**WMLG WRESTLING JANUARY MEETING NOTES**

The board of directors for the Western Montana Little Guy Wrestling program met on January 19th at St. Ignatius High School for the annual January meeting. The following business was conducted.

**CLUB PARTICIPATION IN PROGRAM**

**Bonner Wrestling Club** has officially withdrawn from the WMLG Wrestling Program. **Victor** will enter a club in Unit Four, and **Hot Springs** will enter a club in Unit Three this season. Columbia Falls has changed the name of their club to **Ruis Wrestling Club.**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL DUALS COMPETITION**

The Middle School duals that include mostly Middle Group and Junior Group in 6th through 8th grades will be involved in dual meet competition on Thursday and Saturday for the first three weeks of the season. A schedule of the participating teams and sites is available on the program website.

At meeting time we did not have most of the sites designated as clubs had not expessed interest in hosting these meets. The meets have up to six teams meeting at one site where they would get in two dual meets each. These competitions could be held on two mats. The board decided to leave this schedule in place in hope that various clubs will offer to host the unclaimed dates. We will keep the schedule updated on the website so teams know who is hosting the meets.

**GIRLS COMPETITION**

Ken Hill and Daisy Adams finalized the rules for girls competition in the program. The Beginner and Novice groups will continue to compete with the boys throughout the season.

***Middle Group Girls***

The Middle Group will compete in the duals and mixers in the first three weeks with the boys, and host clubs are encouraged to promote girls only competition when possible. As an example, if there are enough girl wrestlers present at a dual competition, the director may line up a girls only mixer competition. The Middle Group Girls will have their own competition at the Unit, Intervally, and Western Montana Championship Tournaments.

Middle Group Girls will use following weigh classes: **65, 75, 85, 95, 105, 120, 147, 166, & 187**

***Junior Group Girls***

The Junior Group Girls will also compete with boys in the first three weeks with emphasis on pairing girls with girls when possible. Like the Junior Group boys, the Junior Group girls will not participate in the Unit Tournament. All Junior Group girls will be eligible for the Intervalley Girls Tournament, and all Junior Group girls may advance to the Western Montana Championship Tournament, regardless of their finish in the Intervalley Tournament.

Junior Group Girls will use following weight classes: **80, 90, 100, 112, 120, 126, 135, 145, 160, 170, 182, 205**

**MIXER COMPETITIONS OFFERED IN THE FIRST THREE WEEKS**

The following is a list of the competitions available to clubs in the first three weeks of the season:

**SAT. FEB 19 – Whitefish “Icebreaker” (Beginners, Novice, Middle & Junior)**

**FRI. & SAT., FEB 25, 26 – Kalispell “Make a Difference” (Open to all four groups)**

**SAT. FEB 26 – “Mission Invitational” (Beginner & Novice red/blue mixer)**

**SAT. FEB 5 – “Polson Invitational” (Beginner & Novice red/blue mixer)**

**SAT. FEB 5 – “Darbarian” at Darby (Open to all four groups)**

**SAT. FEB 5 – “Kootenia Classic” at Libby (Open to all four groups)**

**SAT. FEB 5 – “Dillon Middle School Tournament” (Open to 6-8 grade)**

**TOURNAMENT SECURITY**

The board would like to remind all clubs that host competition to take steps to make the meet safe and allow the coaches to coach without parental or fan interference. **Rope off the mats, Issue wrist bands to designated coaches, only allow coaches with wrist bands at matside, enlist a “Mat Marshal” to patrol the mats to keep folks without wrist bands back from the mats during competition.**