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**Minutes number 002-2022-AG-UWWA:** In the city of Acapulco, Guerrero, Mexico, being nine o'clock hours on Thursday, May fifth, two thousand twenty-two, prior summons made by the President of the UWWA, gathered in "Hotel Expo Mundo Imperial", the following members of the Executive Committee of the United World Wrestling Americas (UWWA) are present: Mr. Rick Tucci, Vice President; Mr. Manuel Garcia, Secretary General; Mr. Fernando Rittner, Treasurer; Mrs. Fanny Echeverry, Member; Mr. Guillermo Diaz, Member; Mr. Manuel Espinoza, Member; Doctor Daniel Aceves, Honorary Member; Mr. Maxwell Lacey Garita, Athletes' Representative. Also, Mr. Yuri Maier, UWW Sports Development Officer and Mr. Don Ryan, Member of the UWW Bureau. The following is hereby placed on record. **FIRST:** The President of the UWWA Lic. Francisco Eduardo Lee López, welcomes all the attendees. He also takes the opportunity to thank the National Federation of Mexico, especially its president, Mr. Guillermo Diaz, for all the work done to make the meetings, championships, and the whole event in general a success. He finishes commenting that this congress will be informative, on diverse positive subjects for the Lucha in America. **SECOND:** The Secretary General, Mr. Manuel Garcia proceeds to establish the quorum and informs that nineteen (19) out of thirty (30) National Federations summoned are present, which constitutes 65% of the total number of National Federations affiliated to the UWWA, so there is the necessary quorum to hold the Congress. The accredited delegates are the following: **Argentina**, Muriel Cariel; **Barbados**, Yaima Payne; **Bolivia**, Jorge Castillo; **Brazil**, Angel Torres; **Canada**, Christopher Woodcroft; **Chile**, Ricardo Figueroa; **Colombia**, Jorge Castillo Montejo; **Costa Rica**, Jorge Luis Rocha; **Cuba**, Martin Torres; **United States**, Rich Bender; **Guatemala**, Rolando Maltez; **Honduras**, Fernando Chavez; **Mexico**, Álvaro Herrera; **Panama**, Raúl de León; **Paraguay**, Kerwain Pulgar; **Peru**, Félix Isísola; **Puerto Rico**, José Santiago; **Dominican Republic**, Porfirio Minier; and **Uruguay**, Víctor Morales. **THIRD:** The approval of Act number 002-2021-AG-UWWA, corresponding to the ordinary congress of the UWWA held in Guatemala City, on Wednesday, May twenty-sixth, two thousand twenty-one. It is asked if its reading may be omitted since it was circulated in due time through e-mail, being its content known to all delegates, and no observations have been received. It is asked if they approve its content, which is seconded by all delegates. **FOURTH:** Presentation



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of the UWWA Financial Report corresponding from January to December 2021, by the President Francisco Lee and the Treasurer Fernando Rittner: The President comments that each delegate received a copy with the detail of all the expenses incurred during the year 2021. He clarifies that the Treasurer has in his possession the breakdown with the due receipts of each one of the expenditures made. The report was presented in due time to the International Federation (UWW), which is the organization that provides the funds, having issued the corresponding settlement, according to the letter dated March 7 of the current year, signed by Mr. Carlos Roy, Secretary General, where they accept the rendering of accounts and congratulate for the good use of the economic allocation provided to the Continental Council of America. The Treasurer, Mr. Fernando Rittner, thanks the way in which the President handles the expenses of the UWWA since this facilitates the work of collation and auditing on the part of the Treasury, all the receipts are in his possession for those who wish to review them or who have any doubts. In summary, he reports that there was US\$ 29,750.94 (twenty-nine thousand seven hundred and fifty US dollars and ninety-four cents) available for the year 2020 plus the contribution of the International Federation for the year 2021 of US\$ 40,000.00 (forty thousand US dollars and ninety-four cents), which gives a total available of US\$ 69,750.94 (sixty-nine thousand seven hundred and fifty US dollars and ninety-four cents), of which a total of US\$ 59,904.68 (fifty-nine thousand nine hundred and four US dollars and sixty-eight cents) was executed, leaving a total available balance for the year 2022 of US\$ 9,846.26 (nine thousand eight hundred and forty-six US dollars and sixty-eight cents). 68 (fifty-nine thousand nine hundred and four US dollars and sixty-eight cents), which leaves a balance available for the year 2022 of US\$ 9,846.26 (nine thousand eight hundred and forty-six US dollars and twenty-six cents), to which must be added the contribution of US\$ 40,000. 00 (forty thousand US dollars exactly), provided by the UWW for the year 2022, totaling US\$ 49,846.26 (forty-nine thousand eight hundred and forty-six US dollars and twenty-six cents) available for the current year. Mr. Rittner commented that if they have any questions, he is available to answer them. The delegates are asked if they agree to approve it, and it is unanimously approved. **FIFTH:** Report of the Presidency: The President presents a summary of the administrative and technical activities carried out, which includes reports of all activities programmed together with the UWW, especially in the development and --



