

(draft)
WISCONSIN FORENSIC COACHES ASSOCIATION

Fall Business Meeting
Marquette University, Milwaukee WI
Saturday, September 19, 1:00 pm

Call to order – President Rachel Garza – 1:01 pm

Members present at the beginning of meeting: Michael Traas-Appleton East, Kelsey Palmer-Whitefish Bay, Rachel Rosenthal-Garza-Hartford Union, Bonni Knight-Eau Claire North, Ben Kroll-Sheboygan South, Keith VandenHeuvel-Kaukauna, Steve Gargo-Appleton West, David Wyatt-Nicolet, Mary Wacker-Brookfield East, Chris Zoch-Sheboygan North, Shawn Matson-Whitefish Bay, Scott Peterson-Eau Claire North, Joe Meineche-Muskego, Mari Falk-Plymouth, David Loos-Algoma, Colin Winkelmann-Rufus King, Diane Hardy-Rufus King, Carrie Baker-Reagan HS, Ernest Chomicki-Bradley Tech, Doris Sexton-West Bend East, Laurie Strathmann-West Bend East, Gail Burkel-Messmer, Deano Pape-Ripon College, Sara Kersbergen-West Bend West, Tom Hardin-James Madison Memorial, Sarah Panucci-Delavan – Darien, John Rademacher-Madison West, Chuck Malone-WHSFA, Jared Schroeder-Amherst, Lynda Luce-Waupaca, Sue Luterbach- St Joan Antida, Todd Chirhart-Fond du Lac.

Secretary Report – Michael Traas –

- The minutes from the spring meeting were reviewed. (Shawn Matson moved, Steve Gargo 2nd to accept) – The motion passed unanimously.
- The calendar was reviewed (Muskego Tournament on January 30th was added). (Shawn Matson moved to accept the calendar, Mary Wacker 2nd) the motion passed unanimously.

Past President – Jodi Becker (not present) – Kelsey Palmer speaking for Jodi –

- The Constitutional Bylaws which were proposed and initially passed in the spring were reviewed for a second vote (as required by the constitution)

Constitutional bylaws proposal (requires two votes – two meetings) (already passed once at spring meeting in Hartford)

1 – **Proposal to strike ARTICLE II. Section II [p.7] and replace with below:**

~~Section II. Affiliate Membership. Upon payment of annual dues, any person at least 18 years old and not enrolled in a K-12 program may become an affiliate member. An affiliate member may serve in an executive board position if the member was a coach in a WFCFA member school when he/she was elected. An affiliate member has a voice but may not vote in the legislative body.~~

Section II. Individual Memberships.

1. Professional Membership. Upon payment of annual dues, any person at least 18 years old and not enrolled in a K-12 program may become a professional member. A professional member may serve in an executive board position if the member was a coach in a WFCFA member school when he/she was elected. A professional member has a voice but may not vote in the legislative body.

2. Affiliate Membership. If no forensic team exists at a student's school, s/he may apply for an affiliate membership. An affiliate member will be eligible to participate at the WFCFA State Tournament as an independent participant.

(Diane Hardy moved, David Wyatt 2nd) passed unanimously (this was the 2nd vote)

2 – **Proposal to amend ARTICLE III. Section II [p.7] to read:**

Section II. ~~Affiliate~~ Individual Dues. There shall be an annual fee. The Treasurer must receive application with payment to be included in membership mailings.

(Shawn Matson moved, Chris Zoch 2nd) passed unanimously (this was the 2nd vote)

President Elect – Bonni Knight –

- The 40th anniversary of the WFCFA is this coming year – The spring general meeting will be held in the Wisconsin Dells at the Chula Vista, which is where the original meeting of the WFCFA was held. (Bonni will be working with PR Chair Keith VandenHeuvel to create a spectacular event)

