



Ontario Amateur Wrestling Officials Association
AGM Meeting Minutes Oct 19-20, 2019 in Milton, Ontario

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Saturday, October 19, 2019

Call to order: 9:15am

I. Roll Call:

Area Chairs	Geoff Griffin, Guy Quenville, Martin Pollock, Marcia Chiasson, Stephanie Robertson Owen, Scott Mauthe, Darryl Owen
Executive	Ed Zinger, John Krahn, Martin Pollock, Carl Chan, Marcia Chiasson, Adam Baxter
Guests	Rich Wijnbeek, Bobby Keomany, Erv Morine, Sean Norris, Ashley Menagh, Riad Hassan, Guy Quenville, Erica Levesque, Todd Lupa, Stu Petri, Albert Runstedler
Regrets	Bob Parsons, Tim MaGarrey, Rob St-Jean

II. Reading of the Minutes/Correspondence:

Minutes passed as posted

III. Business arising from the minutes:

No items raised

IV. Vice Chairman's Report: Ed Zinger

[See report on line.](#) Would like to thank the executive as this group has worked well together and accomplished a lot. Also, would like to thank the members, we don't always give ourselves enough credit. We have the best wrestling officials association in the country. We experienced a lot of challenges in the last year with respect to increased requirements for police checks and training, but we are making positive progress. Still waiting on getting a check from OAWA to cover the costs of the police background checks. OAWA is still deciding whether the WCL safe sport initiatives will be required for provincial referees. Anyone who wants to register for a national championship will have to meet the WCL safe sport initiatives. OAWA now has a committee separate from the wrestling community to review failed police checks. Currently in negotiation with OAWA to increase referee fees to account for increased training requirements.

Comments/Questions: Albert – can we reduce the amount of money paid to OAWA for registrations to account for the increased training requirements? Yes, this is possible, but we are trying to deal with the negotiations first. Stu – will we be getting some money reimbursed for the police checks? Yes, but we still have not received those monies from OAWA.

V. VC Admin Report: Adam Baxter

[See report on line.](#) 2019 registration numbers indicated an increase of 16 referees. Total membership was 136. The registration process with the google forms has improved and area chairs have access to their membership list. Need to do a little more work with area chairs to get them familiar with how to access the information online. No areas lost voting privileges for this AGM.

Comments/Questions: N/A



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VI. VC Technical Report: John Krahn

[See report on line](#). There are lots of great officials in Ontario and that is a testament to all the people in the province who work to develop referees. Ontario had 5 referees who received UWW upgrades, 11 referees who received national upgrades, and 3 provincial upgrades. Bev Holms gave up his national rank.

Comments/Questions: N/A

VII. VC Financial Report: Martin Pollock

[See report on line](#). Our account and the investment are doing well. Current contracts under negotiation are for OUs, OFSAA, Guelph Open and Matmen. Investment is in the positive dollars. There was some discussion last year about putting more money into the investment, but we are putting this on hold in case we need funds to cover the extra cost of training courses. The 2020 budget cannot yet be determined because we do not yet know how the OAWA will choose to run provincial championships.

- OAWA fees have increased to \$70 (up from \$65 last year)
- OAWOA fees remain the same at \$45
- CAWO fees remain the same (at present)

Questions/Comments: Scott – what is the budget line for travel expenses? Paid for 4 members to have rooms at the Jr/Sr in Saskatchewan. Scott – what about travel expenses to provincial tournaments, why aren't we getting mileage like we used to? The program was cancelled due to WCL changes at the WCL level.

Motion to accept the financials report Guy Quenville/Albert Runstedler – **Motion carried**.

VIII. VC Marketing report: Carl Chan

[See report on line](#). Bobby Keomany, Marcia Chiasson and Ed Zinger received awards from Wrestling Canada in 2019. Awards for OAWOA years of service has been very successful. Pins are being awarded for 10, 20 & 30 years of service; a watch for 40 and a bag for 50 years of service. Three people reached the 40-year mark 2020, Geoff Griffin, Guy Quenville and Fred Schaller. Marketing generated \$350 last season. There was a request to add a list of available merchandise online but this was delayed due to WCL's proposal for a uniform.