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organization of competitions. He appreciates the work of Mr. Yuri Maier, for fulfilling in time and form what was requested. He also comments that, with the Panam Sports organization there is constant communication, since the different regional Games arise from there, not only the Panamerican ones, reason why this relation is important; likewise, one constant activity with the Association of Pan American Confederations (ACODEPA). He comments that it is a very important point that a representative of Olympic Wrestling is presiding over the 38 Pan American Confederations, since it demonstrates the leadership of our sport, being involved in the highest positions of the international sports organizations. It is important to keep in mind that, when they have the possibility in their countries, to try to get involved and occupy positions in the National Olympic Committees, they should show interest in being part of their NOC's, since this contributes to the development of our sport. Today we have six members of Lucha de America within National Olympic Committees, specifically in the Dominican Republic, Bahamas, Mexico, United States, Colombia, and Venezuela. Another important point regarding the National Federations is that, unfortunately, in the continent almost 70% of the Federations do not have an administrative and technical structure, so the management of the Federation is in the hands of volunteers who give their time *ad-honorem*, which although it is commendable, it is not enough. Most Federations do not have an office or technical manager, which hinders the work in terms of communication. He requests that, to the extent of the possibilities of each country, they resolve this point in the best way possible. The President comments that not all the National Federations have a good relationship with their NOCs, for which reason the UWWA has tried to mediate to find solutions. Regarding the multisport Games, America is the continent that annually has more events, this requires from the UWWA the approval of technical manuals, which often we must develop them because the organizers have no idea how to do them; also the approval of the areas of competition and the implementation to be used, designation of referees and in some cases, must also make qualifying processes, in extreme cases as in Lima 2019, we even pay the travel expenses because by law the government could not cancel in cash. In each event we participate actively, not only in the competition, but we do also it from the planning and organization. On the other hand, and as a way of information for those who have not participated in these Congresses before, we present an organizational chart indicating that the -----



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UWWA depends directly on the UWW, since according to the Statutes, the Continental Councils are an auxiliary body of the International Federation. Initially, there was only the General Assembly, the Executive Committee, and a Technical Manager; however, during the last years, we have created a structure to function efficiently, which starts from the technical assistance programs offered by the UWW, in charge of Mrs. Deqa Niamkey, Director of the Sports Development Department. There are three commissions: the refereeing commission, headed by Mr. Casey Gossel and Mr. Rick Tucci; the athletes commission, chaired by Maxwell Lacey Garita; and the gender equity commission, headed by Mrs. Fanny Echeverry. The president commented that in terms of gender equity, our continent is very poorly qualified, not only at the level of Wrestling but also of most of the Pan American Confederations. According to IOC regulations, there should be a minimum of 30% participation of women, but there is only one female president. As recommended, we should have a total of nine. In the Executive Committee there should be two or three and there is only one now and, at the refereeing level, there is also little participation, so we are lagging. Four very important departments depend on the structure we have: The first, is the Educators; which arises from the need to have a panel of experts, to teach courses either from the Olympic Solidarity program or from the International Federation, so the best coaches and referees were selected based on their merits and results, with the objective that they are the ones in charge of giving the trainings under a curricular guide and a pedagogical model. Next, he mentions the organization of events, recalling how this topic was carried out in the past. Today, there is a professional who oversees ensuring that when we arrive at a continental tournament or regional multisport Games, the conditions of the weighing area, medical control, competition, and technical meetings are in accordance with international regulations. In modern sports, improvisation is no longer acceptable, and for this reason we have had the support of Mr. Eduardo Perez Tellez, Director of Sports Events, for some time now. The president also comments that the technological infrastructure plays an important role today, since in the past, for each sporting event, personnel with cameras and equipment had to come from Europe. Now we have a professional group in our continent, made up of two people from Mexico and one from Peru, who oversee everything related to filming and secretariat, in addition to the audiovisual equipment that the International Federation has donated, which is beneficial for our continent, --



