

2021 AGM Minutes Saturday, October 2, 2021:

(meeting took place via ZOOM)

1. Opening Remarks/Determination of Voting Privileges Jay O'Neil

Opening

- Jay welcomed everyone.
- He commented how it was nice to see people once again and thanked everyone for their continued efforts during this past year.
- Jay thanked the BOD for all the work they completed during COVID.

Tim read the Land Acknowledgement

2. Roll Call Mark Sementilli

Mark Sementilli called out each club to verify attendance and number of votes.

- 1 Action Reaction – **Late**
- 2 Akhara of Champions
- 2 Brock W.C.
- 1 Carleton
- 1 Essex County W.C.
- 1 Forest City
- 0 Hamilton W.C.- **no proxy**
- 3 Jr. Badgers
- 1 Jr. Celtics
- 1 Jr. Marauders
- 3 K Bay
- 2 Kingston
- 2 L'Essor
- 3 London Western
- 2 Mariposa
- 3 Matmen
- 2 National Capitol
- 1 National Capitol Youth
- 2 Oxel
- 3 Team Impact Kids
- 2 Team Impact Men's
- 1 Team Impact Women
- 1 Tsunami

No Proxies were received prior to the meeting.

Currently there are 22 clubs present – Quorum met

There are 40 possible votes.

Scrutineers' approval

The BOD requested 2 Scrutineers and put forward Ashley Menagh and Bill Hogarth for approval.

Motion

Approve Ashley Menagh and Bill Hogarth to act as scrutineers.

Bob Parsons, Laura Jones-Summers - carried

3. Agenda

Mark Sementilli

- No new business.

Motion

Motion to approve the agenda.

Grant, Bob Parsons – carried

4. Minutes

Mark Sementilli

Motion

Motion to approve the minutes of the 2020 OAWA AGM.

Ken Burgess, Bob Parsons - carried

5. Reports

Various

- President Report
- VP Technical
- VP Coaching
- Registrar
- Program Coordinator
- Provincial Director
- SWO Rep Report
- Other reports - verbal

President Report (Verbal) – Jay O’Neil

- Jay took a moment to thank everyone on the board for all the hard work they did during the challenging times.
- The BOD continued to meet regularly, at times more regularly than before COVID.
- This downtime and these meetings provided a chance to implement the OAWA strategic plan as well as planning for supporting clubs during the challenging time.
- At the same time, working committees were formed to help the OAWA move forward and give more people a voice in how wrestling is presented in Ontario.
 - o Unfortunately, it has been difficult to recruit for many of these positions.
 - o Despite that, some committees are up and running.
 - o Thank you to our board members that are involved as well as the member volunteers.
- Congratulations to Rachna Kumar, who will be representing everyone as the Ontario One Rep with WCL. Unfortunately, this means she has left our board.
- Thank you Rachna, for your time on the BOD and representing Ontario, and thanks to long our standing Rep. John Cook.
- Jay also thanked, Tim MaGarrey for all the time he puts in as our employee, keeping us informed with anything happening in the wrestling community and beyond. This was especially important during COVID times. Tim has done a lot of work with COVID protocol and working with clubs to ensure they opened properly and safely.
- Jay is looking forward to the first OAWA sanctioned event on October 23rd and hopefully we can start looking to the future, putting these very difficult times behind us.
- Jay asked that everyone come together more now than ever, supporting everyone in the wrestling community to succeed and to move forward. This can be accomplished by lending some advice, reach out to local clubs and work in union with each other.
- In conclusion, Jay brought up social media and hoped everyone had been taking advantage of what was being provided as well as the relief being offered over the past year by the OAWA.
- Jay recognized that some clubs had been hit harder than others but hopes that the OAWA can continue to help and push forward. He reminded everyone to reach out and ask for help if needed, the OAWA is there to for support.
- No Questions

Treasurer Report (Verbal) – Sheldon Francis

- Sheldon reported that the OAWA had a large surplus because no programs were run last year.
- The OAWA applied for and received a number of the COVID relief grants as well as a number of other grants.
- This money will allow the OAWA to come out of COVID strong.
 - o Regional camps are already scheduled
 - o Subsidies are being given out to try and grow the membership numbers back to where they should be based on the past.

