**Canadian Arm Wrestling Federation 2020 Annual General Meeting**

Date: May 24, 2020  
Attendance (alphabetical order):

* ●  Alain Goyer, QC Representative
* ●  Anthony Dall’ Antonia, CAWF Communications Director
* ●  Darrell Steffensen, MB President
* ●  Dave Campbell, CAWF Referee in Chief
* ●  Keith Koenig, BC President
* ●  Luc Faubert, NB President
* ●  Mark Mcphail, Representative for 2023 Nationals bid
* ●  Patrick Callan, CAWF Assistant Referee in Chief
* ●  Rick Pinkney, CAWF President
* ●  Ryan Espey, CAWF Vice-President
* ●  Stan Scott, Moderator
* ●  Tony Brooks, ON President
* ●  Tracey Arnold, CAWF Secretary/Treasurer
* ●  Shawn Ross, NS Vice-President

Observer

● Vivian Santos, MB Armwrestler

Not in Attendance:

* ●  Jeff Frank, AB President
* ●  Charlie McGeoghegan, PEI President

Meeting called to order at approximately 1:07 PM.

Welcoming remarks from CAWF President Rick Pinkney - thank you Stan Scott for hosting and recording the annual general meetings.

**AGENDA**

1. TheappointmentandelectionofanewVice-PresidentofCAWF.

Rick Pinkney & Darrell Steffenson nominated Ryan Espy from Manitoba.  
Rick moves motion to appoint Ryan to be VP of CAWF for the 2020 3-year term.

Seconded by: Luc Faubert

Carried and Passed unanimously.

Rick moves motion to appoint Ryan Espey as VP of CAWF, effective immediately. Seconded by: Dave Campbell

Carried and Passed unanimously. 2. TheappointmentandelectionofanewSecretary-TreasurerofCAWF.

Rick Pinkney nominated Vivian Santos from Manitoba (was put on hold as Vivian was not present at the time).

Reconvened at 2:15PM: Rick moves motion to appoint Vivian Santos to be Secretary/Treasurer of CAWF for the 2020 3-year term.  
Seconded by: Darrell Steffenson

Comments: Thank you Tracey for the work you have done over the years. It is very well appreciated and you will be missed. Tracey advised that she will stay on as scorekeeper. Hockey has taken off and wants to focus on the Ethics Committee and help get that updated. Being on the Executive and on the Ethics Committee there was a bit of a conflict of interest. Welcome Vivian to the executive.

Carried and Passed unanimously. 3. Adoptandapprovelastyear’s2019CAWFAGMMinutesofMeeting.

Dave Cambell moves motion to adopt and accept 2019 CAWF AGM minutes of meeting.  
Seconded by: Keith Koenig

Carried and Pass unanimously.

4. Secretary/Treasurer,FinancialIncomeStatement.

Tracey Arnold: Last year at Nationals everyone paid - thank you to everyone for being on top of paying for your fees! All expenses have been listed as well. Next year will be

different as there won’t be a lot of revenue. Tracey to send out financial statements to everyone so they have a copy for their records.

Comments: Rick stated that everyone has paid their fees except for Alberta. New Brunswick is not listed but notes that they did pay. Tracey to update the statement to reflect this change.

Dave Campbell moves to accept Financial Income Statement, as is. Seconded by: Keith Koenig

Carried and Pass unanimously.

5. ProvincialUpdates.

**B.C. Update**: Keith Koenig: Postponed couple of contests, tough year this year. Ppl are anxious to get back at it. Anthony states everything is on hold and anxious to get back. Hopefully for a better next year.

Questions: none.  
**AB Update**: no representation.

**SK Update**: Tracey Arnold: First provincial championship in Lloydminster this year - growing club there. Located at the border of AB and SK. Sheldon Short has been heading that club and they agreed to host Provincials next year. They have a venue set up. All of the events were cancelled.