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because it reduces costs for the organizers. Finally, he comments on communication, as it is a very important issue for everyone. He informs that a person in charge of all the communication in social networks of the UWWA has been hired. This is Ms. Luz Vázquez, as Director of Communications. Today, we have a website, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, all of which are updated daily, with all relevant information, since it is not only about uploading information but also about content creation, editing, research and, most importantly, interaction with followers. This department is at the disposal of the National Federations to publish everything they want to make known. The President invites them to contact the Communications Director and to please share news or relevant information from their Federations to be transmitted to all followers. He takes the opportunity to inform that, as a member of the UWW Development Commission, he has also been able to participate in the meetings where technical assistance programs are defined. Additionally, there is a cooperation agreement with the Romanian Wrestling Federation, who are offering free training bases for 15 days, prior to the world championship. He concludes the presentation of the President's report, thanking the collaboration of the Executive Committee and the administrative staff of the UWWA. It is asked if the report of the presidency is approved, being approved unanimously. **SIXTH:** Information on the integration of the new "Athletes Commission" of the UWW and members of the Bureau. In this regard, the President comments that by decision of President Lalovic, the members of this commission are elected every 4 years, in the Senior World Championship where all the participating athletes vote. Now the representation of America is through the athlete Maxwell Lacey Garita, originally from Costa Rica, although he lives in the USA. It is important to mention that there are several conditions to be able to apply, one is to be bilingual and, unfortunately, there are currently not many athletes from our continent who meet this requirement. Mr. Yuri Maier comments that Maxwell had a total of 90 votes and the maximum was 154, so he was fourth in the election and that position is very good. Regarding the UWW Bureau members, the President commented that at the Congress held last year in Serbia, six members were elected. Mr. Pedro Gama Filho from Brazil was reelected, and Mr. Don Ryan from Canada was elected. This is very important for our continent, since with these two we have four representatives within the Bureau of our World Federation. Mr. Don Ryan is grateful for the support obtained to achieve his election, especially to President -----





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Francisco Lee and is committed to continue working together as a continent for the development of the sport, he is eager to work with Yuri and Deqa in the projects that they have for the continent and review the plans for coaches in America. **SEVENTH:** Report on the programs for America sponsored by the UWW Development Department and calendar of continental championships 2022 and 2023, by Mr. Yuri Maier, Sports Development Officer: He comments that he will give a brief summary of the activities carried out from the sports development department in conjunction with the UWWA, starting the year with the course of educators in its second edition, where a select group of coaches and referees with vast experience, are constantly trained to teach the various courses in the region. The results were very good, with the participation of 15 people, representatives from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, the United States, and some guests from Europe who came from Spain, Bulgaria, Poland and Great Britain. The course was held in the Department of Petén, Guatemala, where there was an opportunity not only to develop the academic content by trainers Zach Errett and Vincent Aka, but also a team building activity. He is grateful for the support provided by the Federation of Guatemala in the logistics and organization of the course. Also, for the first time, an "event organization" course was held to strengthen the region, which was focused on the countries that will host the next Pan American Championships in any category. He is grateful for the work of the Director of Sports and the Panama Olympic Committee, who helped in the organization and logistics. The course facilitators were Eduardo Pérez Tellez, Jesús Salazar, and Yuri Maier. He also comments that courses have been held with the support of Olympic Solidarity. At the end of the year 2021, a course for level 1 coaches was held in Guatemala City with the participation of Mr. Pedro Rojas and Abraham Galva as trainers. He comments that another of the activities carried out was in Mexico City, where the level 1 course for coaches was held, with the participation of more than 40 people from all the States of Mexico, with Mr. Arturo Camacho as trainer in refereeing and Raúl Trujillo and Filiberto Delgado as training instructors. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Cuban Federation for being available to send their coaches when required. We were also present at the inauguration of the new wrestling gymnasium within the facilities of the Mexican Olympic Committee, where we now have our own space. He is grateful for the support given by the president of the Mexican Olympic Committee. He also -



