

**Colorado USA Wrestling
Board Meeting
August 17, 2008
Conference Call**

Approved Minutes

Board Members Present:

Chairman, Mo Babi; Secretary, Barbara Cordova; Women's Director, Pat Babi; Equipment Director, Jason Babi; Folkstyle Director, Ted DeRousse; Events Director, Troy Rutz; League Representative, Brian Velarde; Members-At-Large, Barry Himmelman, Chris Burghardt.

Board Members Absent:

Treasurer, Dan Havens; Kids Director, Patrick Jellum; Cadet Director, Tom Cortez; Pairings Director, Vicki Sigler; Mat Officials Director, Rod Cozzetto; Grappling Director, Sheldon Marr; Regional Training Site/JOP Liaison Director, Rob Vialpondo; League Representatives, Terry Lynn, Travis LeMay; Members-At-Large, Troy Pickrell, Chris Currier, David Falls, Jeff Ross, Mike Allison.

Welcome & Roll Call:

- Chairman, Mo Babi, called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. He thanked Boards Members for calling in.
- Secretary, Barbara Cordova, took roll call: 9 board members were present, a quorum was reached.

Introduction of Guests:

- There were no guests.

New Business:

- Two items were brought for discussion. 1) Mail in Ballots & 2) Voting age for Clubs.
- Chris Burghardt sent out an email lining out his proposal for Mail in Ballots.

In order to more people involved in this year's elections, I came up with a plan to allow mail-in votes. I posted it on cowrestling.com to see what the response would be. Mo asked me to forward it to you and ask for your input. We would need to work quickly on this if it is agreeable to all. I'll try to sum it up here.

1. Put a deadline to declare your candidacy for each position by Aug 31, 2008.
2. Put a printable ballot on CUSA website and cowrestling website.
3. This one is a tad different from the website version. Have the voter put his card # on the outside of the envelope (not on the ballot as I suggested) and mail the ballot to a board member not currently running for office. I volunteered to have them send ballots to me. If the voter wishes he/she can have the ballot sent certified mail, return receipt requested. If they are mailed to my office, I or someone in the office can sign for them. Then they have proof that the votes arrived to me.
4. Ballots must be received at least one calendar week before the date of the election. Another change from the website version, I have two mailing addresses. Use my office to mail the ballot and use my home address for the return address. That way no one has to put their name on the envelope or the ballot, just the card number. Ballots will remain sealed and then delivered to the election for verification and counting.

5. Card numbers will be verified with a list from either the national office or the membership director. Just need a list of valid numbers, not names. Once the numbers are verified, then the ballots are opened and counted.

6. Votes will also be taken in person at the election as they always have been. The mail-in ballots will just be added to the count.

Chris also voiced that he believes that the General Membership would benefit from the mail-in ballots. He received 35 emails approving the proposal. He sees this new process as another alternative to being able to vote and getting the General Membership involved.

- Several inputs were made towards the idea of Mail-in ballots.
- Ted DeRousse stated no state associations vote by mail or email due to manipulation. He expressed concerned with underage voting, check and balances. He was concerned that we were making a decision on a conference call and not including the General Membership. He stated it should be brought to up at the General Membership meeting and voted on.
- Input was given by Brian regarding Western Suburban elections. Also to have the ballots put online with the nominations credentials listed and also possibly having 2 general elections meetings.
- Pat Babi brought up concerns about putting CUSAW information on the cowrestling website. The concerns/issues need to be kept within the CUSAW organization.
- Mo – regrouped the call stating we need to discuss if we are going to do mail in ballots before discussing how we are going to do it.
- A motion was made by Jason Babi to take a vote on mail-in ballots. A vote “Yes” would mean CUASW would elect to do mail-in ballots and would further need to be discussed on how the process would work. A vote “No” would mean the mail-in ballot option would be tabled and revisited during the workshop sessions. (Motion: Jason Babi/ 2nd: Ted DeRousse / The results were split. 4 “Yes” (Barbara, Pat, Barry, Chris) & 4 “No” (Jason, Ted, Troy, Brian). Mo broke the split by deciding to revisit this topic during the workshop in September.)
- 2) Voting age for clubs was discussed. This discussion was tabled under General Membership. (Motion: Ted DeRousse / 2nd Troy Rutz / Unanimous consensus)

Next meeting:

- Workshop and General Membership meeting to be held in September in Pueblo.

Adjourn:

- The board meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.