



**OHIO WRESTLING OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING  
February 28, 2004  
SCHOTTENSTEIN CENTER, OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**



President Dick Loewenstine called the meeting to order at 1:30 Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

**Officers Present:** Dick Loewenstine, President; Ron Tschantz, Vice President; Dan Cutcher, Treasurer; Gary Berkowitz, Web Master; Jim Vreeland, Education Chairman; Ray Anthony, Communication Director.

**Associations Present:** **Greater Toledo:** Dan Jaksetic; **Northeast Ohio:** Ray Anthony; **Western Reserve:** Tom Adkins; **Southwestern Ohio:** Bruce Doll; **Eastern District:** Ron Tschantz; **South Shore:** Jim Vreeland; **Greater Cincinnati:** Dick Loewenstine; **NCOWOA:** Tom Strortz; **GCWCOA:** Don Way; **Central District:** Dan Sablosky; **Mad River:** Jack Beard; **West Central Ohio Ass.:** Duane Childers; **NOWOA:** Jim Brhrens; **North West District:** Larry Saxton; **South East Wrestling:** Joan Young; **State Rules Interpreters:** Lyle Smith, Ray Anthony & Vince Matteucci

## **I CALL TO ORDER.**

The meeting was convened by Dick Loewenstine @ 1:30 p.m. after the HOF inductee presentation. Introductions were made.

## **II FINANCIAL:**

Dan Cutcher provided the 2003 Treasurers Report ...Ending balance was \$ 491.60  
Motion to approve by Ron Tschantz and seconded by Dan Jaksetic. Motion passed.

## **III MINUTES:**

Minutes from the November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting were presented for approval. Motion by Jim Vreeland and Seconded by Jack Beard to approve minutes. Motion passed.

## **IV OWOA Business:**

1. Dick Loewenstine expressed best wishes to Vince Matteucci for his dedication and contribution to the sport of wrestling for the past 50 years.
2. Congratulation to the 2004 inductees. Dr. Tom Adkins, Tom Rosa, David Shook and Larry Powell.

**Training Program Update:** Jim Vreeland reported he received confirmation from OHSAA that 170 new officials have gone through the new training program this past year. With Current list of licensed officials, next year with renewals of licenses, we should have over 700 licensed wrestling officials in Ohio.

OHSAA Train the trainers program will be a yearly occurrence. It is a one-day class where Wrestling is now a part of that program. There is no cost associated for those members that want to become certified trainers. This year's Train the Trainer's date is scheduled for July 16<sup>th</sup>. Location will be confirmed and posted on the OHSAA and OWOA website when location is confirmed. The morning part of the train the trainers presentation will be conducted by the OHSAA staff, that consists of the background and history of OHSAA, filling out the paperwork necessary in procedures for enrollment forms and classes, information on NFHS and insurance information. The afternoon wrestling presentation will be conducted by Jim Vreeland and Gary Berkowitz to go over the wrestling training program with new updates.

Lyle Smith and Ray Anthony, State Rules Interpreters will be receiving updates provided during the NFHS summer meeting. Rule updates and changes from that meeting and other Ohio rule changes will be incorporated and made a part of the training manual when the information is available.

Association members that take the train the trainer's class; their respective certification is good for three years before re-certifying is required. We would like each association have at least two "new" trainers to attend the train the trainer's program in Columbus each year. This will help increase the pool and number of trainers certified. More officials that we get involved in the training, the more we can help to groom those individuals to be able to take over the leadership rolls of each respective association. We need to be looking for the "down the road" leaders of our respective associations.

**-Training Video:** Jack Beard, Pat Lemming and others are working to develop a training video. They came up with 29 situations that they want to get on film. The new video will be in a format as "you make the call". Henry and Dr. Maurer were very cooperative to getting several floor passes to allow our people to shoot footage of today's wrestling situations during the state tournament. We want video situations that update "what was done ten years ago as compared to how these situations are calling today... primarily takedowns and near-fall situations, stalling, etc. Hopefully, the group will be able to put the training video together and have it completed, edited and put on disc by the end of the summer to be included with the train the trainer's program updates for next year classes.

Vreeland, mentioned a mentoring program for seasoned officials to take the new official under their wing by going to matches with them and working matches with them.

Jim Vreeland, Communication Director will be e-mailing training updates to all association secretaries and board members.