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comments that a course is planned for June in the Dominican Republic with dates to be determined, also another course for Uruguay pending date. He takes the opportunity to comment that the request for the realization of these courses must be made through the National Federation, applying through their National Olympic Committees, to reach Olympic Solidarity. A technical assistance program was held prior to the Pan American Championship in Acapulco, with the presence of Argentina, Guatemala, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Puerto Rico, and Paraguay, who trained for one to four weeks prior to the event, with very good comments, for which he is grateful to the Mexican Federation for the organization and support. This year there will be two events of educational camps "More than Medals", where the countries that wish to participate can do so with two athletes and a coach. The first one will take place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, after the Pan American Cadet Championship, and the second one is still pending a date, but it will be held after the Cadet World Championship in Rome, Italy. There will be an acclimatization camp prior to the senior world championship in Belgrade, Serbia, about which information will be sent later. As for the donation of mattresses, we are still working with Taishan, which is the official sponsor of the UWW. We have two mattresses on the way for the National Federation of Panama and another two for the Federation of Mexico, which will be placed in the new facility. Soon we will donate the same amount of mattresses to the Federations of Costa Rica and Dominican Republic, with which we will fill our quota for this year. The next one will be in Rio Negro, Colombia, in the U15 category; in June in Buenos Aires, Argentina will be the U17 and "More than Medals"; and the U20 in Oaxtepec, Mexico, also in June. For the year 2023, the U15 will be held in Panama, Panama; the U17 in Mexico City; the U20 in Santiago, Chile; and the adult U20 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. For the year 2024, the only candidate is the United States with Dallas, Texas for the U20 and Acapulco, Mexico, for the Senior. He comments that the countries that want to organize continental championships can approach to request more information after the congress. The president congratulates Mr. Yuri Maier for all the effort and work done within the technical management under his charge. **EIGHTH**: Information on the latest changes to the competition rules and clinics for referees in America, by the member of the World Refereeing Commission, Mr. Casey Goessl, who appreciates the opportunity to be present at the Congress. He comments that at the beginning of the year, the UWW approved a series



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of changes in the refereeing rules, as a follow-up to the Olympic cycle, which will be clarified in detail at the technical meeting; however, he quickly provides the changes that have arisen. First, he mentions that if athletes have scores in action they will not return to the center of the mat, if things change in passivity and activity time in freestyle the passive athlete now needs to score, if he fails to score the opponent will receive a point. In the past, all the preliminary bouts were grouped at the bottom, now they are going to stay at the top, and they will go back and forth until the brackets are filled. Spaces have been eliminated from the referee training program because it has not yet been resolved what to do, however it is a matter of balancing the groups in the best way. He also mentions that the continent has a total of 13 world-class referees eligible for the Olympic Games in Paris, 2024. Although things may change sooner, the main objective as a committee is to have at least 15 people eligible to participate for a place in the Games. He comments that they are definitely on the way and surely, they can reach that number. Additionally, he mentions that as part of the inaugural program of confidence in women, 30 female referees, chosen from all over the world, participated, six of whom are from the Americas and will participate in theoretical courses regarding their performance. She ended her participation by indicating how the competitions for referees were defined throughout the year: level 1 competitions are for national referees who aspire to obtain an international license; level 2 competitions are for referees who want to move up in category and so on. Some competitions throughout the year, usually continental championships and world championships, are defined by these specific levels that have been adopted. He mentions that it is important that instead of doing theoretical classroom courses to help with time and expenses, the option of doing it in a virtual format, using an educational platform, should be evaluated. All the detailed information will be provided during the technical meeting in the afternoon. Yuri Maier takes the opportunity to comment that the designs of the competition uniforms must be sent for approval to the e-mail address [unifors@unitedworldwrestling.or](mailto:unifors@unitedworldwrestling.or) since it is very important that, before sending them to be made, the National Federations have the proof that the uniforms were approved by the marketing and communications department in charge of the area and not have any problem. **NINTH:** Information on the program to strengthen arbitration in the Americas, by Mr. Rick Tucci, who has more than 50 years of experience in arbitration. Mr. Tucci comments that he has ----





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previously expressed this point and that there has been progress, so he takes the opportunity to comment on it again. Normally, the burden of all the weight is given to the Federation Presidents and high level officials but, if any country has athletes who will not continue to compete, they should be encouraged to become officials as they know the rules and can position themselves from a young age, young women are needed to add to the list of officials and they can be present at world levels. As Cassey mentioned, there are some scholarships available that allow young officials with limited experience to participate in different events and increase their level. He also commented that more clinics are needed at the national level to support the officials in their training, the commission is there to serve the National Federations and their referees, but they need to work together to progress. He encourages the delegates to transmit the information to their Federations so that they also get involved in the development of the officials and referees, it is time to stand up and be recognized, it is time to get the satisfaction and rewards that America deserves on the world stage.

**TENTH:** Information on the new UWW regulations, in charge of Mr. Yuri Maier, comments that he will be brief on this point, he begins by indicating that one of the changes that has already been noticed is the way in which the different age categories are called. Previously it was infantile, today it is U15; cadets now it is U17; juvenile now it is U20 and, adults remain the same. It is a new way of calling the categories. Regarding the ranking system and "seeded" athletes, he comments that the Bureau approved having four seeded athletes for the continental championships, which allows the best athletes to reach the finals. He also comments that in the World Championships and Olympic Games, there will be eight seeded athletes, all based on the world ranking. He also informs that the UWW has a new General Secretary, Mr. Carlos Roy, whom most people know. He also mentions the events that will add points for the world ranking, among which are the Pan American Championships in Acapulco and other events in the region as well as world championships, in addition to the South American Games in Asuncion, Paraguay, which will also give ranking points. He reminds all the National Federations to register their athletes one month in advance before the events, since changes can only be made if there is a medical problem, three days before the draw. The president comments that it is very important to read the communication sent from the UWW or UWWA as there are changes that frequently occur, which can be ignored by not reading an email or communication. --