Comments/Questions: N/A

IX. VC Communications report: Marcia Chiasson

[See report on line](#). We are continuing to move forward with online registration are trying to utilize the website and our email list for communications. If area chairs have questions about where to find information, please let us know.

Comments/Questions: N/A

X. Past Chairman report: Gary Bird

[See report online](#). Thanks to executive and membership for their support. Marty and Ed have been working hard to represent our interests with the OAWA.

Comments/Questions: N/A



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XI. VC Apprentice report: Stephanie Robertson Owen

[See report on line.](#) Really enjoyed the opportunity to learn about how the executive runs and what each role brings to the table.

Comments/Questions: N/A

Motion to accept all executive reports John Krahn/Daryl Owen – **Motion carried.**

XII. Pairing Masters Chairman report: Michelle Flinders

[See report on line.](#) Sue Perkins is retiring from national events; Laura McGill received an upgraded to a national A.

Comments/Questions: N/A

XIII. Area Chairman reports:

[See reports on line.](#)

Recommended Upgrades from Provincial C to Provincial B:

- Guelph / Wellington – no upgrades
- Durham – Bradley O’Conner, Terrell Carter, Suchnoor Dhillon
- Grand Niagara Peninsula – no upgrades
- Georgian Bay / Kawartha – Ben March, Domenick Ritchie, Liegha Smith, Logan Smith, Zarah Yglasian
- Hamilton – no report submitted
- Toronto – no upgrades
- Windsor / Sarnia / London – Kyle Bonk, Aaron Howald
- Ottawa / Kingston – Jean-Luc McDonald, Myles Melamed
- Peel / Halton – no upgrades
- Sudbury / SS Marie – Hunter Larabie, Jordan Camponi
- Thunder Bay / Northwestern Ontario – no upgrades
- Waterloo Region – Mitch Winchester

Comments/Questions: N/A

Motion to conditionally accept area chairman’s reports upon revisions for certain areas Daryl Owen/Gary Bird – **Motion carried.**

XIV. Resolutions:

None.

XV. Election of Officers:

Scrutineers: Richard Wijnbeek & Erica Levesque

11 Area Chair Votes; 6 Executive Votes

Proxy Votes:



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- Todd Lupa for John Cook
- Ashley Menagh for Michelle Flinders
- Bobby Keomany for Gary Bird
- Sean Norris for Marty Pollock
- Albert Runstedler for Marcia Chiasson

Voting Area Chair Members:

- Geoff Griffin, Guy Quenville, Stephanie Robertson Owen, Scott Mauthe, Darryl Owen

Executive Voting Members:

- Gary Bird, Adam Baxter, Marty Pollock, Marcia Chiasson, John Krahn, Carl Chan
- Ed Zinger will vote in the case of a tie

Total Votes = 16

VC Chairman nominations:

Motion by Bird/Daryl for Ed Zinger. **Acclaimed.**

VC Technical nominations:

Motion by Geoff/Lupa for John Krahn. **Acclaimed.**

VC Communications nominations:

Motion by Guy/Bobby for Marcia Chiasson. **Acclaimed.**

VC Apprentice One Year term nominations:

Motion by Albert/Sean for Steph R-O. **Winner.**

Motion by John/Geoff for Riad Hassan.

Motion by Bobby/Bird for Ashley Menagh.

Motion to destroy the ballets by John/Bird – **Motion carried.**

Chairperson votes to accept acclamations and votes

XVI. General and New Business:

1. Nominations for Awards

Provincial awards are posted on the OAWOA website, national awards are also posted on website.

- **Provincial Dave Rendell Merit Award:** The award is a jacket. Leadership, Provincial AE.
 - Ed Zinger nominated by Guy/Marty - **Winner**
 - John Krahn nominated by Geoff/Carl declined
 - Sue Perkins nominated by Adam/Ashley
- **Provincial Perkins Award:** \$100 provincial award for a new official up to a provincial A.
 - Mitch Winchester nominated by Gary/Bobby
 - Ethan Sparks nominated by Daryl/Ashley - **Winner**