Category report – Mary Wacker –

- New topics - Review of topic changes -
- Action Items
 - Group Discussion questions were reviewed and moved to be accepted by Chris Zoch, 2nd by Earnest Chomicki - Passed unanimously
 - Moments in History topic area (the 1980's) was moved to be accepted by Carrie Baker 2nd by Diane Hardy - Passed unanimously
 - Public Address new topics of 1)Same-sex Marriage, 2)Vegetarian/Vegan Diet, 3)Obama Presidency, 4)Social Networking, and 5)Drinking, were moved to be accepted by David Loos, 2nd by Colin Winkelmann - Passed unanimously
 - Special Occasion – initially, Chairperson Mary Wacker noted the variances from WFCFA and WHSFA in Special Occasion this year.
 - First – WHSFA has changed the time limit for Special Occasion at WHSFA events to 6 minutes (effective in the 2010-2011 season).
 - Second – WFCFA will be proposing that two of the topics remain more general, specifically the first (A Eulogy) and fourth (A Tribute) than the WHSFA versions. The Special Occasion topics of 1)A Eulogy, 2)A Public Statement, 3)An Original Summation, 4)A Tribute, were moved to be accepted by Diane Hardy, 2nd by Ernest Chomicki - Passed unanimously
 - Farrago – there were no items of action, but there was a discussion regarding “the use of original material is prohibited” to take back to committee and discuss further, for potential action next year. (straw vote was taken... was approx. 2 to 1 to prohibit original material) More discussion ensued, with no consensus.
 - Storytelling –
 - A motion was made to reduce the number of required stories in storytelling from five to four beginning with the 2009-2010 academic season - moved by Tom Hardin 2nd by Steve Gargo Passed unanimously (WHSFA has also reduced the number of stories from 5 to 4). (At the State tournament – where there is a possibility of 5 rounds – it was determined that students who make the final round will be allowed to select which of their 4 stories they will tell in the final round, but that selection would be made prior to the round starting.)
 - The 4 new topics (1.An Arabian Nights Story, 2.A Favorite Childhood Story, 3.An Animal Story, 4.A Story about Teamwork) were moved to be accepted by David Loos, 2nd by Joe Meinecke - Passed unanimously
 - Extemp – there was discussion about electronic retrieval devices – specifically laptops – the committee did not feel ready to move forward with a recommendation to allow laptops in the prep room. But would encourage individual tournament directors to experiment with it. (the committee feels strongly that the use of laptops in prep is very much on the horizon, but just not ready yet to bring forward action regarding the State Tournament)
 - Mary wanted to remind all that the correct title, is “Radio Announcing” not “Radio Speaking”
 - There have been no negative comments about the split critique sheet.

Category Committee - NEW BUSINESS

- 1- Motion to amend the Operation Bylaws, Section II (Recommended Tournament Practices and Procedures) G (material) 3. “No contestant may use the same script or parts of the same script or speech in more than one event at a WFCFA sanctioned tournament” Moved by Shawn Matson, Diane Hardy 2nd - passed unanimously

- 2- Motion to amend the Operation Bylaws, Section II (Recommended Tournament Practices and Procedures), G (Material) 4. "Tournament directors running WFCAs sanctioned tournaments may deviate from the WFCAs rules" Moved by Diane Hardy, 2nd by Colin Winkelmann, the vote was - in favor - 12; and those opposed - 12, and 2 - abstained. The motion failed.

Public Relations – Keith VandenHeuvel –

- 40th Anniversary is this coming year - Looking for more committee members to participate in the planning. First committee meeting – Sat Oct 3rd – Faros Family restaurant - 131 Pioneer rd – Fond du Lac

Treasure Report – Kelsey Palmer –

- Written Report on Lavender paper - Report was reviewed – motion to approve the Treasure Report (Shawn Matson moved, Mary Wacker 2nd) motion passed nearly unanimously (1 dissention).
- The Bradley Grant – we received \$10,000.00 again this year! Yea!!
- Membership labels – Treasure Kelsey Palmer will be sending them to tournament directors electronically, unless they specifically request to have a hard copy mailed to them.
- For the spring meeting – the Treasure will bring a proposal forward to clean-up the membership structure fee on the form.

TPP Report – Fr Gary Wegner – (not present)

- No Report

Program Assistance – John Peschl – (not present)

- Kelsey Palmer stated that we now have the new DVD's, which are available now for sale (\$10)

State Tournament Director – Chris Zoch –

- Re-iterated the CHANGE of the State tournament date to – April 16-17th (due to ACT testing at Ripon HS – which would leave us without enough rooms for prelim rounds)
- Future dates – refer to Deano Pape – they are looking for alternatives to using Ripon HS in the future
- Procedural – for Impromptu – Students who receive 2^{nds} in the 2nd round will receive semi-final awards.(it is a more appropriate number with respect to the other categories)
- Chris Zoch noted that WHSFA has been very cooperative in scheduling schools that wish to compete in both state events.