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**ELEVENTH**: Information on the results of the athletes of the Americas in the XXXII Olympic Games, Tokyo 2020, by Mr. Yuri Maier, Sports Development Officer: He presents a summary of the participation in the Olympic Games, during which 11 countries of the continent were present, with a total of 45 athletes, of which 14 were in the Greco-Roman style, 15 in the men's freestyle and 16 in the women's freestyle. The participating countries were Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Puerto Rico and the United States. The results are summarized in five gold medals, two silver medals and four bronze medals for the continent. The president congratulates the countries that participated in the Olympic Games for their excellent participation and results. He emphasizes the case of the United States, who had not won so many medals since the Olympic Games in Los Angeles, which is a very important result, and in the case of Cuba, where they won in teams and, although they are not awarded during the Olympic Games, it is worth mentioning that they had a dominant participation in the Greco-Roman style, special mention for the athlete Mijaín López for his fourth gold medal, a historical record in Greco-Roman wrestling, also without being scored any technical point. **TWELFTH**: Information on the classification system for the XXXIII Olympic Games, Paris 2024, also by Mr. Yuri Maier, Sports Development Officer: He comments that the classification system is not yet finalized; however, he presents a summary where he indicates that the complete competition program is available, 268 athletes are expected to participate in all categories, where there will be a total of 16 athletes per category and not as in previous editions where there were 18 or 19, then only the 16 best athletes in the world will be taken into account. The qualification system has some modifications to the system used for Tokyo, the top five athletes of the Senior World Championships in 2023 will qualify first and then there will be four continental events taking into account that Oceania and Africa turn their event into one where eight athletes qualify plus the five who were already qualified at the World Championships and finally there will be a world playoff where the 3 best placed athletes will qualify to complete the 16 participants, there will be no quotas or wild cards for this edition as the number is fixed. He also presented the official program of the event and indicated that the information will be sent to each Federation in due time. **THIRTEENTH**: Report and analysis on the participation and results in the Pan American Championships U15, U17, U20 and Adults held in 2021, by the treasurer -



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of the UWWA, Mr. Fernando Rittner: In the Pan American Adult Championships held in Guatemala City, 80 athletes from 18 countries participated, of which 12 were present in the medal standings for the freestyle, as for the Greco-Roman style, there were 58 athletes from 16 countries and 9 countries in the medal standings, in the women's style there were 58 athletes from 13 countries and 9 countries in the medal standings. In the junior championship 2021, there were 94 athletes from 19 countries and 9 countries in the medal standings for the freestyle, in the Greco-Roman style there were 76 athletes from 17 countries and 11 countries in the medal standings, and in the women's style there were 80 athletes from 17 countries and 10 countries in the medal standings. In the Pan American Cadet Championships 2021, a total of 39 athletes from 10 countries and 6 countries in the medal standings participated in the freestyle, 36 athletes from 10 countries and 5 countries in the medal standings participated in the Greco-Roman style and, in the women's style, there were 36 athletes from 10 countries and 9 of them with a place in the medal standings. For the U15 championship, 75 athletes from 8 countries participated in the freestyle, 6 of which placed in the medal standings, 59 athletes from 8 countries participated in the Greco-Roman style, 6 of which placed in the medal standings, and 48 athletes from 9 countries participated in the women's style, 5 of which placed in the medal standings.

**FOURTEENTH:** Presentation of the Calendar of the Olympic Cycle events (multisport) from the year 2022 to 2024, by Yuri Maier, Sports Development Officer: For the year 2022 there is a heavy load, due to the number of events, not only for the continental championships but also for the ranking system, world, and international events to be held in addition to the multisport events in the region. He comments that the Bolivarian Games will soon take place in Valledupar, Colombia from July 24 to 5, then the South American Games in Asuncion, Paraguay from October 1 to 15, followed by the Central American Games with a shared venue between Guatemala and Costa Rica, the Lucha will be held in Costa Rica from November 27 to 13. Then the Central American Sea and Beach Games will be held in Santa Marta, Colombia in November. For the year 2023, the Bolivarian Youth Games will be held in Sucre, Bolivia, planned for April with no definite date. Then the South American Sea and Beach Games, always in Santa Marta, Colombia, at the end of May; then the Central American and Caribbean Games in a shared modality between the Dominican Republic and El Salvador, the Lucha will be held in El Salvador. He reminds that to-



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qualify for this event there is a qualifying event at the end of the year in the Dominican Republic in November, where the first seven athletes will win a quota, plus a quota assigned to the host country, in this case El Salvador and, finally, the most important event of the multisport events in the region, the Pan American Games Santiago 2023, in Chile: ending the Olympic cycle, Paris 2024. There is a 15-minute recess.