Questions: Rick - how did you decide Lloydminster was to be a part of SK? Tracey - Lloydminister is associated with SK. There are some residents of Lloydminster that have SK addresses. However, this club is SK based and open to anyone from AB or Sask to train armwrestling. Note that the Provnicials is only open to SK addresses. There are continuous ongoing discussions with the AB association. If there was a competitor living in SK, but the primary residential address is in AB - then that competitor needs to decide between the clubs.

**MB Update**: Darrell Steffenson: MB club has seen 25-30 ppl coming to practice and there are clusters of 17-19 year old kids coming to practice. We are shut down now and are trying to get back. Kids and youth competitors are getting bigger. Amateur is getting bigger. Nationals will be next year - a new website is getting set up right now to reflect the change. It says 2020, but we will move it to 2021. Pretty much everything is the same. Same venue, but we lost that weekend (voted on it already). But that weekend

has more room and space to host 500 people. Stan and I will announce next week. Everyone if you can post it on their sites. Can book hotel rooms right now and will post the discount number.

Questions: none.

**ON Update**: Tony brooks: Earlier this year was great, membership numbers are up. Hosted a tournament called “Pulling for Veterans'' which raised $30grand for homeless veterans. From that event, if we can get back to armwrestling this year - we know tournaments will be a great success. Everyone is interested to get back to the table. Getting lots of questions about Worlds in Florida - want to know what is going there. Amateur and Novice numbers are going up. But everything is on hold.

Questions: none.

**QC Update**: Alain Goyer: Every day there are a lot of pullers from everywhere. Young pullers - we got to do great events, really continuing that way. Except because of the pandemic there is nothing - hope to do something good this year.

Questions: none.

**N.B. Update**: Luc Faubert: 2019 - 2020 was very productive. We had 1 team of 6 guys. Now we are at 30 guys in the N.B. association. 2 teams in Moncton that practice different times a week. 1 team in the north. 1 team in the Edmonds area. Making good headway. Putting N.B. back on the map. Everything was lined up and we were going to host the very first provincials, last one was 1996. We were all hyped up, had sponsors lined up and had Rick was going to give us a hand with refereeing. Scott McInnis to video tape it. Covid19 cancelled it and is on the back burner. Still able to host Provincials, just not this year. First time in a very long time - N.B. has been able to make and pay their CAWF fee. I wanted that to happen to show that we are contributing. Everyone stay safe and hope to see everyone next year.

Comments: had a question for the CAWF on referee certification: Due to covid19, our expiration date on our referee certification was set to expire for 2021. The 3 referees that are certified in N.B. are myself, Jamie Leblanc(sp?), Ragene Alaine(sp?). Question is will there be an exception due to covid19 to extend our deadline for the 2021 to be able to renew? Rick answered yes there can be an exception to extend since covid19. Tracey stated that Dave, as Referee in Chief, will speak to this issue when he gives his update.

Questions: none.  
**NFLD Update**: no representation

**N.S. Update**: Rick Pinkney: New shirts hoping to wear at Nationals, not happening right now. Hosted 2 tournaments and those went well. We outlayed a lot of money for trophies for Provincials which we may need to use for next year - they will have 2020 dates unfortunately. Hopefully Atlantic Canadians can get back to pulling. Everyone is waiting to open up. Shaun stated that the junior program is going very well. Hopefully we don't lose a lot of them and they lose interest because there are no practices. Not much going on.

Questions: none.

**Discussion of Old Business**

1. Processtosuspendcompetitorsfromacompetition.

Dave Campbell: Rick and I talked about one of the biggest question, “should we be suspending?” There should be 3 referees at the table. Cannot suspend ppl without talking to the Head Referee to ensure that it is just cause. We are going to include this in the Constitution. Finish it within the next few months. Very hard to control the tournament. Need to make sure there are 3 refs at the tournament. If something happens, all 3 get together to discuss it. We are not trained to make that call.

Questions and Comments:

* ●  Recommended that updates be shown on the website, or ppl are notified

of the process.

* ●  Dave stated that Rick and him are to get together in person and talk about

it and make sure they are in alignment.