A letter will be mailed by the OHSAA with the packets to coaches to help ask them to help recruit new officials. "Interested in becoming an official?" will be a flier with the associations in their respective area with whom to contact, including; phone #s and email addresses.

#### **V. OLD BUSINESS:**

- 1) West Central Wrestling Officials Association and Steel Valley Wrestling Officials Association request to join the OWOA. Motion to approve and accept both associations into the OWOA, motion by Bruce Doll, seconded by Jim Vreeland. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **VI. NEW BUSINESS:**

The 2004 O.W.O.A. fall official's clinic will be held on November 13, 2004 the second Saturday in November (**mark your 2004 calendar now to plan to attend**). Requested by Lyle Smith to put the clinic date on the website ASAP and have a mailer sent to all wrestling officials. The purpose of the clinic is to get "all of the officials throughout the state of Ohio to make the same call the same way". State tournament officials, association rules interpreters, new officials and representatives from every association are requested to attend the OWOA clinic.

The OWOA clinic is the vehicle by which officials bring questions on questionable calls, rules, etc that are addressed by both rule interpreters and state officials so that a definitive answer is provided that all officials from across the state can follow. The OWOA clinic is also the last date available to receive the required State rules interpreter meeting before requesting a special rules interpretation meeting at the OHSAA office.

President Loewenstine, reported on the response cards from the 2003 clinic: all responses were very favorable. i.e. Bob Triano and other OWOA presenters and presentations were very well done and thorough, comfortable seating arrangements, break-out sessions were very helpful.

Dan Cutcher, OWOA Treasurer reported that the revenue generated from the clinic brought in about \$1,600.00. The 50/50 raffle money paid for pop and copying expenses. After meal expenses and paying for tickets for HOF members and family at this year's State tournament, plaques, etc. we anticipate approximately an \$800.00 carry-over for next season.

Discussion on topics and speakers for 2004 fall OWOA clinic:

Dan Cutcher: Dr. Randy Wroble, MD will do a session on sports medicine, if requested.

President Loewenstine asked for any person or association to contact him for their help with the clinic, topics and site location.

Suggestion by Dan Jaksetic for a challenge to all associations to bring their new members, and/or make it a mandatory requirement. Lyle Smith made a comment that those officials with less than ten years experience should attend each year. Further discussion on having a role-playing session with coaches and officials, coach trying to influence, intimidate officials and how officials should address coaches and handle the situations. Further discussion to make the clinic a part of the new official's curriculum. Gary Berkowitz suggested about officials that get suspended from OHSAA... make it a requirement that suspended officials attend the fall clinic.

### **Board of Control Post Season Assignment, Pay and number of officials-**

Dan Cutcher handed out a sheet to all members present and requested it to be filled out and returned to him so that he could compile the information on the current pay structure for Sectional and District Tournaments, Number of officials, etc. Dan has been requested by Hank Z. to obtain this information and do a presentation to OHSAA.

During the 2003 summer meeting, Dan Cutcher, Ron Tschantz and Dan Jasetic were requested to collect information from all the district boards as to the current pay, mileage, overnight stays, etc. at the bequest to help the OHSAA make suggestions to the District Boards to help make pay for post season more consistent.

Jim Behrens from Greater Cleveland made a comment that they attended their local Board of Control meetings, and that they were receptive and willing to work with them to help improve pay, accommodations and number of officials for post season assignment. Each respective district board that has been approached so far, have been very favorable to working with those local wrestling associations.

**OWOA Summer Board Meeting:** The date is July 16<sup>th</sup> @ 3:30 PM following the train the trainers program. Location to be confirmed.

### **New Board Members**

President Loewenstine, Request that the OHSAA State Rules Interpreters be made members of the OWOA executive board of directors. Motion made by Jim Vreeland and seconded by Ron Tschantz. Formal Vote (according to OWOA Constitution) will be made at the July 16<sup>th</sup> board of governors meeting.

### **Hall of Fame:**

Nominees for consideration are to be submitted to the HOF selection committee as soon as possible. (Who should it be sent to? Address, etc.? A list of the members with addresses should be put in the minutes and on the website)

Motion to adjourn, Jim Vreeland, Seconded by Doc Tom Adkins, meeting adjourned @ 3:20 PM.