

2025 OAWA Annual General Meeting Update

Approximately 40 club representatives and others from across Ontario attended the 2025 OAWA AGM. The full meeting minutes will be published when they are available, but here are some Highlights:

1. Motion passed to change how the Athletes' Representative is elected. Moving forward, the Athletes' Representative will be elected every two years at the OAWA AGM.
2. Board of Directors Elections:
 - **Jason O'Neil** was re-elected as **President**.
 - **Robert Parsons** (Bob) was re-elected as **Vice-President Technical**
 - **Alishah Depass** was re-elected at **Vice-President Diversity and Inclusion**
 - **Harvinder Saini** was elected as the **Vice-President Communications and Marketing**.
 - **Gabriel Sementilli** was elected at the **OAWA Athletes' Representative**.

President Jason O'Neil welcomed the new Board members, and thanked Marcus Niemann and Ligaya Stinellis for their time on the Board as outgoing Vice-President Communications and Marketing and Athletes' Representative respectively

3. Beginning with the 2026 OAWA Membership Year, the OAWA will add a \$5.00 surcharge to all members' fees. This money will go into a dedicated reserve for athlete development programs including the Canada Summer Games. The Board will report on the use of these funds annually at the AGM.
4. The OAWA will reinstate the ***Ontario Wrestlers' Educational Trust Fund*** for 2025-2026. The OAWA will offer two scholarships to Ontario students entering first or second year of Teachers College in Ontario. Details will be finalized by the OAWA Board of Directors over the summer with the application deadline anticipated for sometime in September.
5. The members agreed to have the Ontario U-17/U-19 Championships (Cadet/Juvenile) hosted at the Markham Pan Am Centre from 2026 to 2028. The location for the event can be revisited for 2029 and beyond. Team Impact will be the host club in 2026, Warriors Wrestling Club will be the host club for 2027, and Independent Wrestling Club will be the host club for 2028.
6. The members deferred the approval of the 2024-2025 Audited statements to a Board of Directors meeting to take place at a later date. This Board meeting will be advertised and open to all members.
7. Provincial sites 2026 and beyond – see below.

8. Elimination of the Red Dot process:

Effective September 1, 2025, the Red Dot Process will no longer be used at OAWA hosted events, or OAWA Sanctioned competitions. All competitors will weigh-in for events.

9. Other: The following discussions also took place:

- OAWA Board of Directors meetings dates will be posted on the OAWA website in advance and will be open on request to any member wishing to attend.
- The OAWA Board of Directors will consider the development of an OAWA Board of Directors' Apprentice position. Alternately, Board members can choose to bring an Assistant on Board to help with their workload and potentially recruit for a future Board position.
- The Board of Directors will look into forming a Committee to consider a format for Rotating Provincial Championships, perhaps Regionally.

PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS SITES				
<u>Current Event Assignments/Status:</u>				
Event	Date	City	Host Club Note	
2026 Ontario Cadet Open/ Juvenile Championships (U-17/U-19)	February 7-8, 2026	Markham	Team Impact	
Ontario Winter Games (<i>Ontario Cadet Championships</i>)	February 26-28, 2025	Orillia	OWG Host Committee	
2026 Ontario Junior & U-15 Champs. & WCL Cadet Open	March 28, 2026	Windsor	Essex County Wrestling Club	
2026 Ontario Senior Open and Youth Festival	May 2, 2026	Sarnia	Sarnia Bluewater Wrestling Club	
<u>Hosting of Events beyond 2026:</u>				
2027 Ontario U-17/U-19	February 6-7, 2027	Markham	Warriors Wrestling Club	
2027 Ontario Junior & U-15 Champs. & WCL Cadet Open	March 27, 2027	Thorold	Brock Wrestling Club	
2027 Ontario Senior Open and Youth Festival	May 1, 2027	Caledonia	Golden Legacy Wrestling Club	
2027 Ontario U-17/U-19	February 5-6, 2028	Markham	Independent Wrestling Club	