* ●  There is a suspension issue in NB, Dave is aware of the situation. As it

stands, he is suspended from armwrestling in NB, received the okay to suspend him from CAWF tournaments and affiliated teams and tournaments. Was to receive in writing from either Tracy, Rick or Dave. He is still trying to contest it. Dave advised that he and Rick have to deal with it and will be brought up again later.

2. NationalsinWinnipeg,Manitoba

Darrell Steffenson: all the logos and designs updated to 2021. Able to push the medals to next year. Some new ideas to make Nationals even better. Still waiting to see what is happening with pandemic restrictions. Any questions or ideas - send me an email.

Questions and Comments: ● None.

New Business

1. YouthandnewJunior(19-21yearsold)ClassesatNationals.

Proposal by Darrell Steffensen:

* ●  Suggest extension of the age of 19 for youth nationals for next year, because

they would have been able to pull this year at the age of 18. There is a lost

opportunity. We have about half a dozen that are changing over.

* ●  Worlds offers a Junior class for ages 19-21. A lot of youth that have 17, 18, 19

years, would it be beneficial to run a class like that. Something we could try, particularly if they want to go Worlds.

Questions and Comments:

* ●  Rick states that 4 tables will be offered during the youth tournament. Wouldn't

affect timing. Does not have an issue.

* ●  Need to figure out what weight classes to do.
* ●  Leave that discussion with the organizers of Nationals. Or should CAWF discuss.
* ●  Darrell said he would be fine with organizing and trying it out. Darrell to set the

template for the future. Make necessary adjustments in the future.

* ●  Pass it by the Executive before finalizing medals.
* ●  Need to decide what day to have Juniors pull either 1st or 2nd day. Tracy advised

there will be no change in the format of the tournament.

* ●  Alain Goyer asked if it is worth it to establish a 19-21 class if there would be

enough to pull at worlds.

* ●  Ryan Espey stated that there were a lot in Canada. Good stepping stone for

juniors to go into senior classes.

* ●  Alain stated if this will help to promote the youth and juniors, he is in favour of

having that age category between 19-21.

Rick Pinkney moves motion to have a 19-21 year old class next year. Classes to be determined. Need to have a cut off date. Darrell to discuss with CAWF Executive before moving forward.

Seconded by: Luc Faubert

2. ReturntoArmwrestlingPost-Pandemic:standards,safetyprecautions,provincial standards etc.

Proposal by Rick Pinkney:

* ●  The way we are holding hands the whole time, we will be one of the last sports

getting back to it.

* ●  Summary:
  + ○  Stage 1: training at home.
  + ○  Stage 2: small groups at the beginning, don't mingle with others groups,

stay with 5 ppl in your group. No club inter-mingle. Sanitize your hands every time you pull. Can't use chalk. Possibly use Liquid sanitizer with liquid chalk - manufactured in the States.

* + ○  Stage 3: Up to 10 ppl and can move amongst other clubs. Different days and different times. Keep track of everyone and have a sign in sheets. Hand sanitizer and wear masks all the time. Cleaning of tables constantly.
  + ○  Stage 4: back to normal.

Questions and Comments:

* ●  Each province will have to stay within their public health orders.
* ●  Referees need masks and hand sanitizer. Wear gloves and change them all the

time? Or wear gloves and just sanitize?

* ●  Still need to wipe the table down.
* ●  Need to take the different stages into consideration. We don’t know what stage

we will be at by then. The social and physical distance is impossible. So until that is done, we are done. Waiting to hear back from NS Health. Don't need to vote on this issue.

* ●  This is a broad protocol. Setting a national standard and allowing the provinces to use it as a guide.
* ●  Rick will email it out to each province and they can review it.

3. ElectronicVotingandEmailVoting,andtheneedtoupdatetheconstitution.

Proposal by Rick Pinkney:

* ●  Electronic voting is not defined on how it's to be done like how much time we

should be allowed, and time for conversation.

* ●  We had a week and it was too long. Was difficult to remind and follow up.

Carried and Passed unanimously.

Rick Pinkney moves motion to have 3 days max for discussion and a 3 day max to vote after initial discussion for the electronic voting/email voting. Update the constitution to reflect this.  
Seconded by: Patrick Callan

Carried and Passed unanimously. 4. CAWFdiscouragingtournamentsinBarsandlicenseddrinkingestablishments.