- Caution is being taken into consideration because we don't know if we're going to have to restart our sport again in the future.
- The plan is to continue to invest in wrestling and development on a slow basis.
- Sheldon thanked Peter Shannon, Derek Kossatz, Ken Burgess and Tim MaGarey for their help with going through some of the investment strategies.
 - Two requested proposals were received as well as one that was initially misplaced.
 - These proposals are being reviewed to make sure that they meet the goals that we wanted to meet, and a determination will be made.
- Sheldon thanked everybody who registered and stayed connected throughout COVID.
 - A lot of the coaches and clubs who registered were able to be helped out through COVID relief funding.
 - The hope is that this will help kickstart your clubs and reaffirm that we were still trying to keep wrestling alive and going during these crazy times.
- No questions

Coaching Development Report (Submitted) – Ken Burgess

- Ken reiterated his report verbally.
- No questions

Women's Development (Verbal) – Kesley Dayler

- Part way through this past year, the committee identified that we weren't getting the retention for the Women's Committee or able to gain momentum with only a few members joining.
- It was decided to combine the Women's committee with the Diversity and Inclusion committee so that as a group, we can work together to develop programming and find grant opportunities to move those objectives forward.
- No questions

Communications and Promotions (Verbal) – Rachna Kumar

- Rachna spoke about her time in her previous role as VP of communication and promotions.
- During this time COVID was a huge focus as was retaining our membership.
- For these reasons, a lot of focus was put towards increasing the OAWA social media presence.
 - This included ensuring that all OAWA members were kept abreast of everything related to what the BOD was doing.
- This work that the OAWA was conducting was achieved via ZOOM, so ensuring that the BOD could move forward from a technical point of view was also part of communications.
- Lastly, was the creation of the Marketing and Retention Committee, which is now up and running.

- Communications and Promotions was able to grow the social media presence, which was outlined in the OAWA 2020-2026 Strategic Plan.
- Rachna thanked everyone for the opportunity, and she felt it was a rewarding experience.
- No questions

Administration Report (Verbal) – Laura Jones-Summers

- As mentioned by others, the BOD met a bunch of times.
- One thing that really helped was that the Strategic Plan had been approved at last year's AGM.
- This allowed the BOD throughout the year, to be able to do an operational plan for the current year including COVID recovery.
 - o Part of this was creating the various committee's giving a voice from the wrestling community.
- Canada Games Coaches for the 2022 Canada Summer Games were selected and they have begun training with the teams.
 - o The Team Manager position still has to be posted which will be done shortly.
- The Human Resources Committee has not had any interest as of yet but will continue to look for candidates.
- With regards to safe sport policies, WCL did finally approve their Safe Sport policy suite this summer.
 - o OAWA will now be able to go through our own policies to ensure they're in line with Canada Wrestling.
 - o Some points will have to be adjusted because of the different demographics of our members.
- Contractor position update
 - o The OAWA has two contracts. During COVID, one contract was canceled, and one was reduced.
 - o The BOD has chosen to keep those same individuals in their position for this year due to the fact that last year they did not get to do their job.
 - o There is also the Webmaster/Social Media Coordinator which helped out significantly over the past year.
- No questions

Provincial Director Report (Submitted) – Tim MaGarrey

- Tim reiterated his report and pointed out some point to look for.
- As Ken has noted NCCP and coaching development has been a real challenge trying to improve access for coaches.
- Along with access, developing facilitators in outlying areas particularly in the North is another issue being worked on.
- In Tim's opinion, the lack of opportunity to train coaches because of issues with WCL's delivery of the program is a lost an opportunity during the pandemic when coaches had ample time.

- Tim then asked for some feedback from the members regarding the Super Weekend being planned on October 23/24 weekend, and if there would be interest in some in person workshops.
 - o After some discussion there were clubs (Ottawa, Mariposa, Team Xtreme) that would be interested in NCCP workshops.
- Tim also asked for feedback on the Ontario Open
 - o The thought is to turn the Ontario Senior Championships and turn it into an Open tournament, encouraging out of province participation.
 - o This would be planned for November 26/27 in Burlington.
- Discussion
 - o Could be some workshops or evaluations on this weekend. Tim will investigate it.
- Tim thanked and pointed out like other reports, the extensive work the BOD conducted during the past year. At times the BOD was meeting every two weeks.
- He also thanked the Treasurer for getting the OAWA in financial shape prior to this.
- No questions

Registration Repot (Submitted) – Bob Parsons

Bob went over some key pints from his report.

