WRESTLING BC

British Columbia Wrestling Association

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2025/2026 BC Wrestling Association Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, August 5th, 2026
Online via Zoom

AGM Minutes

Present:

Board of Directors

Nick Ugoalah, Tanya Ponnan (up for re-election), Tyler Keeling, Dane Waldal, Mitch Dodd, Garfield Garry

Director Nominee

Owen Gudmundson, David Higashi, Ryan Smith, Madison MacKenzie, Manny Sihota, Chanpreet Kooner, Andrea Ross Viner, Randy McDonald, Terri Saprai-Bahi

Club Delegates

Al McAvena (COWA), Anthony Nguyen (Coast), Joseph S. (Burnaby Open), Lucky D. (Guru Gobind), Heather L. (Nanaimo WC), Clete H. (Junior Red Leafs), Dennis McCarthy (Prince George WC), Gord S. (BMWC), Joe L. (Spartan WC), Jag B. (Bhullar WC), Jim M. (Hawk Push and Pull), Gurjot K. (Miri Piri), Sucha M. (Queen Elizabeth WC / Royals), Ryan H. (Takedown Academy), Gurveer Talhan (Talhan), Aman Dhillon (Canadian Mal), Ryan Yewchen (CVWC), Parmvir Dhesi (Khalsa), Harjit Billen (Rustom),

Observers

David Wilson, Rob McInnis, Sukhan Chahal, Frank Mensah, Vladislav Ryzhenkov, Raj Virdi, Bal Sahota

Staff

Shane de Rooy, Payten Smith, Cruz Velasquez

The participants were informed that the meeting was being recorded.

1. **Call to Order**
   The meeting was called to order by at **7:10 pm (PST**).

2. **Land Acknowledgement**
   BC Wrestling Association recognizes that we are on the ancestral and unceded homelands of the Halkomelem, Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh speaking peoples and are grateful to be on this territory.

3. **Welcome**

Nick welcomed the participants to the meeting and announced a meeting of Directors immediately following the AGM to elect the roles of the Board. Meeting norms were shared with participants.

4. **Confirmation of Quorum**
Quorum was confirmed with **34 voting members present**.

5. **Adopt Rules of Order and Voting Process**
The meeting norms were shared, and the participants were informed about the voting process.

6. **Approval of Agenda**
The agenda was presented to the participants.

Motion:	Motion to approve the Meeting Agenda.	
Mover:	**Tyler Keeling**	
Seconder:	**Dan Waldal**	**Carried**

7. **Approval of the minutes from the 2024/2025 BCWA Annual General Meeting**
The 2024/2025 BCWA AGM minutes were included in the 45 days and 15 days meeting packages.

Motion:	Motion to approve the previous 2024/2025 meeting minutes from June 2025.	
Moved:	**Owen Gudmundson**	
Seconder:	**Heather Leslie**	**Carried**

8. **Board / Chair Report**
Nick presented the Board Report and spoke on BCWA's current situation, the year that was with changes, new ED, adversity and challenges, financial position, and priorities of the organization in the coming year.
    - Committee reports were shared in the AGM Package prior and not read out during the AGM, members had the opportunity to read and bring up questions, if they had any.

9. **Financial Report**
Tyler presented the financial reports, which included the audited statement of financial position and the statement of operations. While highlighting the organization's position after a transition year with a loss, areas of improvement for the organization and sport as a whole, and caution was expressed regarding its heavy reliance on government funding, grants, and fees.

Motion: Motion to approve the Financial Report as presented.
Moved: Dane Waldal
Seconder: Joseph Smith Carried

10. Special Resolution – By-laws

The members engaged in a discussion about the special resolution on by-law changes. This underscored the importance of these changes, highlighting their purpose, practical application, and how effectively they align with both WCL and viaSport.

- It was established that there was no threshold in old By-laws for what is needed to pass a Special Resolution, resulting in going with what is state in the BC Societies Act of 2/3 of vote.
- New by-laws, if voted in, do note take effect until registered with the BC Registrar
- Amendments were discussed on Gender equity being put explicitly into the by-laws to follow best practice and NSO's
- It was highlighted that the Gender equity clause should be more concrete. If less than 2 of opposite gender the board will replace or look to replace with same threshold
- Clause 54 can be looked at changing in order to require gender parity
- Look to enact at Special Resolution or next AGM a mechanism to go with the 3x3 board director terms so there is not massive turnover
- Those currently not up for re-election what be put onto the new by-law and director term limits that are voted in

This alignment of by-laws not only reinforces our commitment to excellence but also ensures that we are on the right path toward for the membership and organization. There were additional comments regarding the involvement of the Board and the impact on participation.

Motion: Motion to approve amending the bylaws and policies related to members and participants as presented.
Moved: Tanya Ponnan
Seconder: Joseph Smith Carried

11. Motion on Board Composition

1-year Board of Directors transition proposal:

The Board's recommendation to elect three Directors in 2026, operate with seven Directors for one year, and return to nine Directors in 2027.

The one-year transition creates a balanced and predictable election cycle, ensuring that approximately three Directors are elected each year while maintaining organizational continuity and preserving institutional knowledge.

In order to make voting clear and consistent for the AGM, before we proceed to the voting of Directors, we propose that the membership vote on approving the 1

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year transition plan (voting in 3 Directors). Should the motion go unapproved, membership at the AGM will vote for 5 directors."

Membership discussed this proposal after brief presentation by Nominations Committee on the transition.

Moved: **Dane Waldal**
Seconder: **Heather Leslie** **Not Carried**

12. Election of Directors

There are six (5) Director positions up for election. With ten nominees, the five nominees with the highest votes will be elected. Each nominee had up to 1 minute to present on their qualification for the director position (their bios being presented in AGM Package).

The nominees present at the meeting presented on there experiences and skill sets.

List of Director nominees (no particular order):
Owen Gudmundson, David Higashi, Ryan Smith, Madison MacKenzie, Manny Sihota, Chanpreet Kooner, Andrea Ross Viner, Randy McDonald, Terri Saprai-Bahi, Tanya Ponnan (up for re-election)

The election instructions for participants were provided. There are five Director positions available for election, and the five nominees with the highest number of votes will be elected as BCWA Directors. A tie occurred for the fifth and final position, prompting a second round of voting. This round included two tied nominees who did not receive one of the top four vote totals in the first round.

Election of Director results (in alphabetical order by last name):
Owen Gudmundson
Chanpreet Kooner
Madison MacKenzie
Tanya Ponnan (Re-elected)
Manny Sihota

13. 2025/2026 BCWA Board of Directors
Tanya Ponnan
Manny Sihota
Dane Waldal
Garfield Gairy
Mitch Dodd
Nick Ugoalah
Madison MacKenzie

Owen Gudmundson
Chanpreet Kooner

14. Recognition of Outgoing Directors
The outgoing Directors, Tyler Keeling, Jorawar Nijjar, Cameron Hicks, Rosalee Mackinnon were recognized for their service and commitment to BCWA.

15. Q&A
Question from membership on how to moved forward on 3x3 term limits and composition so there is not a major turnover of Directors in one given year that will be taken back by the new Board of Directors and looked at for either a Special Resolution meeting or next AGM

16. Approval of Adjournment
The adjournment of the meeting was called at **9:07pm**
Mover: Joseph Smith
Seconder: Heather Leslie

Submitted by: Shane de Rooy
Executive Director, BCWA