**2017-2018 Secretary’s Annual report**

This has been a very interesting year. In my 29 years of being involved in wrestling in Ontario as a coach and an administrator, I have not been so disappointed in the functioning of the OAWA.

Why was this year SO different?

Could it be that our Provincial Director was threatened with dismissal by the Chair of the OAWA?

Could it be that two of our Board members were threatened with dismissal, due to their insubordination, from their volunteer positions on this Board by the same Chair?

Could it be that the Chair is targeting Team Impact, the club he Presided over for eight years and resigned from in April 2016?

Could it be that the Chair is engaging the Association, he presides over, in an unnecessary and costly judicial review?

Could it be that the Association’s personnel resources have been consumed by the Chair’s “mandated task to drain the swamp”? As stated in the President’s Report presented to the Board of Directors’ at their January 20th, 2018 Meeting, *“I was elected to drain the swamp. I fully intend to continue draining.”* According to the 2017 AGM meeting minutes, the President was ACCLAIMED. There is no direction given to the President by the membership in the AGM Meeting minutes for the President to drain the swamp.

Please note:

- ALL OAWA Executive and Board of Directors meeting minutes are reviewed and accepted at the following meeting by these groups. This has been and will continue to be the practice.

-for this year, ALL the contracts of the OAWA staff and it’s contractors were approved by the Executive and Board of Directors. The meetings at which these activities were approved were chaired by the President. Any individuals that were deemed in a conflict of interested recused themselves from being involved in the discussions and voting. This has been and continues to be the practice of the OAWA.

This past year, the following business items were discussed by the Executive at various meetings:

1. Women’s Development Committee (2017 AGM and subsequent Executive Meetings).
2. Ontario Wrestlers’ Educational Trust Fund – recommendation to re-tool the program to support wrestlers graduating University attending Teachers’ College. (August Executive Committee Meeting).
3. Web Site Development. Committee established (Steve S., Bob, Jay Jordon) . (December Executive Committee Meeting).
4. ODP (Regional OHP program). Discussion to implement ODP. (August Executive Committee Meeting)
5. Officials’ Development Initiatives and Support. (August Executive Committee Meeting)
6. Fundraising – including Alumni Development and communication. Jay Jordon to Chair a Committee. (August Executive Committee Meeting)
7. Humber College Sports Admin. Co-op Student. (August Executive Committee Meeting)
8. National Championships Sanction Fees Discussion items. (August Executive Committee Meeting):
   * 1. Increase fees for Provincial non-placers.
     2. Tie sanction fees to what WCL charges OAWA in Affiliation fee calculation.
9. Membership Registration System – investigate a new web platform/service. (November Executive Committee Meeting)
10. Membership Review Committee.
    * 1. Committee established to review decline in membership
      2. How to improve our USports Numbers. Possibly with College Affiliation.

Committee formed: Bob, Jeremy, Jay and Jay. (December Executive Committee Meeting)

Most of these items are still pending

The OAWA IS every athlete, coach and official participating in wrestling in Ontario! WE must strive to build our base to expand our talent pool. This applies to athletes, coaches and officials.

Giving the current financial position of the organization, the OAWA has ample opportunities to grow wrestling. I am excited for the potential to grow.

Chris Stefopulos