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- Mike Saunders nominated by John/Geoff
- **National Dave Rendell Award:** Nominate an Ontario referee to be considered for this award by CAWO. \$500 towards the cost of a UWW tournament. For a National A or a UWW III.
 - Riad Hassan nominated by Gary/Lupa - **Winner**
 - Shelby Tremblay nominated by Daryl/Prescott
 - Rob St Jean nominated by Guy/Ashley
- **National Mike Sherratt Award:** Nominate an Ontario referee to be considered for this award by CAWO. \$500 can be used to fund costs of travel to a national or international clinic.
 - John Krahn nominated by Geoff/Guy
 - Gary Bird nominated by Albert/Ed - **Winner**
- **National Toni Stokes Award:** Nominate an Ontario referee to be considered for this award by CAWO. \$500 can be used for a national or international tournament not necessarily for an upgrade.
 - John Krahn nominated by Gary/Daryl
- **Coralee Roy Award:** Nominate an Ontario referee to be considered for this award by CAWO. \$500 dedicated to national pairing masters.
 - Michelle Flinders nominated by Gary/Bobby - **Winner**
 - Laura McGill nominated by Ashley/Prescott
- **Mike Erchuck:** Nominate an Ontario referee to be considered for this award by CAWO. \$750 UWW I qualified to be nominated to the Olympic level (UWW IS).
 - Stephanie R-O nominated by Marcia/John - **Winner**
 - Jason Flinders nominated by Scott/Marty

Break at 12:50 pm

Resume at 1:45 pm

2. National Safe Sport [Initiatives](#)

- New requirements for national referees wanting to attend a WCL sanctioned clinic include:
 - Vulnerable Sector Check (Not required for referees under the age of 18)
 - [Making Ethical Decisions](#)
 - [Respect in Sport](#)
 - The Rule of Two
- These are new requirements which are being implemented in all national sport organizations, not just WCL.
- In order to be eligible to bid on a national event in 2020, referees must provide evidence of completed requirements by December 31, 2019.
- As of the date of this meeting, the OAWA has not made these mandatory requirements for provincial level referees. The OAWA has notified the OAWOA that concussion training ([Making Headway](#)) will be required for all Ontario referees.
- Ed – will contact the NCCP MED trainer to see if we can run a course specifically for OAWOA. Possibly this could be arranged to be held November 23 around Ontario Senior Championships.



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3. STAP Survey Results

- The OAWOA executive formed a committee to review the membership's understanding and feelings with respect to the Ontario Systematic Travel Assignment Process (STAP). The survey was sent to all ~110 members of the OAWOA and 26 responses were received, this represents a 24% response rate. Of those who responded to the survey, 54% said they were very familiar with STAP and 46% said they were somewhat familiar.
- When asked how the OAWOA funded trips should be assigned, 58% of respondents advised that STAP is the preferred method, followed by 23% of respondents advising that decisions should be made by the OAWOA executive.
- When asked to rank the most important selection criteria for STAP, the responses were varied. Respondents indicated their top priorities for selection included volunteers time with the association (executive member or area chair) = 23%.
- When asked what motivates individuals to attend provincial/local tournaments, 85% of respondents said they want to practice refereeing skills, 81% said they want to support the sport of wrestling and 50% said they want to spend time with friends and earn STAP points. Because multiple responses were possible, the percentages do not add up to 100%.
- Survey respondents were asked to provide some ideas on how to improve STAP and to provide general feedback to the OAWOA executive. These opinions included: Value assigned to Junior provincials should be further reduced; Increase the STAP value for individuals who travel a further distance to events; suggest decreasing points for people in the GTA who don't have to travel as far; Increase the STAP value for those who have not had a trip in recent years; Don't assign the same person multiple years in a row; Suggest considering a rotation effect for major events; No advantage for executive and area chairs; A need for greater targeting of officials to ensure success at nationals.
- Voting will include executive and area chair
 - Vote to keep the STAP = 14 / 17 votes
- How to fix it?
 - Decrease Jr/Sr to 2 points, increase Cadet/Juvenile to 8 points for a maximum of 10 points allocated for all provincial tournaments
 - Distance from tournaments will be eliminated as this will be replaced with a mileage program

4. Funding for New Training Requirements

- Currently we have funds coming in as reimbursements from WCL for national quotas and from OAWA for referee development and for police background checks. Proposal:
 - Issue \$35 in reimbursement to every provincial official to help cover the cost of the Respect in Sport course
 - Issue \$85 in reimbursement to every national official to help cover the costs of the Making Ethical Decision course



