

YET TO BE APPROVED

**WISCONSIN FORENSIC COACHES' ASSOCIATION
SPRING BUSINESS MEETING**

Crown Plaza Hotel – Madison WI

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 12:57 pm by President Deb Weiher-Traas. Representatives from 20 schools were present and introduced.

PAST PRESIDENT REPORT: Deb Weiher-Traas (for Mary Knutson): The Scholarships and Hintz Award recipients were announced (awards were presented at the awards ceremony at the State Tournament). Receiving the scholarships were; Phillip Bridge from Brookfield East, Emily Schwanke from Appleton East, Janani Iangar from James Madison Memorial, and Kelsey Palmer from Brookfield East. The Hintz recipient was Adam Jacobi of Rufus King. The other nominees were Jay Johnson from Sheboygan North and Michael Traas from Appleton East.

Retirement awards were presented to Kathleen Vosberg of Black Hawk, Jan McBride of Neenah, Bill McBride of Neenah, Mary Knutson of Cedarburg, and Carol Hardtke of Marquette.

The “Hall of Fame” award was presented to Gerald Meier of Black Hawk.

SECRETARY REPORT: Michael Traas: The minutes of the fall 2005 business meeting were reviewed and approved unanimously. (Anita Fleisch moved, Mary Wacker seconded) The proposed calendar for 2006-07 was introduced, and Mary Wacker moved to hold the fall meeting on September 23 in conjunction with the WDCA workshop. (Bonnie Knight seconded the motion). The motion was approved unanimously.

TREASURE REPORT: Doris Sexton: A detailed report was presented. Not all expenses are in yet, but it is the Treasure’s estimation that we will end the year with \$4,500 to \$5000.00 while we began with \$7,774.49. After general discussion, it was determined that the State tournament should move towards being more self-sufficient. Thus Doris Sexton moved to increase state registration fees to \$7 per individual event and \$10 per group entry. (Anita Fleisch seconded) The motion was approved unanimously.

Current dues are \$75.00, discussion ensued pertaining to changing the dues, but the general consensus was that the dues should not change.

Adam Jacobi moved that Article II section B number 1 which states “No tournament will be placed on the official calendar if its dues or requisition have not been received by *the fall meeting*” be changed to “No tournament will be placed on the official calendar if its dues or requisition have not been received by *October 1*”. (Ron Steinhorst seconded the motion) The motion was approved unanimously.

PRESIDENT REPORT: Debra L. Weiher-Traas: Deb thanked all that served the association, whether in the form of a committee chairperson, officer or committee member. The president was also happy to report that the year was a nurturing one and steps were taken to promote the association, encourage new membership and motivate current membership.

PRESIDENT-ELECT REPORT: Steve Sexton: The first order of business for the President-Elect was to conduct the elections. The positions that were up for election were Treasure and President-Elect. The only received nomination for treasure was Doris Sexton. No nominations came from the floor, thus Mary Wacker moved to close nominations for Treasure. (Adam Jacobi seconded the motion) The motion was approved unanimously.

The nominees for President-Elect were Jodi Becker of Berlin, Bonni Knight of Eau Claire North, and Fr. Gary Wegner of St. Lawrence. A nominee was added from the floor, Patrick Osowski of Ripon. Nominations were closed. On the first vote, majority was achieved and the new president-elect would be Bonni Knight of Eau Claire North.

Next, President-Elect Steve Sexton opened the floor for feedback and evaluation of the return to the convention format. The format for the spring of 2006 was:

Friday, May 5, 2006
(12:30 — 2:30 pm) - Lunch and Roundtables
(2:45 — 4:30 pm) - Keynote Workshop (Randy McCutcheon)
Friday Evening - Optional Arts Outing (A Moving local theatrical presentation)

Saturday, May 6, 2006
(9:00 am) - Standing Committees open roundtables (Category, PR & TPP)
(11:30 am — 1:00 pm) - Joint (Dutch treat) Luncheon with WDCA
(1:00 pm) - Business Meeting

There was much appreciation and enjoyment expressed over the guest speaker. The maintaining of joint meetings and conventions between WFCFA and WDCA was encouraged.

The association was reminded that in the fall a motion was passed to attempt a fall convention. Thus Lynda Luce moved to vacate the Fall convention concept, but maintain a fall meeting and also maintain a two day spring convention. (Mary Wacker seconded the motion) The motion was approved unanimously.

Finally, Steve Sexton had attended the Board of Control meeting for the WHSFA.

STATE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR REPORT: (Jodi Becker for Chris Zoch): A written report was presented. Team and individual tabulations were audited and finalized. Campus accommodations at Ripon College were effective, efficient and campus personnel very cooperative!

Future dates for WFCFA State tournament – 2007 – April 20th / 21st.

State Coordinator's report from Jodi Becker – Overall Jodi Becker and Deano Pape of Ripon College felt the tournament went very well this year. Time was taken to address some issues from the last year that made the tournament run a little smoother. Some issues at this year's tournament were brought up such as; Library issues, other groups on campus, Timers, shuttle busses, room discrepancies on postings, and separating students in the morning but bringing them back together before needed. These issues will be addressed for next year.

