

## **ISWA Monthly Meeting**

February 15, 2026

**Call to Order:** Meeting called meeting to order at 12:05 by Jennifer Pierson. Meeting held via Zoom

**Attendance:** Pat Culp, Steve Mathis, Jimmy Tonte, Tina Fouts, Jennifer Pierson, Nick Hull, Melissa Strayer, Julie Pine, Roby Webster, Mike Morgan, Dalton Halbig, Patrick Rowles, Linda Robinson, Danny Struck, Jason Miller, Jennifer Ratliff, Doug Strayer, and Patrick Rowles.

**Staff:** Tina Tonte, JD Minch, Georgia Bartley

### **Consultants:**

#### **Secretary: Tina Fouts**

- Tina Fouts presented the December draft minutes as previously supplied through USA Wrestling membership website.
- Jason Miller made a motion to accept the minutes.
- Steve Mathis seconded the motion.
- Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Treasurer: Steve Mathis**

- Steve Mathis stepped through Budget vs Actuals (basically P&L).
- Shared copy of report on screen, copy to be found on website.
- Shared detailed tournaments that have occurred so far.
- Came out ahead of budget for Elementary Duals.
- Pretty close to plan on Middle School Duals.
- Jennifer Ratliff indicated that we streamed on YouTube so there will be no streaming fees.
- Shared statement of financial position – listed assets.
- Jason Miller made a motion to accept the treasurer's report
- Patrick Rowles seconded the motion.
- Motion passes unanimously.

### **Old Business**

#### **Annual meeting revamp**

- Jennifer Pierson reported they are scheduling a meeting for the week of 2/23/26.

#### **Open Positions**

- Will be looking for a new marketing/communications board member position.
- Andy Oberlin has stepped down from the position.
- Let the Executive Board know if you know anyone who would be interested.
- Will be posting on the website in the near future.

### **New Business**

#### **Folkstyle State**

- Tournament meeting –
- Jennifer Pierson advised planning is underway.
- Met with facility this past week to go over timeline.
- Jen Ratliff is working on new layout.

- Turf will be marked for mats again.
- Facility will provide stage again for awards.
- Roby Webster reminded all that if hotel rooms needed, text Melissa Strayer by the 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Jen Ratliff said mats are still a problem, wanted to let teams get through state and will reach out again.
- Jennifer Pierson said we can have mats dropped off all week, but they can't be laid down until Friday.
- Jennifer Pierson will be having a meeting again this week with committee.
- Roby Webster will be sending out a sign-up list for certain positions.
- Will need as many people to load and unload the truck at set-up/tear-down.
- Registration and coaches' band purchase online are now open.
- 12U, 14U and 16U are on Sunday.
- Went to tiered pricing for registration. Price is \$50 if registered by 3/1/26 at 8:00 pm. Raises to \$75 from 8:01 pm on 3/1 through 8:00 pm on 3/5. Raises to \$100 after March 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm.
- No extra food vendors will be supported by ISWA this year. The only vendors will be those in the mall area.
- The facility is looking at a shuttle system to help alleviate issues with parking. More information to come.
- Jen Ratliff stated we will be having start times. Will be bringing in people for start times, on all mats in pods of 5.
- Will bring in new age groups in pods of 3, with no actual start/end times for age groups. Should stagger awards time as well as so many coming in at the same time at the door.

#### **New Rules for upcoming regional/national events (Olympic styles)**

- Dalton Halbig reported that there have been some pretty solid rule changes coming this season.
- Grounded-par terre neutral step out application.
- No more 2 defensive leg fouls DQ in Greco (just 3 cautions of any type)
- Greco – Technical points classified and change of criteria in 1-1 matches. This won't be huge on the state level but will be at Fargo and WTT.
- Plans to have an in-person clinic around Indy, maybe connected with a tournament in week 1-3 but trying for week 1-2 of the season
- Freestyle can step on foot
- We should also do something with the national teams and coaches, especially for the par terre step out. This will change how wrestlers work on the edge of the mat.
- Thinks education for coaches with challenges is vital, and once we are at these events he is handcuffed on what he can and cannot do.
- Held a Zoom with the M1s. 3 were able to get on and they discussed the changes and went through some video scenarios.
- Jennifer Pierson would like to know how we are communicating these to clubs.
- Asked for an updated list of events. Looking at the first few weeks to try and work with those events for a clinic.
- Potentially looking at Center Grove or Greenfield Central events but would like to see if there is an earlier date that can be used

#### **Registration for Regionals will be on USA Bracketing**

- Jen Ratliff stated that registration for regionals is now on USA bracketing.

#### **New tabs for announcers**

- Julie Pine reported that there are new tabs for announcers. These have been made with bout boards and dashboards to help announcers.

