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Randy Soma
Assistant Executive Director

Wrestling Advisory Minutes

Meeting: February 26, 2024; 10:30 AM (Via – Zoom)

Committee Members:

Coach Rep.	John Donovan, Chamberlain
Coach Rep.	Chris Sayler, Freeman
Girls Coach Rep.	Matt Thorson, Pierre T. F. Riggs
Athletic Director	Michael Ricke, Madison
Supt/Principal	Mike Radke, Huron
Official	Bud Postma, Madison
Native Am. Sch. Rep.	Clay Leonard, Red Cloud

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 am with all members present; Dan Swartos and Randy Soma were present for the SDHSAA Executive Staff. Randy reviewed the operations of the committee.

Approval of Agenda Motion by Postma 2nd by Donovan to approve the agenda. Motion Carries

We will need to find new Advisory Committee members for the following:

- Mike Radke – Superintendent/Principal (We be retiring)
- Bus Postma – Official (2nd term ending)
- Chris Sayler – B Coach Rep (2nd term ending)

The committee then moved to individual reports. Note that *this section of the meeting will include creation, discussion, advancement and consideration of proposals for submission to the Athletic Directors/Board of Directors for further consideration and will not be a conclusive list of potential topics. Representatives on the committee should contact their groups statewide for consideration of ideas and proposals with the understanding ideas are to be advanced for further consideration and not “automatically implemented.”*

Coaches Reps

John Donovan

- State Tournament
 - a. Weigh in procedures (Keep like Day 2 and 3 for all 3 days)
 - b. School Parking: Issues with non-schools parking in the team area and busses not able to get out.
 - c. Straps up or down for skin check and weigh in. The SDHSAA should have a policy that we follow all year long. We will look at adding something to the Wrestling Handbook
 - d. Medical Forfeits – Discussion
 - e. Warm-up mats discussion

- f. Reducing the number of mats for Girls division. Want to make sure coaches can cover their athletes.
- What is the policy if a female does not make weight for an invite can they be bumped up. This should not be happening. They should follow what the boys do in regards to weight restrictions at tournament.

Chris Saylor

- Discussion on Girls using less mats and having them wrestle at the same time. We could wrestle them on less mats but having them go at the same time causes issues with the TrackWrestling program and display boards. This will slow down the time schedule for the state tournament.
- Use the NCAA format with alternates having a pigtail match at state. Discussion on where will it stop. We do not seed them all out and this could cause a problem as a 11 seed could be wrestling a pigtail match. No further action at this time.
- State Weigh-ins: Continue to run weigh ins like we did the 2nd and 3rd day. Report to one of the 8 mats that have assigned weight classes and have the officials do the skin check and then weigh in. If issues send them to the middle to be cleared by doctors and trainers.
- Practice Mats: We have had practice mats in the past but they have not been used. We are looking to add them at the Monument next year in the arena area. Sioux Falls poses a problem as they do not have a site that is easily accessible for athletes. Much harder to accomplish practice mats in Sioux Falls
- Discussion on Wrestle backs happening on the first day.

Matt Thorson

- Qualifying Tournament for the Girls. Either 2 Super Regional or 4 Regions.
- Date for Qualifiers – Same week the Boys Qualifier takes place
- State Tournament
 - a. Run the Girls on less mats or figure out a way to combine so they are wrestling at the same time as the boys
 - b. State site (Rapid City/Sioux Falls)
- Discussion on Forfeits from Team duals in Girls and how that will look. Had issues with seeding as some schools abused this to help with their record. With the Region Qualifiers starting next year this should take care of the seeding for regions and state. The SDHSAA will look at possibly adding wording to the handbook to address.

Administrative Reps

Michael Ricke

- Duals – Do we keep them and if so what weekend if we have Girls Regionals.
- Super Regional Discussion
- Future of State Tournaments (Rapid City/Sioux Falls) Discussion

Mike Radke

- No additional Items – His concerns were covered in other discussions

Clay Leonard

- Discussion on Girls numbers – 540 Certified Female Wrestlers
- Region Qualifiers for the Girls

Official Reps

Bud Postma

- State Tournament
 - a. Clocks/Displays not very readable
 - b. Weigh-ins/Skin Checks – We should do them like the 2nd and 3rd day.
 - c. Schedule – Work on not having two-three athletes from the same team wrestling in the quarterfinals
 - d. State Wrestling Site (Rapid City/Sioux Falls) We have the next 3 years contracted out but will discuss sites at the selection committee meeting later this school year.
 - e. Schools need to make sure they are getting proper fitting singlets and under garments for females.
- Tournaments during the regular season are getting to big and are running to long during the day. Would like schools to cut back on the number schools attending unless they are adding mats to the event.

Proposed Recommendations

1. Weight Classes-

Girls- Moved by Saylor, 2nd by Ricke, to utilize the NFHS 12 weight class model for girls.
12 Classes – 100,107, 114, 120, 126, 132, 138, 145, 152, 165, 185 & 235

Motion carries 6-1

2. Girls Regionals-

It was moved by Donovan, 2nd by Leonard, on Thursday of NFHS Week 33, have 4 Girls Regionals 1A/1B, 2A/2B, 3A,3B, 4A/4B at sites determined by the region.

Motion carries 7-0.

Other Items voted on but are not proposal

1. **Keep the Duals** – The group felt we should keep the duals for one more year to see how two years at this new format works out. The Duals will stay on the same date. The Duals will need to count for weigh-ins and your wrestlers decent plan **(4-3)**. The record will count towards your season record that will go towards Region and State **Seeding (5-2)**
2. **Schedule for State (7-0)**
 - Thursday 1st Session**
 - 7:30am Skin Checks/Weigh-ins at Mats
 - 10:00am 1st Round
 - Thursday 2nd Session**
 - 5:00pm Quarterfinal Matches
 - Friday 1st Session**
 - 6:30am Skin Checks/Weigh-ins at Mats
 - 9:00am 1st Round Consolation & 2nd Round Consolation
 - Friday 2nd Session**
 - 3:30pm Semifinals & 3rd Round Consolation Matches
 - To follow – 4th Round Consolation Matches
 - Saturday 1st Session**
 - 7:30am Skin Checks/Weigh-ins at Mats
 - 2:00pm Championship Matches

Other Discussion Items

1. Schools need to continue to move toward proper fitting singlet and under garments.
2. During weigh-ins Athletes must be wearing a school issues singlet and must present with the straps up when doing skin checks and weigh-ins. The SDHSAA will add to the handbook
3. Comp Passes at State were discussed and we will be looking at how they are distributed. Especially for the managers/statisticians. Currently we give 4 per team per gender. We are looking at limiting the number by the number of participants you have in the tournament. This will be brought back to the advisory to look at for a recommendation in the future.
4. The validity of keeping the Duals
5. Discussion on Forfeits from Team duals in Girls and how that will look Dual Team Members
6. Schools need to have their rosters set or will receive a fine in order to have members left off added. A reminder will be sent to schools of the date in which the rosters will need to be on the Bound website
7. The HOF Awards that are presented at the State Individual Tournament will continue to be right before Championship Matches.
8. Discussion on Host sites for State Wrestling – Rapid City/Sioux Falls

Motion to Adjourn by Ricke 2nd by Donovan – Motion Carries.