

MTWOA Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes – February 15, 2026

Time: 7:04 PM CST

Location: Virtual (Google Meet)

Presiding Officer: President David Davenport

Recording Secretary: Eric Ward

Note-Taking Support: Automated AI (Gemini)

I. Call to Order

President David Davenport called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM CST.

II. Roll Call (Attendance)

Present:

- David Davenport (President)
- Ben Smitherman (Vice President)
- Eric Ward (Secretary)
- Mike Arnold (Assigner)

Not Present:

- Wes McGaffin (Treasurer)
- Stephen Petricca
- Barry Clark

A quorum was declared present.

III. Approval of Previous Minutes

The meeting minutes from the January 19, 2026 Grand Championships Wrap-Up Meeting were reviewed and approved.

IV. Reports of Officers

A. President's Report (David Davenport)

- Confirmed recruitment tables will be staffed Friday and Saturday at the State Tournament.

- Announced development of an internal ratings and evaluation system during the offseason.

- Identified need for structured transparency regarding postseason assignments.

- Will develop a Year-End Highlights Memo reflecting association accomplishments.

B. Vice President's Report (Ben Smitherman)

- Supported transparent evaluation rubric development.

- Emphasized improved assistant referee communication standards.

C. Assigner's Report (Mike Arnold)

- Discussed postseason assignment feedback and accountability.

- Noted staffing and assistant referee workload concerns.

D. Secretary's Report (Eric Ward)

- Confirmed continued digitization of records.

- Noted upcoming 25-year association anniversary milestone.

V. Old Business

- Grand Championships operational improvements discussed (weigh-ins, signage, credential control, assistant referee standards).

VI. New Business

A. Internal Official Ratings System

- Development of peer and board-based evaluation system for 2026–2027 season.

- Transparent rubric categories to include positioning, signaling, mechanics, communication, and game management.

- Early- and mid-season feedback checkpoints planned.

B. Official Pay Structure Review

- Discussion regarding travel pay and tournament assistant referee coverage.

- Further structured discussion required before formal proposal.

C. Metro Coaches & Wrestlers Clinic (March 21) - Ralph Gabriel

- Association support confirmed with \$100–\$200 hospitality budget.

- Officials to address rule education topics including stalling, locking hands, and bench decorum.

- Clinic structure: 2 hours instruction + 30-minute Q&A.

D. Donation Approval – Lincoln County

Motion: Mike Arnold

Second: Ben Smitherman

Vote: Approved unanimously (\$500 donation)

E. Summer Fellowship & Event Dates

- Summer Fellowship scheduled for August 15, 2026.

- Official Kickoff Training Meeting scheduled for October 5, 2026.

- Golf Tournament fundraiser discussion targeted for June timeframe.

VII. Announcements

- Recruitment tables at State Tournament (Friday & Saturday).

- Offseason planning priorities: evaluation framework, pay review, logistics refinement.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Ben Smitherman

Second: Mike Arnold

Vote: Carried unanimously

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:25 PM CST.

IX. Action Items Summary

David Davenport: Develop evaluation framework; draft Year-End Memo; coordinate recruitment volunteers.

Mike Arnold: Assist assistant referee procedural guidance.

Ralph Gabriel: Finalize March 21 clinic agenda and AD coordination.