported the State financials will be included at the September State meeting after all the FS/GR Team Texas books are closed and the region reports are in. Questions about when will tax returns be filed, and have they been filed for previous years?

Reported that TX-USA fiscal year through the end of August. The 2007 returns were filed and 2008 will be filed in October.

## 5. Old Business

### a. All tournaments must be done online entry/reporting system.

Wayne Hill: Not followed last year, particularly at the beginning of the season. This caused a number of issues with verifying qualifiers. Several regions/teams had problems getting training and learning the system. What penalties should we have for tournaments that don't use the system this year?

Rule is already in place for this - tournament does not count as a state qualifier.

Concern that this punishes all of the kids who wrestled and don't have any control over the tournament.

Discussion about not paying the host club unless results are posted. This is also in the rules already, although that rule does not mention the online system.

Penalizing the host club does not help with trying to figure out qualifiers.

Whatever the rule/penalty, there needs to be a time limit to getting the results posted.

Note - may need some way for the region director to get into a tournament to correct mistakes in the entries/weights/results.

Jim Dorsey: Motion that results must be posted within 8 days after the tournament in order for the host club to receive payment for the tournament. 2nd Jason Burns.

PASSED by show of hands.

### b. "On-site" weigh-ins.

Wayne Hill: How did the weigh-ins go with the new rule?

No issues or concerns reported.

### c. Wrestlers who have not wrestled by Jan 1st must make scratch 3 times - how is this being enforced?

This is being enforced. Jim Dorsey gave examples from Heart of Texas and a local tournament where other regions called to confirm their wrestlers made scratch weight to qualify for regionals under this rule. Wayne Hill also confirmed examples.

Tom Rodenbaugh is working on the online system to automatically flag wrestlers who need to make scratch weight for a given tournament.

Remember the rule is the wrestler must make scratch weight for 3 qualifiers and the regional and state tournaments.

d. We need to clarify the 25 lbs weight difference for Heavyweight at Nationals.

The rule caused some problems at the early Nationals and those tournaments had to buy extra awards to cover the multiple “HWT” divisions.

Ivy Maye Porter: Motion that wrestlers that are more than 25lbs over their HWT opponents be moved to the next age division at their weight. 2<sup>nd</sup> Louie Martinez.

PASSED by roll call 39-20.

Moving up in age is a safety issue as well.

Some tournaments move the wrestler down one weight class if they are forced to go up in age.

Joe Frescas: Motion that HWT wrestler that moved up goes down one weight class. 2<sup>nd</sup> Jason Burns.

PASSED by roll call 30-29.

e. Inner city program.

Wayne Hill: John Reenan voted in last year to get this started. Where are we on this?

Nothing happened – have to have your organization and financial house in order to even talk to anyone. We need to have financial reports and budgets. Tons and tons of grant money available once we get to that point.

How do we find out about this at our club level? There are grant writers that will do this for you but you have to have 501c)3. Websites as well that list available grants and people/organizations.

f. Video telecast of state meetings.

Didn't get done this year but still want to push ahead on this. Initial plan was to have people just viewing at first.

Why wouldn't we allow voting as well? Technology is available – Skype and others.

Elaine Obensham volunteered to provide info for future meetings.

6. New business

a. Weight issues and discussions.

Would we like to change our weights to get in line with USA Wrestling? This could potentially bring more people to our Nationals.

Do they cover the same ages as we have? USAW folkstyle tour has PeeWee as a modified age group to cover our Tots.

Weights start higher than TX-USA which hurts small wrestlers.

But bigger delta between weight classes should make for larger brackets.

Would make it easier for HS kids since cadet weights line up with HS.

Motivation is that it would attract out of state wrestlers. Currently get several calls about the weights for Cotton Bowl not matching up. Teams don't come because they would have to cut weight.

This is a big change for weight AND age. Need to understand what the impact will be.

USA Wrestling previously told us for insurance purposes that we couldn't combine age and weights if we were using their divisions.

Ivy Maye Porter: Motion that discussion be tabled to next year. 2nd Michael Moreno.

PASSED by roll call.

Eric Medlin volunteered to drive information gathering for next year.

- b. What can we do to help the South Region? Would putting the National back help or would getting the membership numbers up help them the most?

Spring-Klein is doing OK now.

Losing Houston Nationals hurt the region financially and psychologically.

Randy McLemore: Motion that both Heart of Texas and Houston Nationals be included in National Award points. 2<sup>nd</sup> Doug Koger.

PASSED by voice vote.

Ty Wilcox: Motion that all National tournaments have the same point system. 2<sup>nd</sup> Elaine Obensham.

PASSED by voice vote.

- c. Clarify Rookie/Novice/Open requirements.

Multiple issues at Rookie State with experienced wrestlers competing in Rookie. Have every R/N wrestler have a form signed by coach and parent stating wrestler meets qualifications.

Can we track with USA cards?

No, because rule allows practice as long as they don't compete. We don't have info on cards from other states. They may have wrestled AAU or school.

Rule is pretty clear, but now we are getting BJJ, judo, grappling. What do we do about those?

Also, some kids only practice and don't wrestle matches.

