

# Meeting summary for USFL (12/30/2024)

## Quick recap

The team discussed the logistics and potential locations for hosting the Youth Nationals event, including the possibility of renting a venue in Carlsbad and hosting a grappling tournament at a school facility. They also explored new approaches for team selection, the potential for hosting a regional event in Texas, and the issue of young fighters participating in multiple tournaments. Lastly, they discussed strategies to improve their product and attract more participants, including offering incentives and reaching out to potential sponsors and coaches.

## Next steps

- Joe to contact Mark Munoz at Cal Baptist and Uriah Faber about potential college wrestling scholarship opportunities for tournament winners.
- Joe to reach out to Dan's Chevy dealership sponsor about potential car-related prizes for tournament winners.
- Joe and Dusty to research belt costs from Dan's new contact.
- Ron, Pamela, and Joe to form a team to organize the youth nationals event.
- Ron and team to research costs for rash guards as potential registration incentives.
- Tony to research potential venues in Las Vegas for future nationals events.
- Joe to contact Jeff Meyer about potentially including "straggler" kids in a separate tournament at Tough Enough.
- Dusty to contact Facilitron to get information about renting the Carlsbad high school venue and present a list of questions to them.
- Joe to reach out to promoters about hosting qualification fights for adult nationals in February and April/May.

- Joe to call team members individually to assign key roles for organizing the nationals events.
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## **Summary**

### **Discussing Important Person and Sheet**

The meeting involved a discussion about a potential important person joining the conversation. There were some technical issues with the audio, which were eventually resolved. The participants also discussed a sheet, possibly related to a project or task, and made some adjustments to it. The conversation ended with the participants waiting for someone named Joe to join.

### **Youth Nationals Meeting and Attendance**

The meeting was initially led by Joe, who was supposed to be present but was delayed due to updating his phone. The team discussed the absence of Joe and the need for someone to be responsible for his participation in future meetings. Once Joe joined, he checked the attendance and confirmed the presence of all necessary members. The main topic of the meeting was the Youth Nationals, which was scheduled for the weekend after the next week, as Dan was unavailable for the initial weekend due to an event.

### **Youth MMA Nationals Venue Discussion**

Joe proposed renting a venue in Carlsbad for the Youth MMA Nationals, suggesting it would expedite matches and reduce confusion. The cost would be between \$3,000 to \$4,000 for two days. He also suggested using smaller cages from Ernie and Dan's gym, which would be set up on the floor. The team agreed to move forward with the plan, with the next step being to contact the organization responsible for renting public school facilities, Facilitron, to confirm the details.

### **Grappling Tournament Facility and Belts**

The team discussed the potential of hosting a grappling tournament at a school facility. They considered the layout of the facility, which included cages and bleachers, and how it could accommodate the

tournament. The team also discussed the possibility of using wrestling mats and the need for floor protection. They decided to contact Facilitron to gather more information about the facility and to present their questions. The team also discussed the need for new belts for the tournament, with a potential cost of \$75 each. They considered the possibility of ordering in bulk to reduce costs. The next steps include contacting the vendor for belt prices and scheduling a meeting with Facilitron to discuss the facility and questions.

### **New Team Selection Tournament Proposal**

Joe proposed a new approach for team selection, involving a tournament-style competition in February, with the top four fighters advancing to the national team. The idea was to reduce costs by not holding a large team selection camp and instead, have fighters compete on local shows. The team would then be finalized by May. The idea was well-received, with the team agreeing to move quickly to publicize the event and reach out to promoters in different regions. Joe also mentioned a potential fighter from Hawaii who could be part of the team.

### **National Event and Regional Plans**

The team discussed the upcoming national event, with Joe mentioning that it would likely be a two-day event. They also discussed the possibility of hosting a regional event in Texas, but noted potential issues with TDLR. The team agreed to reach out to Greg to discuss the logistics of the Texas event. There was also a discussion about the policy of not allowing fighters to switch between IMAC and Gamma, with Joe sharing his experience of vouching for some fighters to participate in both events. The team decided to consider the May event as a potential date for the Texas event.

### **Addressing Young Fighters' Participation**

Joe, Jinighti, Mike, IHC, Jon, and Ron discussed the issue of young fighters being allowed to participate in multiple tournaments, including the IMAP and other international events. They expressed concern about the potential for overtraining and the need for a rule to

prevent this. The idea of offering a special training opportunity or camp at the Performance Institute for 18-20 year old fighters was proposed as a potential solution. The group also discussed the issue of coaches, specifically Chase, who had been caught coaching for IMAP and was no longer allowed to do so. The possibility of petitioning to change this rule was mentioned, but the group agreed that it would be difficult if Chase continued to coach for IMAP. The group also discussed the potential for Gamma to recruit fighters who had participated in IMAP.

### **Improving Product and Registration Strategy**

Ron expresses concern about the competition from Gamma Gamma's nationals event and suggests improving their product to incentivize participation. IHC proposes charging \$199 with a special rash guard included, and having an early registration discount. Jon notes there are limited local competitions outside of a few areas, so many participants don't have a license. Joe suggests gradually increasing the fee each month leading up to the event. The group discusses potentially including a uniform or other incentives for the higher registration cost.

### **Youth Nationals Event Planning Discussed**

Joe proposed the idea of organizing a team to manage the youth nationals event, with himself as a potential member. Tony suggested the idea of offering scholarships or car dealership packages as incentives for participants, and also proposed inviting college wrestling coaches to the event to attract more participants. Joe agreed to reach out to potential sponsors and coaches for the next meeting. The possibility of hosting the nationals in Las Vegas was also discussed, but it was decided to continue with the current plans for this year and consider it for next year.

### **Planning Next Meeting and Venues**

Joe proposed reconvening next Sunday at 1:30 Pacific Time for further discussions. He suggested reaching out to venues in California and Texas for potential locations.

Ron and Dustin were tasked with looking into the cost of rash guards and belts, respectively. Tony was asked to explore potential venues in Texas. The team also discussed the possibility of having professional MMA scouts attend their events. The conversation ended with Joe promising to individually contact team members to assign key roles and maintain momentum.