## **Media applications for national events will be communicated with State Chairs**

- Media applications will be communicated with State Chair for National events.

Jen Ratliff stated we will try streaming for Folkstyle State through Rock Fin. There are no up-front costs for video storage. None of the streaming options are exactly what we want so will be trying several options to see what will work best for us. For Elementary Duals we used Class of X and paid quite a bit for video storage. For Folkstyle State the video storage would be around \$2800.

## **Consultant & Staff Reports**

- **Law & Legislation – Steve Pugliese**
  - Not Present. No Report.
- **Sports Medicine – Nicole Moss**
  - Not present. No report.
  - Jennifer Pierson stated she is preparing for Folkstyle State.
- **Technology – Chris Pruitt**
  - Not present. No report.
  - Jennifer Pierson stated he is engaged in the website transition.
- **Olympic Wrestling Styles Consultant – Zach Errett**
  - Not present. No Report.
- **Membership Staff – JD Minch**
  - Athletes 10,570, up 5% from last year, 48% new members.
  - Leaders 1,382 up 15% from last year, 30% new leaders
  - Clubs 206 up 3% from last year, 10% new clubs
  - Sanctioned events 115 up 11% from last year
  - Coaches: 1 Gold, 11 Silver, 434 Bronze, Copper 761
  - Currently transferring statistical Individual Membership, Club Memberships, and Sanctions to the One Drive Portal.
  - Currently checking and rechecking the ISWA Publication checklist of Membership areas.

## **State Services - Staff – Tina Tonte**

- January and February event prep including ISWA Elementary Duals, USAW Folkstyle Nationals and Middle School Duals.
- Folkstyle State prep underway.
- Working on checklist items & attending committee meetings.
- 2026 publication is available online on our website home page and within our Director's Library on USA Membership site, and outlook's shared OneDrive.
- The Book Patch website allows printed book shipped to member for approximately \$30 with taxes/shipping/handling. Limited copies will be in the ISWA Office and at state events.
- Book Patch online website (to print ISWA book) <http://thebp.net/417616>
- Website updates daily to event schedule, Folkstyle page, newsletters, Team IN registrations
- Freestyle/Greco season news from Nick Hull and Josh Curry forthcoming.
- Dalton Halbig rule updates coming.
- Websites updated under awards/results and news articles.
- The 2026 Neil Segoe awardee, 2026 Elementary and Middle School State Duals results updated.
- Middle School States Duals went smoothly along-side Kids Nationals
- Google form will be used for the 2026 Scholarship Application, Deadline April 1<sup>st</sup>.20

- RTC page updated with Josh Curry's new link. Nick Hull and Josh Curry will be sending RTC curriculum schedule to the ISWA office to promote on website and email members.
- Updated Coaches' Application page with Danny Struck.
- Thomas Pompei confirming team leaders and coaches. Team IN flyers coming soon.
- Folkstyle State Gift ordered with medals. Spoke to AM Awards and added updated award plaques to be ordered.
- 2026 Exchange trip page was updated, news article and email sent.
- Results and awards updated on website and shared on social media.
- Heartland Duals registration built out.
- Still to do this month: Athletic Directors/Wrestling Coaches mailing for ISWA Scholarship. Email for the 2026 John Hurre nomination (Google Form). New deadline is March 31<sup>st</sup> for the John Hurre nomination. Nomination extended to later date for award ceremony. Website and link will be updated.
- Dan Mikesell hoping for Google Form for Fargo.
- Talked with Patrick Rowles regarding Heartland Duals.

#### **Staff – Georgia Bartley**

- Working on website and reached out to Jared Curcio and Dalton Halbig for their feedback.
- Emailed Kylie Perry (contact for website) to schedule time to discuss launch of the website.
- Goal to have launched at the end of February or beginning of march. Will send email to board to review.

#### **Directors' Reports**

##### **Vice Chair– Administration – Jennifer Pierson**

###### **Disciplinary Committee Report:**

- Nothing specific at this time. Received several emails regarding officiating and wrestler's conduct. Some conversations and questions answered, nothing elevated to committee.

###### **Regular Report**

- Has put director application form into a google document.
- Opening for Social Media Director position – will work with office to get that put out and get new candidates for that position.
- Working on internship for the summer to assist office and other activities.
- Also to help with Women's Nationals in Westfield.
- Avon has been awarded Freestyle/Greco State again. They do a great job. Will be working with them on planning for the upcoming event.

###### **• Tournament Director – Roby Webster**

- Thanked everyone that helped with the recent state/national tournaments.
- Will try to get the worker's signup list out tonight.
- Need mats, we are struggling to get mats.
- Jennifer Pierson asked to get an updated list for directors.