Kids that are practicing should not be counted as rookie.

Need to clarify one way or the other about the other styles.

What is the penalty for competing in the wrong division (intentionally)?

Needs to be disqualification for season. Similar to statement on regional entry form about falsifying information

Ivy Maye Porter: Motion that every wrestler must complete a standard state form signed by the coach and parent stating they meet the qualifications for TX-USA Rookie/Novice/Open classes. 2<sup>nd</sup> Leo Sandoval.

PASSED voice vote.

Clarification: penalty for falsifying form is disqualification for the season as is on the regional form.

d. State awards – Wayne Hill

i. Make Ironman a State award.

Program started in Central Region to encourage participation. Would like to make it a State award.

Motivation for Ironman is to increase participation for all levels of wrestlers.

As a parent, how do we find out about these awards? No information at all about any of this on the website.

Everything about the website is currently dead.

Debbie McLemore: Motion that the Ironman award for participation in all 5 nationals be included in the State awards to be paid from State tournament. 2<sup>nd</sup> (many).

PASSED by voice vote.

ii. Standard state awards

Do we want a consistent award/trophy for state tournament every year.

Kids like to see different awards from year to year.

Would like to see a minimum quality for placers.

Ivy Maye Porter : Motion that state awards for all places through 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> must be a minimum size. No 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Discussion about award differences between Rookie vs Novice vs Open.

Could require approval by the youth board just to make sure they meet an acceptable standard.

Doug Koger: Motion that awards for State Tournaments must be approved by Youth Board. 2<sup>nd</sup> Jeff Clayton.

PASSED by voice vote.

iii. State wrestler of the year and honor roll awards.

One wrestler wins 3 of the awards.

If he earned them he should get them.

The Texas National Wrestler of the Year is already THE award. Make a big deal about this, but give another wrestler the lower awards.

Jim Dorsey: Motion that the Texas National Wrestler of the Year does not also receive the Division Wrestler of the Year and instead the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest point total in that age division will receive the Division Wrestler of the Year. 2<sup>nd</sup> (many).

PASSED by voice vote.

e. State issues

Would like to get break down for Fargo from the last 2 years.

About \$60,000 for boys; girls are spending about \$30,000 this year.

Duals are an extra cost that makes it difficult: \$16,000 cadet, \$12,000 junior

Parent board for women's team worked great and we raised all of the money ourselves.

Big issue with Fargo is planning and organization. Lack of planning for boys has wasted tremendous amount of money. I stayed in a nice hotel last year at 1/3 the cost of the terrible hotel the kids stayed in.

Youth need to understand where FS/GR – Fargo, duals – fits in with youth programs.

We all need to be on the same page and working as one organization.

Need to be pushing FS/GR, MSD with kids.

Fundraising needs to start NOW!!

Needs to be pushed on website!!

Cannot stress enough the importance of getting the information out in advance.

f. Website – Tom Rodenbaugh

Someone needs to take it on full time.

Do we want it to be a youth TXUSAW site and refer to ITW for high school.

Still did not have ownership of the txusawrestling.com site until just recently.

What do we want to do with the ~10Gbs of data that exist on the site? Keep as much as possible.

Creating a professional site will cost a significant amount of money. Going to video and automated page generation can be expensive.

Flashy is not the key – we need content and current information.

Advertising can help.

Couldn't we add fee to tournament entries to get the site started?

That shouldn't really be necessary. Prove that we can get the site started and maintain content first.

Jason Burns: Motion that the tournament entry fees be increased by \$1 to fund website. No 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Discussion: isn't there already money for things like the website?

Tabled to state meeting in September.

g. Books for the year need to be at State meeting.

State needs a person to do this quarterly

Regions need to have theirs turned in so state can finish theirs.

h. Proposed Bylaw changes.

Process for changing bylaws.

Review of proposed changes in the state structure and the motivation – making it one organization, increasing participation and opportunities at the state level. Currently, the severe limitation on board members means only 1 or 2 people every 2 years in each region even have the opportunity to serve at the state level. Everyone needs to get a copy, review them, and make comments. There were some major problems, but the response to the concerns has been positive.

- Take out money clause
- Give regions ability to enter contracts

Jim Dorsey: Motion the youth organization formally endorses the proposed structure changes to TXUSA Bylaws and requests Wayne Hill to propose and sponsor the changes at the State meeting in September. 2<sup>nd</sup> J. Curtiss.

PASSED unanimously by voice vote.

7. Middle School Duals report – Dale Harrison  
Great trip again, but tough tournament for teams. Finished 15<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.  
All-Americans – Oliver Pierce, Nick Cobb, Devin Vasquez went undefeated!
8. USA State directors meeting in Orlando 8/20-8/23.  
Proposed \$3 increase to USA Card fee to be discussed.
9. TX-USA National Tournament Dates  
Panhandle Nationals – 11/27-28 in Lubbock  
Sun City – 12/19  
Dollamur/Cotton Bowl – 1/9  
Houston Nationals/Novice State – Still working on facility  
Heart of Texas – planning to work around Houston Nationals/Novice State date
10. Meeting adjourned at 4:30pm.