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- This would mean ~\$7,560 in 2019 to cover training fees. These funds will likely be covered by national quota reimbursements

5. Mileage Discussion

- Taxable donation mileage program was eliminated two years ago because WCL lost their charitable donation status.
- For the 2019-2020 season, the OAWOA has proposed to the OAWA that they will have to pay for mileage for referees. This would increase the cost of running tournaments significantly. At present, the OAWA has not come up with a response to this request.
- As an alternative, we also proposed going to CAWO as a non-profit and using OAWOA as a 3rd party. This would mimic the same process as what we have used in the past with WCL and would keep the funds within the refereeing community.
- There is also an established process for this (NSTF) through Sport for Ontario. More information on the NSTF program at the Sport for Ontario web site: <http://www.sport4ontario.ca/>. Sport for Ontario will process the claims for a 6% rate, but the process is very difficult for individuals. Referees would have to keep mileage logs on a daily basis, even when they are not refereeing. In this case, the fees will leave the wrestling community.

6. OFSAA 2020

- Will be hosted in SS Marie March 1 to 4. This is being run the same week as the Pan Am Championships in Ottawa. This means that all the high ranked referees will not be available for OFSSA.
- Increased OFSAA fees due to location will be a concern for the tournament organizers.

7. Registration Process Reminder

- Register by December 1.
- Bid sheets are on hold until OAWA decides on how they are running provincial championships. If Ontario goes to a 1-person refereeing system, the only national clinics will be Matmen or Guelph Open.
- Registration fees will be paid to area chairs

8. Executive Shadowing

- The executive has always been open to having people shadow positions on the committee
- Suggest that if people are interested to shadow a specific position, please contact us.

9. One-Person Refereeing System

- The OAWA proposed changing provincial tournaments to a one-person system as a cost saving measure.



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- The OAWOA advised that it doesn't matter what they do, the cost per athlete for referees will remain the same.
- The OAWOA has also suggested contacting the Area Chairpersons directly to schedule referees for tournaments. If an area chair is contacted, do not engage with them.

10. Money Generating Ideas

- With increased training requirements and other needs, we need to generate our own funds to support our members.
- Ideas?
 - Trillium Grants
 - Approach alumni for donations
 - Sell advertising on the website
 - Sell OAWOA merchandise online
- Please approach the executive with your ideas

11. Location for 2020 AGM

- Planning for October 17, 2020
- Gary proposes Kitchener (for Oktoberfest) - **Winner**
- Erv proposes Brechin

12. AGM Structure

- Propose making the AGM a 1-day event, voted in favor of 2-day event
- Marty – Motion for future AGM, the only people to receive paid rooms will be voting members (including executive). Motion denied.

13. Miscellaneous

N/A

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting by Gary/Prescott.

4:45 pm



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Sunday, October 20, 2019

Call to order: 9:30am

Roll Call:

Area Chairs	Geoff Griffin, Guy Quenville, Martin Pollock, Marcia Chiasson, Stephanie Robertson Owen, Scott Mauthe, Darryl Owen
Executive	Ed Zinger, John Krahn, Martin Pollock, Carl Chan , Marcia Chiasson, Adam Baxter
Guests	Rich Wijnbeek , Bobby Keomany, Erv Morine, Sean Norris, Ashley Menagh, Riad Hassan, Guy Quenville, Erica Levesque, Todd Lupa, Stu Petri, Albert Runstedler
Regrets	Bob Parsons, Tim MaGarrey, Rob St-Jean

Updates and Rules Clinic – Ed Zinger & Gary Bird

Updates

- Area chairman discussion (Gary Bird)
 - When we get outside of Canada, the officiating structure is more like a dictatorship rather than a democracy.
 - At what point do we educate Canadian referees about these practices?
 - We need to make sure that our international candidates are prepared and do not react negatively in these situations.
 - Discussion - Area chairs should be nurturing and educating in province. The national clinicians should be the ones who are responsible for preparing referees with international aspirations. We could use video review much better than we currently do at national clinics.
 - Another consideration is the OFSAA regulation on inclusivity for transgender athletes. The regulation states that whatever gender is declared is the gender that they may compete in. Additionally, how do we implement accommodations for religious reasons? We try to encourage tight fitting clothing under the singlet. Women wearing hijabs should be encouraged to wear headgear.
 - When considering these issues, we need to think about the spirit of the rules. Not all these answers can be found in the rule book.
- Review of use of local officials by area chairman
 - It is the responsibility of the area chair to try and use local referees and create opportunities for local referees whenever possible.
 - Those persons in your area need to notify the area chair if they are working outside their area.
 - The area chair does have some discretion and can invite people from outside.