STATE CONGRESS DIRECTOR REPORT: Adam Jacobi: Many changes were incorporated into this year's State Congress tournament, as charged by the executive board:

1. Unicameral Model. (all chambers compete at the same level, no separation of senate over house, and elimination of a novice house)
2. Establish an entry limit. (no more than 16 entries per school)
3. Adjudication. (experienced coaches serve as Parliamentarians, and scorers will be clean judges)
4. Length of sessions. (total floor debate time should be 4 hours)

With these changes, 11 schools registered 82 congresspersons, which were divided into 4 chambers. The top three speakers in each chamber advanced to Saturday's Super Session (all but 4 of the super session participants advanced to semis in their Saturday speech event)

CATEGORY COMMITTEE REPORT: (Deb Weiher-Traas for David Loos): Nothing to report about changes with categories as it is the conclusion of the season. Thanks were expressed to Paul Seymour of Sheboygan North for writing this season's Group Discussion questions.

David will take the suggestions for topics from this mornings open committee meetings to the WHSFA Speech Advisory committee meeting, and will be meeting with his committee in July.

PROGRAM ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Mary Wacker: Program Assistance chair Mary Wacker had three initiatives; Mentorship, Workshop & Video Project. Mary was pleased with the active mentorship that has been taking place with new coaches, and encourages all veteran coaches and tournament hosts to seek out new or inexperienced coaches and proactively provide support.

The workshop held in Brookfield was well attended and efficacious for all in attendance and even turned a slight profit for the association. The workshop provided in the Eau Claire region drew excellent comments and feedback.

The Video project is nearly completed, there was much material provided for the team working on it, and it will be an exciting keepsake.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT: Anita Fleisch: The developed WFCAs brochure and cover letter was sent out to all non-WFCA schools in the state, and a second mailing will be going out this summer.

The WFCA lapel pins were discussed. There were suggestions for new student pins, including different sizes or color coding for years of participation... but no motion was made on changing the lapel pins.

Community Outreach is the next goal for the Public Relations committee, with an initiative to get the WFCA name out to the public. Contacting and creating a list of alumnae who might be able to help promote forensics in Wisconsin, and passive service projects are just several of the ideas that will be explored at this summers PR committee meeting.

Archives will be reviewed and can be stored at Ripon if we choose to do so.

TOURNAMENT PRACTICES AND PORCEEDURES COMMITTEE REPORT: Fr. Gary Wegner: Fr. Wegner started his report by individually thanking each of the individuals that served on his committee; Jodi Becker of Berlin, Mark Kohl of Lodi, Kathleen Vosberg of Black Hawk, Ed Falkner of Valley Christian, Sue Luterbach of St Joan Antida, Ty Wesley of Sheboygan South, Jay Johnson of Sheboygan North, and Chris Schoggen of Hartford Union.

Next, Fr. Wegner noted that Constitutional Bylaws should be reviewed and updated, as they state that “the TPP committee shall audit the tabulation of the sweepstakes awards at the state tournament”, which may no longer be the same procedure with the advent and use of computer tabulation.

At the State tournament there were very few issues to deal with and all were able to be dealt with by following the operating bylaws. While there were relatively few challenges, it can be noted that all coaches and judges involved in the situations that did arise were gracious and professional.

Possible actions for consideration were addressed and asked to be sent to appropriate committees:

1. Recommend amending the rules of Special Occasion to say “Visual supporting materials may be used, *but not worn.*”
2. Recommend consideration of the necessity of time keeping in the final round other than for Radio Announcing.
3. Request a clarification of the rules regarding the meaning of “may not be ranked first in the round” for semi-finals and finals. Does this mean the student may not be ranked first by an individual judge but if then ranked second by all three judges he or she may be overall first?

OLD BUSINESS: No old business was on the agenda or occurred.

NEW BUSINESS: The first order of business was the exchange of the gavel from Deb Weiher-Traas to Steve Sexton. Steve led the association in thanking Deb for her service and gracious leadership.

There was no new business on the agenda, so the floor opened for new business.

Ernest Chomicki moved to re-instate Oral Interpretation of Literature. (Ron Steinhorst seconded the motion) Discussion over low numbers at individual invites, the desire to maintain a great number of categories and the option of double entering at the state tournament occurred. The motion passed on a 12 to 5 vote.

Fr Gary Wegner moved to re-instate Public Address. (Ron Steinhorst seconded the motion) After considerable discussion the question was called. The motion was passed on a voice majority vote.

Next new business from the floor was an announcement of a brewer game and tailgating opportunity for all interested by “Wisconsin Forensics Daily” webmaster – Nick Bubb.

Lynda Luce asked that the issue of double entering at the State Tournament be sent to category committee or an Ad hoc committee. President Steve Sexton felt both Category and TPP will address it. Please contact committee chairs with opinions.

A motion was made “*to adjourn*”. (Adam Jacobi moved, Bonnie Knight seconded) The motion passed unanimously.