- For registration, in 2021 we had 639 registered members (coaches, athletes and officials), way down over last year.
- Thanks to Mariposa for donating their time to take care of registration, verification for WCL events, Canada Summer Games programming as well as invoicing and tracking of payments.
- The OAWA released COVID funds to lower the cost of memberships last year last year to \$25.
- This year the OAWA will still be subsidizing membership and gradually raising it to \$40 for everyone except for tykes who will remain at \$25.
- The registration group is in talks right now with Interpodia.
 - o This is an online registration system that WCL is adopting as well as some of the other provinces.
 - o This will give them a national database.
 - o WCL will be putting most of the money upfront for this.
 - o The OAWA is looking for three or four clubs to do a trial run to see how well it works out.
 - o The goal if the trial goes well is to start using this in the New Year.
- Bob Reminded everyone now that we are starting to check that police clearances are up to date.
- Another reminder to coaches to double check the NCCP lockers to make sure that their certifications have not expired.
- Lastly, for those who have who have registered in September of this year and paid \$25, they will have the option upgrade to the 2021/22 season for an additional \$15.
- No questions.

Technical Programs Report (Verbal) – Bob Parsons

- Bob spoke about the Development Committee.
 - o Like other committees there hasn't been a lot of interest. To date, Bernard Sanchez is the only person who has expressed interest.
 - o If there is no interest the next step will have to be to run this through the BOD.
 - o The committee is looking for coaches from youth to high performance.
- Sanctioned events
 - o This is something that needs to be brought up as a reminder to all clubs.
 - o In Ontario, the PSO's are the only ones allowed to sanction events.
 - o There was an event that ran. The Convener claimed it was sanctioned by a USA company.
 - o US companies are not allowed to sanction events in Ontario.
 - o Events like this are illegal and the board is dealing with this issue.
- Lastly, is USA Wrestling cards.
 - o Bob wants to start discussion on how to handle people that are trying to bypass our provincial sports organizations.
 - o This has happened in the past with teams coming in from Alberta, trying to use USA Wrestling cards by joining another province not of their residence.
 - o Bob is suggesting that for the OAWA to accept an out of province card, that proof of residency need to accompany it.

Motion

To participate in any OAWA event they must be:

1. A current OAWA member
2. A current PTSO (Province, territorial) member and must have proof of residency from that province or territory
3. A recognized UWW National Federation member with proof of residency.

Bob Parsons, Sheldon Francis

Discussion

There was much discussion on USA wrestling and other countries participating in OAWA events.

There was also discussion on foreign athletes and insurance coverage. This is something that will have to be discussed with the OAWA insurance provider for clarification.

Another point that was brought up that will require follow up with WCL, is WCL allowing Quebec clubs participating in WCL events registered with another province. Follow up is required on this with WCL for clarification.

John Cook asked about co-sanctioned events such as university events.

- Tim explained that the OAWA covers the participation of only club members and affiliates in those co-sanctioned events.

Motion

To Table the current motion and defer the matter to the BOD to work on the wording of the motion.

Jay O'Neil, Ken Burgess – carried.

This concluded the Technical Report.

- No further questions or comments

Motion

Motion to accept the reports.

Jay O'Neil, Laura Jones Summers - carried

6. Constitutional Amendments

Jay O'Neil

Two motions have been brought forward by the BOD.

Motion # 1 to amend the OAWA by-Laws:

“To amend the governance structure to keep the VP Coaching on the Board of Directors. Voted in for 1 year (2021-2022) and then every two years thereafter.”

Moved by: Laura Jones, VP Administration

Seconded by: Bob Parsons

- Jay and Laura gave some background on the motion
- Opened for discussion and questions
- No discussion

Carried

Motion # 2 to amend the OAWA by-Laws:

“To amend the OAWA by-Laws as follows: Change the Special Director to a permanent position on the board as a VP Diversity and Inclusion, voted in every 2 years.”

Moved by: Robert Parsons, VP Technical

Seconded by: Ken Burgess, VP Coaching

- Ken Burgess gave some background on the motion.
- Opened for discussion and questions
- No discussion

Carried

7. Elections

Jay O'Neill/Laura Jones-Summers

Jay and Tim went over the protocol of how voting will be conducted.

- For votes that would be like a show of hands, it would be handled verbally and majority rules. If there are little to no objections, then the vote would carry.
- If the voting were to get close, then we go through our email vote process.
- Email has been set up for voting.
 - o When the member sends their vote in, they can note what club they're representing, and the number of votes as highlighted at the beginning of the meeting. This will make it easier for the scrutineers.

