April 2025

West Coast Swiss Wrestling Association NEWSLETTER

wcswa2022@gmail.com 209-607-1157 (Chris)

We are ready for the 2025 Schwinger season to begin! This coming weekend (April 5th) head to Imperial Valley Schwingfest - it is the 104th Annual (let that sink in a bit) where the start of the season kicks off with the points for the 4th spot for the WCSWA elected 2025 Schwinger contest will start. (See page 2) Tillamook Schwingfest on May 17th (see page 3) will command the determining spot for the 4th Schwinger selected for the 2025 ESAF Eidgenössiches in Glarnerland. Schwinger's Patrick Richardson, Mar-

shall Brockway, Steven Widmer and Peter Ming all have the chance to compete to represent the West Coast. We are also excited to see Grant Widmer, Connor Treat and Brenden Spahr in the sawdust honing their skills and preparing themselves for the Eidgenössisches. Good luck to all, safe

travels up and down the West Coast.



Mark your calendars now and make plans for some fun this season as Ralph Lüthi from Küssnacht will also be bringing a group to Schwing at the Ripon (September 7th) and Newark Championship Schwingfest (September 13), but also at least 3 Eidgenössisches Crown Wrestlers are planning on attending the Newark Championship Schwingfest on September 13th from the Toggenberg area. Werner Schlegel, Damian Ott and

Marcel Räbsamen, along with other members from their club. So anywhere from 15-20 additional Schwingers. Follow Werner, Damian and Marcel as they wrestle in some of the top Schwingfests this year - see Page 9.

REVIEW THE SCHWINGEN RULES During this winter 2025 a subcommittee of all WCSWA clubs participated in a rules review for all WCSWA Schwingfests. The goal was to standardize the rules for every Schwingfest so that schwingers, judges, spectators and Swiss visitors know how the

KEEP INFORMED IN 2025!



Please send us your email and information to WCSWA2022@gmail.com

matches will be judged. The rules were also updated to include the current judging standards in Switzerland. See pages 7 and 8 inside to review the rules and updates.



THANK
YOU DON
WIDMER
See page
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There is a Friday Night Welcome Taco Dinner at the Ranch more info alanenz85@gmail.com

Hotels: A block of rooms at the Cambria Hotel in Imperial (not El Centro) is reserved. Brand new 4 Start hotel with a great restaurant attached. \$172.00/night - www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/QU95B5

Imperial Valley Schwingfest on April 5th will be the first stop for Schwingers to determine a spot for the 4th Schwinger that will be selected for the 2025 ESAF Eidgenössiches in Glarnerland. Looking for some exciting match ups. This is also the start of the season for the Josef Inderbitzin Trophy and the George E Morris Memorial Award.

THE TILLAMOOK SCHWINGFEST - MAY 17TH 2025 is extra special this year!

The <u>West Coast Swiss Association</u> is sending 4 wrestlers to compete in Switzerland at the EIDG in August. While three Schwingers have been selected already, the 4th WCSWA spot will be awarded based on the results from the Imperial Valley (April 5th) and the Tillamook Schwingfest (May17)!

The top finisher from both Schwingfests will receive this last spot for the 2025 Eidgenössisches Schwing-und Älplerfest Glarnerland. Yes, Tillamook's Schwingfest is a qualifier for the EIDG!

Here's a snapshot of some of the activities attendees will enjoy:

Friday Night Welscome Event: Charcuterie Table and Music

<u>Schwing Platz:</u> Crown Schwingfest managed by the Portland Schwingen Club (with some local wrestlers participating again this year!) and accompanied by traditional Ländler Music; Steinstossen competition (traditional Swiss shot put) managed by the Tillamook Swiss Society.

<u>Cultural Heritage & Static Displays:</u> Swiss Heritage and Cultural displays curated by the Tillamook Swiss Society (including individual members' private family collections)

Food & Drink: Beer, wine, soft drinks, hot drinks, and food available for purchase

<u>Swiss Dance:</u> We are bringing back our portable dance floor and will have family friendly events during the day. We'll dance to the tippity toe tapping sounds of The Blaser Kapelle Orchestra playing traditional Ländler Music

<u>Kindergarten:</u> We will have a kindergarten area for kids to play Swiss games, color and craft! Get in on the family fun and do a Volkswalk to win prizes! And much more!

Hotel: Tillamook Inn & Suites 503-842-7971 group rate Tillamook Swiss Event 2025 \$129+tax

For additional information, please reach out to tillamookswisshall@gmail.com



The Tillamook Swiss Society is preserving Swiss culture and traditions with the formation of their own Swiss Alpine Wrestling (Schwingen) Club. This new venture has already seen success, with members competing in regional Schwingfests and demonstrating their skills and dedication to this unique sport.

Meet the Wrestlers

The Tillamook Schwingen Club features a talented group of wrestlers across different age categories:

- Cody Smith Senior, 18+
- George Durrer Senior, 18+
- Koi Smith Junior, 15-17
- Josef Durrer Buebe, 12-14

A Tradition of Excellence

The Tillamook Swiss Society is proud to maintain the cultural heritage of Switzerland. Schwingen, a traditional Swiss sport with deep historical roots, is gaining popularity in the United States, thanks to dedicated communities like the one in Tillamook.