**FIFTEENTH:** Information on the organization and results of the "I Pan American Youth Sports Games", Cali-Valle, Colombia, 2021, by the President who comments that this event was an experiment on the part of Panam Sports, holding for the first time in our continent a Youth category Games, being an event that provides quotas for the Pan American Games. Yuri Maier comments on the important aspects for Olympic Wrestling, in the Youth category (U20): There were a total of 145 athletes, 23 referees with international category participating and 22 countries; Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Uruguay, United States and Venezuela. The final medal tally was won by Cuba with nine gold medals and a total of 15 medals in the 18 Olympic categories; the United States came in second place with four gold medals and 12 medals in total and Colombia finished third with two gold medals and seven medals in total. A total of 13 countries won medals. The first 18 places were already awarded to countries that qualified for the Pan American Games, Santiago 2023. He indicates that from the technical point of view, the competition was carried out successfully, prior to the event, the qualifying championship was held in Oaxtepec, Mexico and wild cards were given to six countries, the event was held in a gymnasium with very good conditions, without any inconvenience. The president concludes the point, indicating that Wrestling was one of the sports that had an acceptable number of spectators since at the beginning there was confusion due to the fact that the tickets were being charged to the public, then they gave away passes, but the tickets did not arrive; however, there was a good number of public and there were no complaints or problems, he congratulates the countries that obtained the most medals.

**SIXTEENTH:** Information on the classification process for the XIX Pan American Games, Santiago, Chile, 2023, by Mr. Yuri Maier: He comments that there are three phases of classification, the first one was in the I Pan American Junior Games in Cali, Colombia last November 2021, where the first 18 places were already granted for the



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countries that won gold medals in the different categories; The second one, in the Senior Pan American Championship in 2022, where 48 qualifying places will be disputed divided in 24 free and 24 Greco Roman and then 24 places in women's free, this means that the winners of gold, silver, bronze and bronze will qualify directly to the Games of Santiago 2023, in the event that any country is already qualified there will be an extra bout between the two fifth places to establish the best fourth place between the two fifth places. It is important to mention this to the athletes since they could have an extra bout. These bouts would be scheduled as the last bout of the session before the awards ceremony. For the Pan American Games in Santiago 2023 there will be six wild cards, two for each style, remember that the main part of the criteria to assign these passes, must be the participation in the qualification process and then select the athletes who were closest to obtain the classification, these are exclusively for countries that do not have qualified athletes and finally that has had the best result in the qualification process. The third and last phase will be in the framework of the Senior Pan American Championship, next year in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The weight that Pan American Olympic Wrestling has today allows that, although in the current context of the Pan American Games quotas are being reduced to the extreme, Wrestling instead of having eight athletes, will have nine athletes participating. There will be a total of 168 athletes in the Pan American Games. Wrestling is one of the sports with the most athletes quotas among the individual sports, only behind Athletics, Swimming and Gymnastics, this is not only the work of the sport but also the result of the work developed by President Lee in Panam Sports and the results obtained worldwide. He concludes indicating that if there are any doubts, they can be solved during the technical meeting or at the end of the congress.

**SEVENTH:** Information on the organization of the Pan American Championship U-15 (Children) of the year 2022, the president comments that this year we continue with the continental tournaments from the basic or initial categories, the venue of this event will be the city of Rio Negro, Medellin, Colombia so Mrs. Fanny Echeverry, President of the National Federation of Colombia proceeds to provide the information. Mrs. Fanny Echeverry makes a presentation of the championship and comments that since this is a children's championship, she hopes that the countries can participate with a good number of children, since it is the beginning and progress of wrestling in the continent. The president comments that the price is expected to be accessible or -



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reduced so that the countries can bring as many athletes as possible, since the initiation categories must be strengthened to have better wrestlers in the future.

**EIGHTEENTH**: Information on the organization of the Pan American Championship U-17 (Cadet) of the year 2022: Mr. Fernando Rittner, President of the National Federation of Argentina presents a video of the event and comments that in the month of June will be held the Pan American Championship U17 category, in the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina. He hopes to have the presence of athletes from the countries represented in the congress, he is making a great effort to carry out this event with the best facilities and everything necessary, and thanks them for their participation. The president takes the opportunity to remind that, due to the regulations of the International Federation, as in this event there are deadlines for registration, so he asks you to be attentive to the dates to register participants. It is no secret that all those who have organized competitions must comply with reservations, so it is necessary with enough time to have the most accurate numbers to do all the paperwork.