###### **▪ Hospitality Director – Linda Robinson**

- The Social at national event was well-attended. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.
- Working on Folkstyle State as far as hospitality.
- Scholarships – Tina Tonte pretty well covered everything.

- Google form has been communicated on social media for seniors to apply for this year. Deadline is 4/1. 2 extra scholarships that we voted on this year.
- **Pairing Officials Developmental Director – Jennifer Ratliff**
  - Helping people with tournaments and registration.
  - Working on Folkstyle State, reorganizing divisions and working on obtaining mats.
  - Dalton Hakbug asked if we are paying enough for the mats.
  - She feels we may need to look at additional funds for mats due to clubs needing to rent trucks to transport
- **Social Media/Marketing Director – Vacant**
  - No Report.
- **Equipment Director – Mike Morgan**
  - Ordered all Heartland gear and should be in for distribution at Folkstyle State.
  - Jason Miller asked if it would be packaged as last year. Mike believes so.
  - Over \$10,000 on Friday with 3 days to go in team store sales.
  - Starting to work on summer duals teams' gear.
  - Jason Miller stated we still have the challenge wrestle-offs, and wondered if we can get a 2–3-day gear store re-open, once the team has been set.
  - Jennifer Pierson said she can have Mike check. Wrestle off is 2/27.
- **Mat Officials Developmental Director – Dalton Halbig**
  - While in Colorado Springs, spoke with Sarah Hildebrandt, she was honored that we wanted to name a women's athlete scholarship after her. Got her contact information and told her he would update her as we could, so let him know what we need.
  - Will use Eventlink to assign for state and national events this year.
  - We have talked about changing pay for Freestyle State to incentivize officials and look closer to matching Folkstyle State. That is done by going to national events, so he would like to base pay on national categories.
  - Proposed for Freestyle/Greco split over 2 days: M1 - \$650; M1C - \$550; M2 - \$475; M3 – \$400.
  - From senior officials they believe this is fair, on the other side, he sees where M3 & M2 would be upset but we also have to reward and value officials who put in time to get better.
  - We need a file vector image of ISWA logo. Many gear and accessory companies require it to do business. (wristbands, shirts, jackets, etc.)
- Working on women's duals gifts. Plan to do a shirt and flip disk. Likely will not use Rudis to keep cost down but will give them a shot.
- There is an official from Arkansas whose family does it and that's the way he is leaning.

**Folkstyle Referees Developmental Director – Jared Curcio**

- Not Present. Report Via email.
- Elementary Duals and Middle School State Duals – head officials assigned did a great job.
- Currently working on finalizing plans for Folkstyle State, Heartland Duals, and Folkstyle Nationals.
- Once again, getting officials for Folkstyle State has been difficult, mainly for Saturday due to middle school tournaments.
- We have a lot of new officials that we are pulling in to work from Ohio and Kentucky, but Ohio has some scheduling conflicts with their state tournament series. Has made great progress over the last two weeks but need about 5 each day.

- Planning for Folkstyle Nationals and Heartland Duals is going well.
- Responded regarding the email that Patrick Rowles sent and stated the flagrant misconduct was earned for the kick. He did not see the contact to the face when reviewing the video, the week after the event but could see where contact could have been made, after watching it again. He is also not able to see the mentioned fingers in the behind in the video. The closest thing in the video looks like the opponent is trying to hold on to a double leg as she sprawls.
- he appreciates the letter sent by the athlete that received the flagrant foul, but if Middle School State is a qualifier, he feels that we should go through all of the placements to see if the next girl is interested in going before asking a girl who was disqualified to participate.
- It is important that all the teams, coaches, and officials we send to national events represent Indiana well.
- **Logistics Director – Melissa Strayer**
  - Need to turn rooming list in this week for Folkstyle State.
  - About ½ of the board hasn't responded.
  - Will send another email.
  - Jared Curcio provided maximum number needed for officials.
  - Need additional information for the other groups.
  - Heartland Duals – Jason Miller and Patrick Rowles – needs names of coaches.
  - Will email Jared Curcio for names of his people.
  - Needs list of pairers from Jen Ratliff and hospitality from Linda. Will text Nicole again about trainers.
  - We have plenty of rooms reserved, but doesn't want to give any away that we may need.
  - Room block for Heartland Duals expires at Midnight on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- **Section 1 – Mark Galka**
  - Not Present. Report via email.
  - Continuing to get clubs sanctioned.
  - Attended tournaments in Valparaiso, Crown Point, Hobart and Middle School Qualifier. All went very well and all numbers were up.
  - Not sure on Folkstyle State due to medical procedure the first week of March.
- **Section 2– Mary Friedt**
  - Not Present. Report via text.
  - Kids Folkstyle Nationals went really well (except for the weather on Sunday).
  - Now trying to monitor clubs' tournaments and questions and new club directors.
- **Section 3 – Jonah Odum**
  - Not Present. Report via email.
  - No updates for Section 3.
  - Zac Johansen and Jonah were talking about Junior Duals and had an idea from a recruitment standpoint. Wondered if they could get someone a floor pass at the state finals to recruit state champs or high placement seniors/juniors for Junior Duals.
  - Thought using DJ Washington might be a good idea and he would love to do it.
- **Section 4 – Julie Pine**
  - Just trying to stay afloat with all of the tournaments, being a pairer, it has been very busy.