Mark updated the Voter list with clubs joining in during the AGM

- Team Xtreme – 1 vote
- Vipers – 3 votes
- Ryerson – 1 vote
- Total votes 44.

Laura took over chair

- Call for nominations
- No nominations were sent in

President

Nomination - Jay O'Neil

Bob Parsons, Sheldon Francis

Acclaimed. Jay accepted and thanked everyone and looks forward to his role moving out of COVID.

Jay resumed Chair

Jay called for Treasurer but there was a typo in listing this position.

Question brought up about the positions up for elections and the by-laws, the by-laws list Secretary as one of the positions.

- By-laws were reviewed.
- It was determined that the Secretary was voted in at 2020 AGM.

- In the By-laws, it appears that two positions are mixed up.
 - o Secretary, President and VP Technical this year
 - o With communications, Admin and Treasurer next year.
 - o It was determined that the rotation for next year's AGM will have to be updated

Voting proceeded

VP Technical

Nomination – Bob Parsons

Ken Burgess, Laura Jones-Summers

Acclaimed. Bob accepted the position.

VP Communication

Nomination – Marcus Niemann

Ken Burgess, Bob Parsons

Acclaimed. Marcus accepted the position.

VP Coaching

Nomination – Ken Burgess

Laura Jones-Summers, Bob Parsons – acclaimed

Acclaimed. Ken accepted the position.

VP Diversity

Nomination – Kelsey Dayler

Chris Stefopoulos, Laura Jones-Summers

Acclaimed. Kelsey Accepted the position.

8. Audit

Tim MaGarrey

Tim made a recommendation

Motion that the members Move to approve Kreston GTA as our auditors for the 2021/22 fiscal year.

Sheldon Francis, Bob Parsons – carried

9. Acceptance of 2020/21 Final Statements

Tim MaGarrey

- Tim presented the audit on the screen for review and has also been available online
- The audit was clean audit.
- Tim recommended approval of the audit
- Questions
 - o Some clarification

Motion Acceptance of the 2020/21 Final Statements

Jay O'Neil, Sheldon Francis – carried

10. Provincial Championships

Jay O'Neil

- Jay wanted to open a discussion with the membership.
- Items to consider:
 - o Do we host and continue hosting at the Markham Pan-Am Centre? This would allow for future planning.
 - o Is this something the membership would support?
 - o Or would the membership like a change each year?
- Tim gave a background:
 - o The OAWA was not able to host the event at the Markham Pan-Am Centre last year because of the lockdown.
 - o February would be the first time.
 - o The facility gives first right of refusal.
 - o If we host it there and we like the facility, then we have to immediately commit for the following year.
 - o The facility is looking for a two-year constant commitment.

Discussion

Question – how will hosting work? Is OAWA hosting?

- No, the plan is to have a central location and various clubs will take turns hosting.
- The host group this year is Team Xtreme.

The direction from the membership is to move forwards with the Markham Pan-Am Centre.

Tim presented events that OAWA is looking for bid. Events looking for hosts and sites:

- 2022 Seniors Open
- 2023 Senior Open
- 2023 Cadet/Juveniles
- 2023 Youth Festival

Discussion

- Brock expressed interest in the Ontario Senior Open 2022
- Nobody expressed interest for the 2023 Cadet Juvenile Championship at the Pa-Am Facility
- National Capital expressed interest in Ontario Youth Festival for 2023.
- Brock expressed interest in the Ontario Senior Open 2023

The expectation is for the clubs that expressed interest to come back to the BOD in the next couple of months with confirmation of venue.

11. Registration

Bob Parsons

This has been covered in Bob Parsons report.

12. Other

Tim MaGarrey

Tim suggested we open the floor for discussion on how each of the clubs are doing. Each club was given an opportunity to speak on how things are going.

Things that were discussed were items such as ideas for facilities, numbers, and roadblocks.

Tim commended the group and was optimistic with how everyone is keeping the sport going.

Jay echoed this and encouraged everyone to work with one another or to reach out to the BOD if anything is needed. He also encouraged everyone to support Matmen and to fill out their questionnaire so they could start plan for their event.

The Forge Tournament was also mentioned as an opportunity for wrestlers to get back on the mat.

13. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn

Bob Parsons, Ken Burgess – Carried