**NINETEENTH**: Information on the organization of the Pan American Championship U-20 (Youth) of the year 2022, by Mr. Guillermo Diaz, President of the National Federation of Mexico: He presents a video of the event and makes a cordial invitation to all countries to attend the championship in Oaxtepec, a very nice place, with warm weather all year round, it is a complex that provides all the necessary services. The president comments that for the Executive Committee it is very satisfactory to have these advances since it proves that they are not improvising, but that the host countries are working in the best way in the planning and organization, a structure is followed and the only thing that remains is to have the greatest possible participation.

**TWENTY**: Activity report of the UWWA Communications area, in charge of the UWW Communications Director, Ms. Luz Vazquez: She comments that this position is very pleasant for her since she knows the sport as she was a wrestler and just retired in the Senior Championship 2021, so it fills her with joy to be part of the staff of this Confederation. She comments on the official social networks providing information and details. In this regard, they currently manage the Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook profiles where they follow the activities of the sport, they currently have 865 followers on Twitter, when they did not have a person in charge of social networks the approximate reach was 600 followers, so there has been a growth of 44%. Facebook has 12,900 followers and started with 9,600, which -----





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indicates a 35% growth in this profile. In the social network Instagram, there has been a growth of 40%, he comments that these are significant numbers since the publications are organic, that is to say that there is no pay per reach. He also presents a report of the networks where relevance is made to the growth not only of followers, but of publications, reactions and reach of the content that has been had during the last nine months where work has been done specifically for these profiles. He also comments that his position includes participation in some events on the continent, where he takes the opportunity to generate content; however, in events where he cannot be present, he is inclined to make publications with a different focus. The idea of managing the networks is to keep the public attentive to the events that are planned or that are developed, with content that already exists can generate their own content, the approach also depends on the social network where it will be published. The focus also depends on the social network where it will be published. He comments that now there is a database of its own, mainly photos where athletes and participants of the events on the continent can be highlighted. The development events that take place in America are also covered, not only the events but it is also good to show the training that is constantly given to the Federations. He also comments that the UWWA web page is managed, where the contacts of the National Federations, calendar of activities, links to social networks and the necessary details are available. Finally, he indicates that a survey was conducted regarding social networks of the 27 National Federations but only 22 answered, with which a statistic was made to lay the foundations and to be able to grow together and that all add up for the development of the sport in the continent. Nine Federations have a web page; however, only seven are active; additionally, ten Federations indicated that they have a Twitter profile but only five are active. There is already a little more participation on Facebook, where 12 Federations are active, as well as on Instagram. Finally, the delegates of the Federations that are present at the Congress are encouraged to rely on the UWWA communication department, to grow together. Any activity that the Federations want to share on the UWWA networks may do so, by contacting by email, WhatsApp or through the social networks themselves, tagging any of the profiles. It is recommended that the profiles on social networks have a relationship or consistency with the countries, for identification with their audience. The president comments that this new communication department is starting, normally in sports organizations the-



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communication area is comprised of no less than four people and here we are starting with one person who is trying to cover everything and be efficient, the collaboration of the Federations is requested to improve. **TWENTY-FIRST**: Information on the organization of the first "Continental Awards" ceremony: The President commented that this idea had been in the works for many years. We wondered why in some sports special recognitions were given, some Pan American Confederations have their own Hall of Fame with specific award events. Little by little it took shape and last year, at the UWW Bureau meeting, the project was presented and approved; even President Lalovic commented that he liked the project very much and that he proposed that this type of activities be carried out in all the continents, the support and endorsement was obtained but no economic contribution, an extra budget was requested for the activity but the answer was no, otherwise all the continents would also ask for it. The President indicates that he knocked on the door of the United States Wrestling Federation, which has always been supportive; so the first thing is the recognition and gratitude to the United States Federation, especially to its General Secretary, Mr. Rich Bender, since without them, the project would have remained in idea. He also takes the opportunity to explain what the activity that will take place on Friday, May 5 at 7:00 p.m. consists of. The competition will end earlier on that day so that they can attend. It is a dinner and a quite simple act, where at the beginning of the ceremony the President will give a speech on behalf of the Executive Committee of the UWWA and immediately after, the awards will be made. We do not want the ceremony to be too long since there will be two days of competition and two more days to go, it is expected that dinner will be served at 20:15 so that at 21:00 or 21:30 those who wish can retire to their rooms. Ten continental awards will be given to three athletes (one for each style), three coaches (one for each style), two referees and two officials. He also commented that this ceremony is planned to be held every two years, starting in 2022, he requests that you can join us at the ceremony, where we want to patent the recognition of outstanding people in the sport of wrestling. **TWENTY SECOND**: Miscellaneous items, at this point Mr. Daniel Aceves, honorary member of the Executive Committee takes the opportunity to address the countries present at the Congress. He comments that the basis of the agenda has been in the pertinent times and wants to make some brief reflections regarding historical memory. In one of the previous editions of this Championship, specifically in the one held in the city of Ottawa, Canada, where Mr.-