- **Section 5 –Payton Halbig**
- Not Present. No Report.
- Jennifer stated she has spoken with him and he has been working with clubs in his area on tournaments, specifically a new club setting up a tournament.
  
- **Vice Chair – Jim Tonte – Programs**
  - Jim Tonte stated that this is a busy time of year.
  
- **State Coaches Director – Danny Struck**
  - Working with Mike Clayton on silver clinic.
  - Coaches’ applications start pouring in this time of year. Normally they will pick up again after spring break.
  - Currently there are 36 applications which is ahead of the number this time last year.
  
- **Regional Training Center – Josh Curry**
  - Not present. No Report.
  - Jimmy Reported that a new Women’s RTC has been added.
  - Asked to have graphics made so they can promote RTCs.
  
- **Cultural Exchange Director – Lou Silverman**
  - Not Present. Report via email.
  - At IU Dual meet.
  - Cultural Exchange trips deposit due 4/1
  - Middle School trip (boys only) \$2100
  - High School trip (boys/girls) \$3280.
  
- **Team Leader Director – Thomas Pompei**
  - Not Present. No Report.
  
- **Kid’s Director – Jason Miller**
  - Has 4 Heartland Duals teams selected.
  - Wrestle-offs for challenges have been set up, waiting for those to come in. Will be 2/27 at Monrovia.
  - Will finalize teams after that.
  - Gear should be here to pass out at Folkstyle State.
  - Coaches are not yet selected. Assumes Ryan has some coaches in place. Will double check with Ryan
  
- **Girls/Kid’s Director – Patrick Rowles**
  - One week out from Middle School Girls’ State
  - 206 girls registered and competing in last weeks’ tournaments over 17 weight classes.
  - This is a qualifier for Heartland Duals.
  - Working on 2 rosters.
  - Continues to be a growing interest in this event.
  - A couple of frustrations sent by people. The medals compared to placement and first place medals.
  - There was also a frustration that one girl wanted to compete in both boys’ and girls’ competition. She had been allowed to last year but they wouldn’t allow it this year.
  - Explained that this is a coaches’ association event, we simply help run it.
  - JD said Gary Myers and Pat Culp are working on awards.

- Jen Ratliff stated that in the past girls could compete in the boys tournament if they qualified for the boys. There was no communication to ISWA as to any changes to this rule.
  - Has 4 openings of 19 on first team and 10 of the 19 for second team.
  - USA registration continuing to grow.
  - Provided numbers for the last 5 years.
  - On base to have highest number at the end of the season this year.
  - Working with Doug Strayer and looking at hosting another women's development camp this summer.
  - Brought up a situation that occurred at Middle School state in 90 lb. bracket.
  - Wrestler won by pin fall. After the match, the girl that got pinned kicked opponent.
  - Disqualification took place.
  - Referee said the girl that was disqualified and should not have been recognized on the podium, and that is what they did.
  - Doug Strayer read the rule and because the female was disqualified, and removed from the bracket, it was determined that she is not eligible for Heartland Duals.
  - Discussion was held and a decision was made that we would not overturn the decision of the referee to disqualify.
- **16U/Junior Director –Dan Mikesell**
    - Not Present. No Report.
  - **16U/Junior Women's Director –Doug Strayer**
    - Will get with Patrick Rowles in the next week or so to help finalize the second team.
    - Getting ready for Folkstyle State.
  - **Olympic Styles Development Director – Nick Hull**
    - A lot of progress has been made for summer.
    - Finalizing dates for RTC's and should be ready by the start of the RTC season.
    - Dates will coincide with other things for Indiana.
    - Meeting with USA Wrestling on Tuesday to finalize dates to offer.
    - Has a plug on getting some national team members to do the videos for ISWA.
    - Showed website with curriculum information that will be posted.
  - **Folkstyle Developmental Director – Ryan Parrish**
    - Not Present. No Report.

Jason Miller motioned that we adjourn the meeting.  
 Patrick Rowles seconded the motion.  
 Motion Passed unanimously.

**Meeting Adjourned @ 2:20 pm.**

**The next meeting will be held on Sunday, April 12, 2026 at 12:00 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Tina Fouts*

ISWA Secretary