

MINUTES OF MEETING  
NORTHERN VIRGINIA WRESTLING FEDERATION  
NVWF

20160925-1930-R

From: Bill Marck, NVWF Secretary

To: NVWF Board of Directors, Officers, and Stakeholders

SUBJ: MEETING MINUTES FOR FALL MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

Ref: (a) Email notice for meeting issued September 17, 2016

(b) Email attachments for previous stated notice

(i) NVWF Fall Meeting Agenda 2016

(ii) 20160505 NVWF Minutes (Spring Meeting)

(ii) 20160505 Financials Handouts

(iv) 20160505 NVWF Financial Statements

(c) Email notice for meeting issued September 4, 2016

(d) Email notice for meeting issued August 3, 2016 with summary of July Minutes, Proposals, and associated club requests

(e) Treasurer reports, accounting, and summary of expenses

1. The subject meeting was held as outlined in references (a) through (e).
2. A quorum was identified for the meeting.
3. A vote was held in favor of the addition of a new club, Kodiak, in the Stafford area of Virginia with plans to be active for season 2016-17.
4. The club "Fellowship of Christian Athletes", otherwise known as FCA, joined prior to, with intentions of maintaining teams in both NVWF and CAWL, located in the Manassas area.
5. Stonewall Jackson club merged into FCA.
6. Virginia Eagles Club left the NVWF to join another league.
7. The NVWF Treasurer identified clubs required to pay balances entering into the Fall period. And further requested that clubs pay basic fees prior to entry into the December tournament.
8. Statistics showed a decline in the number of NVWF registrants/participants as compared to the prior year.
9. Treasurer reports were provided to show positive cash flow.
10. Jimmy Zoller, Treasurer, said he was looking into the ability for families and clubs to pay invoices using PayPal.

11. Mr. Zoller said FedEx would be used and postmarks for purposes of identifying when payments were received.
12. Several clubs asked if NVWF could provide guidance on how a club may form or be maintained easily under the non-profit 501(c)3 process.
13. Draft season competition schedule was provided with requests for clubs to fill dates remaining. Same basic schedule as the prior year.
14. Tim Weaver identified the need to upgrade several PVC equipment posts from the prior season.
15. Discussion on uniforms was held for purposes of (a) attracting participants that otherwise are deterred due to singlets, (b) accommodating clubs that use “fight shorts” and compression shirts seen in other leagues. A motion was raised and vote in favor of allowing the uniforms.
16. Discussion was held to summarize summer NVWF meetings on reviews of the Bylaws and potential updates, as well as surveys compiled from NVWF parents. Bylaws were identified as “out of date” but no changes were made by the Board. Surveys show parents interested in more wrestling opportunities, clinics/camps, and higher levels. Bill Marck expressed concerns regarding the organization not following bylaws practices. Additionally, there was the need to document processes to eliminate single point failures on any one piece of equipment or person. Mr. Marck encouraged volunteers from the clubs to take some areas that could be worked by committees.
17. Survey results showed that families expressed desires to gain experiences at advanced levels such as “big mat” opportunities similar to high school.
18. Club managers requested a review of the website, associated information, communications methods, and registration process including electronic payment options. Bill Marck negotiated an arrangement with SportsEngine (previously Sports Ngin) for a free \$2400 package. NVWF choose to use the League Athletics package given the need to establish registration links for the winter season. Sports Engine was now owned by NBC and TrackWrestling.
19. Bill Marck presented an approach to shift the volume of wrestlers from Juniors/Intermediates into the Senior pool to increase the number of competitors based on compiled statistics. Mike Gingras evaluated a method to “trick” the software to allow new definitions for each group. The approach was derived from conversations with the original NVWF software writer that lived out of state.
20. Club members raised concerns over the use of the current software given all the malfunctions in the prior year. The basic concern was that the software/process was cumbersome and risked being incompatible with future Microsoft Windows upgrades. Additionally, the current software did not allow age group definitions other than 2-year groups and limited pairings. The group discussed pros/cons to TrackWrestling which is used all throughout the country. Some believed there was a significant learning curve to using Track.
21. Mike Gingras offered to write new software at no cost to the NVWF; comparably the old software was written at a large expense to the NVWF in the order of thousands of dollars based on

someone's memory. A motion was raised and vote in favor of using the current software until such time that Mr. Gingras completed his code.

22. Mr. Gingras outlined his findings to compare TrackWrestling and the current software extensively. And further identified "requirements" or features that could be built into a new product.
23. Discussions were held regarding the requirement to check nails, hair, and skin prior to every meet. Although no vote was taken, the group believed every age group should be checked prior to wrestling for the day.
24. Discussions were held regarding efforts to speed up the registration and weight check process at any meet. The group agreed that weight checks were necessary at each event to maintain the integrity of the pairings and reduce liability concerns.
25. Clubs expressed the need for greater understanding/inputs to the hosting process in time to be able to contact school athletic directors and high school coaches well in advance of the fall period to secure gyms via county parks and recreation offices.
26. There apparently was a requirement for facility requests in Fairfax county to be submitted to the county offices by September 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.
27. Ribbons were requested by clubs well in advance of the season start so to be able to hand out to wrestlers immediately after an event weekend to keep families excited.
28. Clubs expressed concerns that beginner wrestlers were paired with advanced wrestlers at the season end tournament which ends the season on a discouraging note with an unfair advantage to the more experienced wrestlers. Questions were raised to see if there was a way to separate them.
29. A question was raised about having elections however, Christina Bennett said elections would be conducted in the spring instead. The Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws require elections on an annual basis.
30. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.