

IHSGCA Association Meeting

February 20th, 2008



Meeting called to order at 7:16 p.m. by Frank Novakowski

Attendance: 15

Agenda Items:

Current Balance:

\$26,372.12

Philanthropy:

www.IHSGCA.ORG

Goals for charitable contributions?

- Amend constitution to accommodate guidelines for donations
- In the future, the Steering Committee would govern funds and conduct a needs assessment on a case-by-case basis (number of contributions/year, amount, how to determine recipient, etc.)
 - This would eliminate future voting at meetings which may bias the decision based on membership present.*
- Example: Association's contribution to Steve Holmbeck's family in 2006.
- The Association's benevolence may have other positive effects aside from the obvious: raise our profile within the community, increase participation in casino nights, increase meeting attendance, etc.
- Point was made that we now have a healthy balance of funds and budgeting a certain amount per year would allow us to give back to gymnastics families in need.

U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Rob Miller, former Wheaton North gymnast, was killed in action January 25 in Afghanistan. <http://www.blackfive.net/main/2008/02/staff-sergeant.html>

Accomplishments: 2001 Captain, State Qualifier: Rings, P-bars

2002 Captain, State Qualifier: AA + all six events, vault finalist

Steering Committee proposed a \$500 donation on behalf of the Association in Rob Miller's name to a charity fund that helps the children of soldiers who were killed or wounded, and also a charity that helps Afghanistan, such as helping build and supply schools.

*Discussion ensued regarding contributing to these funds on behalf of Sgt. Miller.

Steve Gale moved to authorize \$500 donation; Pat Cole seconded

Unanimously passed

State Meet:

IHSA is awaiting a member school to step up and host for '09.

Future site possibilities: Lincoln-Way (distance affecting attendance is a concern)

UIC (cost is a concern as well as it not being a high school*)

Forest View

Lake Park West

*Blaise Blasko and Howie Sokol pointed out that the IHSA Advisory Board wants to keep the state meet site at a high school

Other suggestions: Glenbard West, Wheaton North, Hinsdale Central, Rolling Meadows, Lyons Township (suggested by Kurt Gibson). Possibility of Jerry Fontana loaning portable equipment.

Concerns:

- need to have a site established going into the '08 State Meet
- cost (host school must be prepared to absorb the cost and possibly lose money)
- seating and parking for 2000 spectators is required
- technology in place at site (Epson projectors, screens, etc.)
- IHSA's protocol for site selection?

IHSA: new site to be secured by "word of mouth". How best to heighten awareness that we are seeking a new site and sell the idea to a potential host school? Benefits might include:

- draw attention to host school through the IHSA
- contribute to the strength of the IHSA as an additional state tournament site
- bring more gymnastics interest in the community
- bring local business: restaurants and hotels

Alumni Newsletter:

Please send a paragraph addressing your season outlook as well as a team picture to Jason Orna. Jason's efforts heighten the awareness of the challenges facing Illinois gymnastics.

In addition, the news letter increases our exposure and will expand our judging pool.

All coaches are encouraged to contribute at least 3 names to the Alumni email contact list.

Hall of Fame Banquet and Golf Outing

Wednesday, May 14

Old Orchard Country Club; 3:30 p.m. tee times begin

Morava Center; 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. HOF Banquet

Inductee(s): Mark Watman, Andy Kostick

Judging:

Chris Cassidy has crafted an ingenious three-part plan to increase the number of gymnastics officials (see attached proposal and sample shadow voucher)

Additional concerns:

- Meets occurring on the same days pressures the supply of officials.
- How to best advertise Rules Interpretation Meetings and Judging Clinics.
- Coaches need to "coach" the judges with constructive criticism as opposed to chastising the rookie judges' efforts.
- Howie Sokol stated that IHSA Director Marty Hickman is "looking in to" boys gymnastics with regards to programs and participants as well as officials.
- Several coaches stated that to the contrary, we have some of the biggest teams in recent memory.

Blaise Blasko moved to adapt the Cassidy Mentoring Program.

Pat Cole seconded.

Unanimously passed

Old Business:

IHSGGCA to participate in NHSGA National Meet as opposed to NHSGCA National Meet.

President of IHSGGCA supports our Association's decision not to share casino night proceeds.

*noted that there were no men's teams at NHSGA meet.

*noted that Texas and Illinois were only men's teams at NHSGCA meet.

New Business:

Morava Center needs new frames. Blaise will order more.

There is only room for five more pictures on the wall.

HOF committee will look in to options for expansion.

Motion to adjourn: Steve Gale. Seconded by Greg Gebhardt

Meeting adjourned: 8:36 p.m.