

# WCCCA 2016 Annual Convention and Members Meeting Agenda

1. **Call to Order-** President Matt Polzin (3:48)
  2. **Roll call of officers and District Reps**
  3. **Proof of Notice of meeting**
  4. **Agenda Approval** (additions to agenda, discussion about rules)
  5. **WCCCA Awards**
  6. **Reports from officers:**
    - a. **Treasurer** – Balance is about \$3,000 in account for clinic.
    - b. **Secretary** – Nothing to Report
    - c. **Clinic Organizer** – Nothing to Report
    - d. **President-**
      - SUMMER RACE SERIES**  
A series of summer races are being proposed by Dom Newman and Kevin Ludeke.
      - NOMINEES FOR DISTRICT 7 REPS**
        - i. Glen Gardiner-Wauwatosa East
        - ii. Rich Raney-Muskego
        - iii. Eric Lueck-Wisconsin Lutheran
        - iv. Glenn Schultz-Racine Park
  7. **Introduction of new officers** -Steve Lewis of Kettle Moraine is new District 6 Rep
  8. **Topics for discussion** (three minute time limit)
    - a. **Motion to change by-laws so changes go through a proposal process**  
Form on website that will be used to process suggestions for change.  
Suggestions for change should go through the WCCCA site.  
  
*Cross Country ideas or Initiatives to create change or advance the cross country programs in the state of Wisconsin require that interested parties need to fill out a suggestion form located on the WCCCA website. That form is to be submitted to their district representative or a WCCCA officer. Failure to utilize this submission process will prevent ideas from being presented to the coaches advisory/WIAA.*
- Discussion -
- Q. How many coaches are in the association?
  - A. About 50%. Maybe. Should be more.

Q. Can we put some info in the sectionals packets to state qualifying teams about joining the WCCCA?

A. Good idea.

**Vote** on proposal to change by-laws – passed (unanimous)

**b. Proposal for At-Large bids for state CC – Kevin Hopp (SPASH)**

Kevin is the District 2 rep, not much support in his district for seeded sectional plan. Here is Kevin's plan.

-Reduce the number of sectionals to 9 in D1, 7 in D2 and D3 and increase the number of teams at each sectional minimally (13 in D1, 17 in D2).

-Top two teams qualify for state from each sectional, and top five individuals.

-The top two third place teams based on rankings will then go to state.

Q. Will there be less individuals at state?

A. Yes. Five less individuals due to one less sectional.

Q. Who does the selection?

A. The two highest ranked teams would go. Or, perhaps, the decision would be made by a committee.

Q. What if two ranked teams finish 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> in a sectional?

A. The third place team would advance, but the 4<sup>th</sup> wouldn't.

Q. We had seven of the top 10 ranked teams in our sectional. What about that?

A. We can look into that, but there is no perfect way. People will disagree as to who the top teams might be, but allowing some teams

Comment from Matt - We need to look at what could get through the WIAA. The at-large proposal might have a chance. There is still geographic representation, and there isn't ever a completely fair system.

Q. Are there ever sectionals that have four or five ranked teams?

A. Yes. Occasionally.

Q. What about a regional to pair-down and go to a sectional?

A. Regionals went away for various reasons; money, D3 regionals were smallish...

Q. How would last year's proposal have worked with this year?

A. MARTY - People don't understand the proposal, and for the most part our sectionals are good, but with minimal movement we could have improvement. Only two teams should be moved. Incomplete teams are a problem.

Comment from Matt – We had a great return on survey (88%) but, according to the WIAA, there wasn't enough support (about 52%) to have a change.

Q. What's the rationale for decreasing participation at the state meet?  
Does it help?

A. We'd still have the same number of teams, but we would be decreasing five individuals. Five individuals out of 190 shouldn't hurt the sport. If there is a better solution, please share it. The WIAA won't give us more participation at state (nor more teams at state).

Q. Why does the WIAA keep adding divisions to sports? Football is crazy (eight divisions).

A. We could probably get more divisions, but there would have to be support for it from the coaches. Softball got an additional division and more teams, but they did it through gender equity. They won't allow for additional teams.

- I'm not comfortable with the coaches making decisions. It should come down to the athletes that day. There shouldn't be extra qualifiers.

Q. If people are concerned about losing runners, why not add one additional qualifier per sectional?

A. That is something we could discuss.

Q. Is there a reason why the WIAA won't allow more teams? Why can't we allow the 20 / 16 / 16 teams that go now, but have a couple extra per division? If they can do it in track, why not throw an extra team in for cross country?

A. This is a good question for Stephanie.

- We already have too many individuals that make it to state that can't make the podium. We shouldn't worry too much about individuals. Now you could be 19<sup>th</sup> and make it to state.

MATT - If this is something that we take action on, it won't happen until next November.

**c. Middle school cross-country distance** - Should we, as an association, take a stance on middle school race distance? Should middle school meets be 2 miles?

C. It's really hard to prepare kids for different meets when they are different distances. If we had a guideline for MS coaches it would make things easier.

C. USA Track and Field uses 3k and 4k for youth.

C. Not many middle schools are in the WIAA. It would help to have some guidelines for MS coaches.

C. Some MS schools don't start cross until Sept 1, and most are done by early October. It might be too much to have them run two miles.

- Can sixth graders handle a 3200m race?

- What if we standardize it for 8<sup>th</sup> grade?

C. In November, many of the large meets (Footlocker, Border War) have youth races that are 3k.

**d. Website and coaches forum** – What about creating a coaches forum on the WCCCA site? Will people use it if we get out the word? Good discussions can happen on a forum for discussion of our sport.

**e. Coaches Advisory summary** – Read the minutes. Highlight was discussion about changing the starting time for state. The state meet schedule has been changed to set-up a six year rotation. That way the D1 athletes aren't always running last.

Concern: Many fans are D1 fans, and if they run in the morning, then will that make the race worse, with less spectators?

Also, wording of notes at coaches advisory summary is a little confusing.

**f. Stephanie's first year and her presentation on Saturday** – Stephanie will be her on Saturday to address the group from 11:00-11:30. She, admittedly, does not know track and cross country as well as Marcy. She is willing to learn and listen to the group. Give her time. She is easy to work-with. She'll be discussing out of state team competitions and summer contact.

**g. All Sectional** – Glen Gardner from Tosa East - NCAAs have all-regional teams. How about, at the sectional meet, having an all-sectional team. Could be top 10 or top 15 or top 20 kids. Football has all-regional. Why not have an all-sectional or all-district team? It would be awarded by the WCCCA and would be a certificate.

Comment – This would allow us to have more publicity, such as football. Small town newspapers are looking for items.

Comment – All-district might make a little more sense.

Comment – All-district makes things difficult because D3 and D1 kids are competition, and they run on different courses and so on.

**Vote** – Explore at an all-sectional team passes unanimously

## **9. Items for future Agendas (ie. meetings outside of the convention date).**

**a. Next meeting at WISTCA Clinic on Saturday, February 6th**

## **10. Thank you to the hard work to all that make the WCCCA convention, the**

**awards happen, the state meet go well, rankings take place.**

**11. Adjourn (5:12)**