State Tournament Site Director – Jodi Becker – (not present) Deano Pape spoke for her

- The tournament ran well within the perspective of the host site directors. (Ripon College is constantly updating their facilities – and this event is truly supported by the College President and the Ripon College Staff)

Student Congress Report – Adam Jacobi – (not present)

- Congress held the final chamber to the city council building – which created an excellent setting for the event. (reported by Deano Pape)

Webmaster – Scott Peterson –

- Look to the website for constant updates. The new Handbook will be updated and online shortly after the meeting. (please be sure to just use the 09-10 dated handbook)
- Membership form – has been redesigned – for informational purposes. (e-mail addresses will be used for updates purposes)
- As we move closer to being entirely electronic – please watch for posted invites and further up to date information.

Old Business –

- Required Coaches' Workshop/ Clinic –
 - Registrations are coming in, dates are set, but will work with individuals who cannot make any of the dates.
 - None of the sites have been solidified yet – but that information will be distributed!
 - Further discussion was had – regarding the philosophy of the concept of the coaching clinics
 - An additional clinic will be held - Wednesday – Jan 6th at Waupaca HS.

New Business -

- Ad Hoc Committee Report – Lyn Luce
 - In the Spring an ad hoc committee was formed to consider the concept of double entry at the state tournament – (the following are the bullet points presented by the members of that committee)
 - Lynda Luce - Feasibility – it can work with the facilities – we have the space at Ripon – increase student opportunity, increase judges, no double entry in draw events or group discussion. Would be working in the parameters that currently exist (no more than 4 in any event from a school). There are audience members that come to state, thus loss of audience for rounds is mute. Want to try it for 2 years. Hopefully a great benefit for students. (not appropriate for all students, but is a great challenge for some students)
 - Chris Zoch – from the Tournament Directors point of view – will it require extra time? It is an issue – there will be some added time. Information to judges will be paramount. Most schools have participated in a double entered tournament – so they understand the concept and process. The starting times of the prelim rounds would have to be tweaked. Would probably add about 15 to 20 minutes to each prelim round.
 - Transportation – we would not only have the busses for transfers, but we would have Ripon college assistance to help with the transportation during the tournament.
 - Costs – each double entered student would cost \$5 extra – to cover additional expenses.
 - Deano Pape– if the cost to Ripon is more than \$4000, Ripon will cover that cost. Ripon College is a supporter of the idea.
 - Jared Schroeder-Amherst - has students very excited about the option to double enter.
 - Shawn Matson – the suggestion was to start earlier, not run later. (preliminary – 30 to 35 minutes longer – clarified by Lyn Luce)
 - Double entry is often a standard in other States.

That concluded the report (bullet points) from the members of the Ad Hoc committee, discussion then began.

- This would be a good service to gifted and talented students. Providing more tools to coaches. (Recruiting and developing a program).
- Tom Hardin – felt that recruitment in schools is key to increasing numbers, as opposed to having a fewer number of students double entering.
- Concerns regarding– culture in a school or team – vs. – trophies, this could have a negative ramification for schools that have more than 20 students on the team.
- Clarification – only 8 teams had a full team last year at the state tournament.
- Bringing home a team award is tangible for acknowledgement from administration.
- Making choices can be good for talented and gifted students, as opposed to trying to “do it all”.
- Team vs. individual – lots of philosophical differences.
- David Loos-Algoma – philosophically – double entry would hurt his team unity and participation – and would be a disservice to his students. (some students would be left home in pursuit of team points – or stronger individuals double entering)
- There was a concern that students that were double entered would be treated differently than non-double entered students.
- Other State's State Tournaments are vastly different than ours – with qualification processes and fewer categories.

The discussion was civil and thought provoking for all present.

Clarification was made – without a proposal publically presented at least three weeks prior to the meeting – no action could be taken (unless there was a motion to suspend the rules and call for a motion from this committee). Conesus appeared to be in favor of spending some time thinking about this before it comes to a vote. Discussion regarding a report and an official proposal to come to the membership in the future.

- The ad hoc committee was charged to continue, and bring forward an official proposal at the spring meeting.

More New Business –

- Mary Wacker – regarding retirement awards – can we bring more prestige to the retirement award by reviewing our procedure – and maybe present the award a year after the retiree retires. (The past president could give this matter some attention)
- Ernest Chomicki – wants to host a forensic workshop! (Jan 16th)

Future Meeting Dates

2010 spring meeting - Sat. May 1st – Chula Vista – Wisconsin Dells

Winter Exec board mtg – Sun. Feb 28th – 1:00 pm – Sun Prairie

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 3:53 pm by Mary Wacker, 2nd by Joe Meinecke.
The motion passed unanimously.