Rules Clinic

- Final minute – make sure you control the final minute. Any time you stop in the final minute, you are giving a warning first. MUST stop the clock before offering caution and 1 for any infraction.
- Considerations for Out of Bounds



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- Was there an offensive action that finished going out of bounds? If so, score the action
- If there was no score going out of bounds, were the wrestlers standing or was ground wrestling established?
- Was there a lift involved?
- If standing and no lift, did either wrestler flee?
- If one wrestler steps out and the other wrestler has a good hold and is still in bounds, indicate the step out with the appropriate color hand and hold the whistle until the offensive wrestler has a chance to score (as long as the move is progressing).
- Greco Passivity
 - **Only used to stimulate scoring in a low scoring match**
 - Stimulate action (verbally)
 - Offer passivity, get confirmation from the mat chair (stop the action until ~1:30)
 - Once confirmed, stop the match and give one point to the active wrestler. The active wrestler gets choice of standing or being on top in par terre position.
 - Can only have 2 passivity's per match
 - In a 3-minute period, don't call a passivity in Greco until about 1:30
 - Do not end a period in par terre
 - Give top wrestler 25-30 seconds to work holds in par terre
 - If one wrestler gains all their points from ordered par terre, consider giving the other wrestler an opportunity on top – if possible
- If a wrestler pushes their opponent out of bounds from a standing position, no points will be scored. No penalty will be implemented to punish the “pushing” wrestler. The “pushing” wrestler shall be given an attention for negative wrestling.
- Focus of wrestling worldwide has been on negative wrestling. E.g. hands to the face, could result in the referee stopping the action and awarding a warning or, it could be a caution and 1. Does not stop the scoring action = stop and warn. Stops the scoring action = caution and 1 point awarded.
- Negative Wrestling in Greco
 - Needs to be enforced more strictly
 - Some situations may be stopped and give an attention (e.g. grabbing the fingers); Other situations may be direct caution +2 points (e.g. jamming the hands in the face to prevent scoring)
 - Must be willing to make these calls early in the match, this sets up the rest of the match
- Considerations for Negative Wrestling
 - Generally considered when a wrestling is excessively blocking or for situations of brutality
 - Some situations, especially if preventing an active score for egregious brutality – direct caution and +1 (FS) +2 (GR)
 - For most situations:
 - Referees prerogative to stop match and give attention to offending wrestler



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- If negative wrestling continues, referee must stop the match and ask for a caution 1 or 2 points simultaneously
 - Must get confirmation from mat chairman
- Protocol and referee mechanics must be correct to help differentiate between negative wrestling and passivity
- Fleeing
 - Be aware of the possibility of a flee when a defensive wrestler goes out of bounds without changing directions or turns and runs out of bounds
 - If there is active wrestling in the zone before going out of bounds, there is no flee
 - If the flee occurs in the par terre position, the action will restart in the par terre position
- FS/GR Cautions
 - GR cautions are o+2 except offensive leg fouls are o+1
 - FS/WW cautions are o+1 except fouls in the danger position are o+2
 - Procedure:
 - Standing – stop to give warning. Stop and ask for caution
 - Par Terre – give attention verbally and indicate, ask for caution without stopping, must have confirmation to stop the match.
- Evaluating Scoring
 - Was the defensive wrestler standing or in par terre?
 - Amplitude or no amplitude?
 - Did the defensive wrestler land in danger or not?
- Correct Hold/Throw
 - It is no longer adequate to move someone from point a to b without control or expose and be awarded points for a correct hold (effort)
 - The action must land with the defensive wrestler landing with their chest or hip in contact with the mat

Adjournment

Adjourned at 11:00 am