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Don Ryan organized an extraordinary event, it was shared by the media that the borders were being closed due to the epidemic emergency that later became a pandemic and until a year and months later the Pan American Championship could be held in the city of Guatemala, it is important to have this type of historical reflections because we cannot lose the capacity of astonishment, especially in the context of this continental championship which is a qualifier for the Pan American Games in Santiago de Chile, where a series of circumstances are involved that not only have to do with the Covid-19 pandemic, but have been intervened by the invasion of the Russian Federation to Ukraine and this leads to social and political effects that have to do with the issue of sport, physical culture and of course the Olympic Wrestling. Today the report of President Francisco Lee and his professional work team is listened with great attention, these achievements are fundamental in the positions of people from America in the Bureau of the UWW worldwide. He comments that it is important to pick up some central aspects, the first one is that the leader of Lucha in the continent, the president Francisco Lee not only has a scope of the discipline but also with the Sports Confederations in the continent that recognize him as a wrestler, that leadership and that also promotes the subject of Lucha with an important protection as a member of Panam Sports and of these international organisms, He takes the opportunity to ratify the effort that the president makes and that is reflected in the National Federations of Wrestling in America and that has to do with this type of leadership of those who have lived since the last century as children, young people or as athletes a rarefied image of the Wrestling, He says that when he started as a wrestler, the sport was discredited because it was considered to be in the poorest socioeconomic strata, which is still the case, but also the cultural level, the level of behavior was far from exemplary, the wrestlers were not an example, there were no female wrestlers either, but there was a certain lack of prestige due to inappropriate behavior, What has been done in recent years is to dignify the participation of wrestling, the codes of behavior have been changing and that is why, as President Francisco Lee said, wrestling leaders are needed in various areas of the International Olympic Movement, locally, regionally and continentally. He comments that this is undoubtedly not an easy task, it has been a task of many years, of granting professionalism and prestige to everything that has been worked on. That is why it is not possible to be absent to the problems that are occurring today, the issue of the ---



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Covid-19 pandemic is mentioned and today it is not only the physical and economic affectations to the population but also the emotional malnutrition, not because they are wrestlers they are exempt from this impact, today it is necessary to have interventions with the trainers, with the multidisciplinary teams, The wrestlers of all the levels to revert emotional problems that have been presented and that are also part of the responsibility of the leaders, should not be absent of this type of concepts and in relation to this international effect of the war in Europe that today is taking place, he comments that the economic affectations will have repercussions in the discipline and in the international sport influencing the budgets, that is why the necessity to constitute in each one of the Federations, councils of the Wrestling where the public and private sector participates. Different financing mechanisms are required because in the end, the sport in most of the countries will not be a priority, therefore the support for the development and promotion of the discipline will be delayed. In summary, he comments that there is a complex scenario, he considers that there are absolutely prestigious leaderships that will help and for that reason he wants to give a very broad recognition to those who lead this sport in these 22 countries of America, it is necessary that the countries that are in the process of development can learn and share the experiences to be able to revert this that is happening today. It has always been said that we must be women and men with more projects than memories and the addition of this Olympic cycle for Paris 2024, must be pondering, that not only great athletes are built but also ambassadors of sport and physical culture, that is to give athletes the possibility of transcending in their field and that in turn they have an awareness of the global problem that is faced and that wrestling is not an exception. He congratulated all those present and thanked them for the opportunity to address the audience. The Chairman thanked Daniel Aceves for his timely intervention. **TWENTY THIRD:** The President informs that, having exhausted the proposed agenda for this Congress, the same is concluded in the same place and date, three hours after its beginning, he thanks all the attendees for their presence and participation, the Executive Committee for their support, the UWWA staff and comments that this is a joint and collective work, which would not make sense if they did not work for each other. He takes the opportunity to send greetings from his wife Ligia de Lee, who always remembers them with great affection. He asked those present to stand to listen to the Olympic hymn. Finally, he asked everyone to come



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forward for the official photo. The President and Secretary General of the UWWA  
attest to the proceedings. -----