Proposal by Luc Faubert:

* ●  2019 total of 8 tournaments throughout the province of NB. Tournaments in bars,

we couldn't get any kids. Having two tournaments for kids, and lots of

attendance.

* ●  Aiming in NB allowing 3-4 tournaments in a non alcoholic area. Recommending,

if possible, every province would set up a series of little tournaments specifically for youth in a non alcoholic area.

Discussions and Questions:

* ●  SK already does this.
* ●  NB tries to run tournaments outside of bars.
* ●  Not in favour of CAWF telling provinces how to run their tournaments.
* ●  CAWF should not be mandated how to regulate tournaments, when Provinces

have different situations and rules and regulations.

* ●  Do we want CAWF to put out an official statement to recommend that kids events

don't happen in bars or licensed establishments and not in the constitution.

* ●  In Quebec, kids are allowed to go into bars when they sell food, suggestions to

make armwrestling more popular and have it in schools.

Luc Faubert moves a motion that family oriented tournament where kids are involved, keeping it family oriented. With new Cannibas laws established, smoking at these events should not happen.  
Seconded by: none

Defeated and motion failed.

5. CAWFAccountabilityAct.

Proposal by Luc Faubert:

* ●  Any one registered to CAWF bank account signs an accountability form.
* ●  At the end of year, everything is accounting for and transparent. This is

something that was never done in the past.

* ●  Close some loopholes on the possibility to withdraw funds.

● President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer who are registered on the CAWF banking account need to sign the accountability form.

Discussions and Questions:

* ●  In the constitution Article 13 No 8. there is already a stipulation to provide details

of accounting.

* ●  Secretary/Treasurer has no jurisdiction over Team Canada financials.
* ●  More detailed accounting on Team Canada on where the money goes.
* ●  Whoever has access or uses CAWF money must account for all monies where it

went.

* ●  Must be accountable to CAWF.

Luc Faubert moves a motion that whoever has access to the CAWF monies (i.e. World event money) must report back with a detailed expense report to the Sec/Tres within 30 days of the event.  
Seconded by: Dave Campbell

Carried and Passed unanimously.

6. Refereepagetobeupdated.

Proposal by Luc Faubert.

* ●  Page needs to be updated.
* ●  Active Levels will be listed on the page that they are in good order with the

CAWF.

Discussions and Questions:

* ●  Nobody was reporting. Alberta is the only one.
* ●  All the tournaments in NB have been reported
* ●  All the tournaments in BC have been reported.
* ●  Reports go to Rick first and then goes to Dave.
* ●  If people are submitting, then there could be an IT issue.
* ●  Need to address and rectify. Leave for now and investigate the IT issues.

7. AllofthoselegallyregisteredtoaccessCAWFbankaccountsshouldsigna disclosure agreement.

Proposal by Luc Faubert:

* ●  Anyone that has access to the bank account must sign a disclosure agreement

responsible for the transactions.

* ●  Must provide proof and give it to the secretary/treasurer.

Discussions and Questions:

* ●  As the executive is spread out throughout the Country, it is very difficult to get

signatures.

* ●  Main accounting branch is in NS.
* ●  If you are not in an executive position, you must remove yourself from the

account yourself.

* ●  Possible to take the minutes to the bank and do a letter to remove.
* ●  There is a directors amendment form, however the process is very cumbersome

especially with executives spread out throughout the Country.

* ●  Something to discuss outside of this AGM to find a solution.

Luc Faubert moves motion to have a disclosure agreement signed by all those responsible for the CAWF money/account and if you are no longer a signing officer, you are responsible to remove yourself from the account.  
Seconded by: Dave Campbell

Carried and Passed unanimously.

8. Anyothernewbusiness.

Proposal from Rick Pinkney.

* ●  Joey and Ashley Costello must give a full detailed accounting of all the monies

they received for Team Canada.

* ●  All left over monies left over from 2019 must be paid back to the CAWF.
* ●  Failure to do so will result in a suspension until these conditions are met.

