

NEMWA League meeting. Sanford Lake Bar & Grill
9-26-04 Minutes submitted by Patricia Hebert, NEMWA Secretary

Meeting opened: 2:10 pm

Clubs present: Bangor, Bay County, Bullock Creek, Essexville, Farwell, Freeland, Grayling, Harrison, Midland, Mt. Pleasant, Ogemaw, Onaway, Pine River, Roscommon, Sanford-Meridian, Standish, Tawas.

Clubs Absent: Clare, Gaylord, Gladwin, Hale, Hemlock, Houghton Lake, Oscoda, Petoskey, Pinconning, Saginaw Arthur Hill, Shepard, Swan Valley, Whittemore-Prescott.

Guests: Rogers City.

Announcements:

Bullock Creek is having a preseason Holiday Tournament 12-18-04. Anyone interested please contact Joe Maxwell at 989-839-2834 or email him at beyelbay@aol.com.

Standish is hosting the Girls State Tournament on March 6, 2005. Anyone interested in sending their girl wrestlers should contact Jim Hergott.

Rich Shull briefly went over the Mission Statement just to remind everyone what we are here to do and accomplish.

Nominations for elected positions are as follows:

President: Rich Shull (Midland)

Vice-President: Jeremy Sampson (Meridian)

Secretary: Patricia Hebert (Ogemaw)

Treasurer: Alan Peck (Freeland). Dawn Hergott withdrew from the race.

Head Pairer: April Clelland (Meridian) with Tammy Helsel as assistant

Head Official: Ike Clelland (Meridian) and Scott Suszko (Standish).

Nominees gave platforms as to what they would like to accomplish:

Rich Shull (President):

- Create NEMWA articles of incorporation & incorporate NEMWA as a non-profit corp. File for 501(c)3 status as an amateur athletic organization
- Reduce NEMWA and NEMWA club liabilities by improving operations and

proper insurance (including insurance for NEMWA officers)

Jeremy Sampson (Vice-President):

- Here for the kids.
- Goal is to make sure every kid gets a fair shake.

Patricia Hebert (Secretary):

- Would like to see weigh-in cards to simplify weigh-ins and birth certificate problems. You can only weigh-in if you have a card and you only get the card if I have your birth certificate and a waiver form signed.

Alan Peck (Treasurer):

- Would like to see finals a very special event.

April Clelland (Head Pairer):

- Would like to have better communication with tournament directors
- Will try and eliminate errors
- Would like to run the pairing room smoothly therefore the tournament is run smooth.
- Will work on guidelines on how to run a pairing room
- Likes the thought of a traveling pairing room.

Ike Clelland (Head Official):

- We need to continue training our referees
- Willing to work with tournament directors and providing referees

Scott Suszko (Head Official):

- We need to continue training our referees
- Willing to work with tournament directors and providing referees.
- Would like to get set referees to follow to every tournament with him.

The newly elected positions based on ballot vote are as follows:

President: Rich Shull (Midland)

Vice-President: Jeremy Sampson (Meridian)

Secretary: Patricia Hebert (Ogemaw)

Treasurer: Alan Peck (Freeland)

Head Pairer: April Clelland (Meridian) with Tammy Helsel (Pine River) as Assistant.

Head Official: Ike Clelland (Meridian) with Scott Suszko (Standish) as

Assistant.

There was significant discussion on what exactly the role of the NEMWA head pairer and head official is and how it differs from the tournament head pairer and head official. This needs more work, but there was consensus on these things:

- The NEMWA head pairer and head official are expected to act as the head pairer and head official at tournaments, although this is not required.
- The NEMWA head pairer and head official are responsible for creating the capability to properly pair and officiate a tournament. This includes developing a pool of qualified candidates who can act as a traveling pairing room and as traveling officials.
- Tournament directors are ultimately responsible for the quality of their tournaments. Although they are not required to use the NEMWA traveling staff, NEMWA has agreed (in a previous meeting) that pairing room workers and officials must be certified. It is the tournament director's responsibility to insure that the tournament pairing room and officials are properly trained, taking advantage of NEMWA Head Pairer or Head Official training programs or traveling staff as necessary. For consistency it is strongly recommended that the at least one member of the NEMWA traveling staff be at each tournament. This may be formalized as a NEMWA proposal at the November meeting.

Tournament Schedule: Some schools put in there request for their tournament dates. Check the website (www.nemwa.org) for updates.

Standish makes motion to accept schedule. Bangor 2nds. Motion passes.

A suggestion was made to circulate the pairing room materials with the scales to better insure that all items required for weigh-in are in the tournament director's hands in plenty of time. There was general consensus to use this procedure at the 2005 tournaments.

Any club still working on tournament dates please contact Rich Shull (rsshull@nemwa.org). Similarly, any team who has established their tournament date is asked to e-mail a copy of the flyer to Rich to be posted on the NEMWA web site.

Ogemaw makes motion to accept tournament dates for 1st six weeks of season. If any club is on the schedule as of 9-26-04 no other club can bump them from their date.

Grayling 2nds.

Motion passes.

Dawn Hergott gave treasurer's report: \$2583.04
Grayling makes motion to accept treasurer's report.
Freeland 2nds.
Motion passes.

Rogers City has requested to join NEMWA. They currently go to MYWAY & MMWA on Sundays. Have youth coaches who want Saturday Tournaments. They would bring around 8-15 wrestlers to NEMWA tournaments.
Bay County makes motion to accept Rogers City in division "C".
Meridian 2nds.
Motion passes.

Midland makes motion to authorize \$100 to look into AAU umbrella for insurance and liability.
Bangor makes motion to table until next meeting on 11-7-04 while Justin (Mt. Pleasant) gathers more information.
Standish 2nds.
Motion passes.

Rich Shull reviewed the new NEMWA forums on the www.nemwa.org web site and how they are run. All coaches are encouraged to register for these forums to read and comment on important issues between NEMWA meetings. These forums are open to club coaches only.

Rich Shull asked for feedback on the concept of using a floor pass system to improve crowd control around the mats. There doesn't seem to be a lot of interest in pursuing this among the clubs present.

Standish makes motion to adjourn meeting.
Grayling 2nds.
Motion passes.

Next meeting 11-7-04 at the Sanford Lake Bar & Grill from 2-5 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 5:08 pm.