Discussions and Questions:

* ●  Joey stepped down already, what are the expectations of the suspension.
* ●  They cannot referee in any CAWF affiliated tournament nor represent Canada in

any competition.

* ●  How are we going to recuperate the money if there is money? Have them pay out

of their pocket? How far back are we going?

* ●  Just try to recuperate this year 2019.
* ●  What is the suspension is going to look like - needs to be provided within 30 days

or are we setting a time frame for the money or are they simply suspended until

it’s returned.

* ●  If they are not willing to return, suspend them for a lifetime.
* ●  Not a great deal of accountability of sponsorship money.
* ●  misappropriation of funds or an accounting error.
* ●  Remove the suspension.

● Need someone neutral to review the accounting, get a third party to review.

Rick Pinkney moves motion that Joey and Ashley Costello must give a full detailed accounting of all the monies they received for Team Canada. All left over monies left over from 2019 must be paid back to the CAWF.  
Seconded by: Luc Faubert

Carried and Passed unanimously. Vivian Santos and Luc Faubert logs off at 4:00PM

9. BidforCapeBreton,NovaScotiafor2022Nationals Proposal from Mark MacPhail:

● https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oCJ3Dt4uU9I

Discussions and Questions:  
● BC had an interest in hosting. Unfortunately no club from BC has stepped up to

host.

Rick Pickney moves a motion to have Cape Breton, Nova Scotia to host the 2022 Nationals  
Seconded by: Shaun Ross

Carried and Passed unanimously.

10. IFA and WAF Nationals Updates

Rick Pinkney: nobody knows what the world is going to look like in 4 months. Facebook page has been set up to see what interests there were. In speaking with people, unfortunately you cannot get covid19 related travel insurance. If you get sick and need to quarantine or hospitalize, you are on your own for paying the expenses. Until there is a vaccine available, insurance may become available.

Mark MacPhail logs off at 4:05PM. 11. Head Referee Update

Dave Campbell: the suspension of competitors was already discussed earlier and will need to put something back into our constitution. Regarding the Referee Reporting, he does not see them. When you fill them out online, they are supposed to go to Rick and they go to me. Agreed that we need to show the experience to everyone. If there are

any legal issues out there, we need to have a record showing the experience. Hopefully nothing will happen in the interim. Same as the paperwork, but it’s faster to do it online.

Questions: none.  
12.Ethics Committee Update.

Tracey Arnold: one of the reasons stepping away from the executive, there have been situations that have occurred where more attention is being needed on the ethics committee. Asked Chantal Leduc to help update the ethics and standards for the CAWF. Designing a complaint process and trial. The constitution needs to be updated because of ethics updates. Need to have a procedure in place so that if there are any future issues there is a guideline to follow and it is very clear.

Discussions and Questions:

* ●  Currently only one person on the ethics committee.
* ●  Chantal has agreed to help be a third party person to assist if there are any

issues to arise.

* ●  Discipline Committee not too sure how many members.
* ●  Suggestions to have an odd amount of people on committee and someone from

the executive to be on the committee. Asked Brittany to be a part of the

committee.

* ●  Decisions are often vetted by the committee, you can't change the decision, but

you can offer input.

* ●  Smart having a neutral party on the committee and not in favour of having an

executive on the committee. The process goes thru the executive to make

recommendations and decisions.

* ●  Appeal process currently has no steps and processes.
* ●  Tracy is open to hearing further ideas, just email or reach out to her directly.

Closing remarks and comments:

● Shaun - NB still has an issue with the competitor who is currently suspended for

5 years. He is appealing. Need to deal with asap. He is trying to armwrestle in Quebec in a club that is not sanction by CAWF. That is why it is important that Chantal and Tracey need to figure out the procedures of the appeal process. Need to figure out whether the Executive along with the Directors need to make the final decision. Need to have a separate meeting on this issue. Luc can follow up with Alain for further discussions.

Rick Pinkney moves motion to adjourn meeting at 5:24PM.

Seconded by: Tracey Arnold

Carried and Passed unanimously.