Brendan Spahr, one of the coaches for the Tillamook Schwingen Club, is a seasoned wrestler who competed in Switzerland in May 2024. His experience and expertise are invaluable to the club, guiding the wrestlers as they hone their skills and prepare for competitions.

Ioin the Action

The Tillamook Swiss Society invites the community to come out and support the wrestlers as they keep this vibrant part of Swiss culture alive and thriving. Their dedication to preserving and promoting Swiss traditions through Schwingen is a source of pride and demonstrates the strength of cultural heritage in Tillamook.

We are thrilled to offer you an opportunity to sponsor The <u>2025 Tillamook Schwingfest</u> happening May 17, 2025 in the 4H Pavilion at the <u>Tillamook County Fairgrounds</u>. The <u>Tillamook Swiss Society</u> is planning this community event, and we'd like to ask you to mark your calendar, and consider sponsoring!

SCHWINGEN BACK IN TIME......

NEWARK FALL SCHWINGFEST - AUGUST 28, 1982

CROWNS:

1ST PLACE - RICHARD HEINZER 4TH PLACE - TED BETSCHART 2ND PLACE - DAVE EGGER
5TH PLACE - WALTER KUEHNE

3RD PLACE - DON WIDMER 6TH PLACE - JOSEPH FLEISCHMANN



34+ SCHWINGERS WITH CUTS AFTER THE 4TH ROUND

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FRONT ROW, (Left to Right)
     Josef Foehn - Pfaffikon; Josef Fleischmann - Altendorf; Josef Heinzer - Muotathal;
     Frank Beeler - Ripon; Louie Schallberger - Lodi; Ed Ott - Los Altos;
     Walt Schallberger - Lodi; Franz Weber - Goldau; and Walter Kuehne - Benken;
     Otto Gabriel - Enetburgen; Konrad Ischi - Zurzach; Xavier Ulrich - Schindeleggi;
     Bob Wifli - Newark; Werner Mueller - Zurzach; Hans Marchy - Ripon; and Tony Rolli
     Willisau
THIRD ROW
     Fritz Wutrich - Freiebach; Hansruedi Camenzind - Switzerland; Steve Meier -
     San Francisco; Ernie Ludwig - San Diego; Mark Warmerdam - Lodi; Larry Holdener -
     Tacoma; Ted Betschart - Ripon; and Louie Dobler - Tracy
     Ueli Hess - Graffnort; Richard Heinzer - Muotathal; Bruno Bisig - Binau;
     Rene Depperer - Zurzach; Dave Egger - San Diego; Don Widmer - Ripon; and Gusty
     Kueng - Ruswil
FIFTH ROW
     Sepp Wagner - Ripon; Dan Holdener - Tacoma; and Frank Imhof - Newark
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West Coast Swiss Wrestling Association

Josef L. Inderbitzin Perpetual Award



The WCSWA Josef Inderbitzen Perpetual Trophy Award

This Perpetual Trophy scoring help us to keep track of the Schwinger placings at the Schwingfests each year. Now we have included Portland, Tacoma and Frances into our point totals there are many Schwingfests that the Schwingers can attend to help achieve the best possible points. This is how it works:

WCSWA - JOSEF L INDERBITZEN PERPETUAL TROPHY

West Coast Swiss Wrestling Association – Josef L. Inderbitzen Perpetual Trophy is to be awarded to the best overall wrestler of the year. The criteria is based on the WCSWA Rules and Regulations paragraph 5 with the following

included and calculated in a spreadsheet throughout this year's Wrestling Season.

Determine the number of eligible wrestlers from the WSCWA for each Schwingfest. Must be a legal US resident and not eligible for consideration from any other locality. Those from CA, NV, AZ, WA and OR wrestlers would be considered, those from other states, Canada or Switzerland would not be included.

Compute from above the placing for each Schwingfest considering only the eligible wrestlers.

Compute the ranking points for each wrestler for each Schwingfest by applying the following computation:

Ranking = Rangliste placing – Divide by the: Number of Eligible Wrestlers

Consider the following Schwingfests: Holtville, Ripon-Sprint, San Diego, Sierra Swiss Club, Ripon Fall, Newark.

If more than one WCSWA wrestler is tied for the same placing at a Schwingfest and/or distribution of Champion-ship bonus points, the points will be added together for them and divided evenly among all wrestlers in the placing.

Add one penalty point for each Schwingfest that a wrestler completed in less than eight of Schwingfests of the 11 considered Schwingfest. (If Tillamook doesn't have one it drops to 7)

Compute sub-total by adding percentile and penalty for each wrestler at each of the Schwingfest wrestled and divide by the number of Schwingfest completed.

Reduce point totals with bonus points for the WCSWA ranking at the Championship Schwingfest: 1st place .25 points, 2nd place .20 points, 3rd place .15 point, 4th place .10 points, 5th place .08 points, 6th place .05 points and 7th place .02 points.

Compute grand-total for each wrestler.

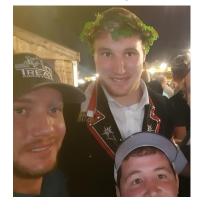
Toe Breakers: First = Highest Rangliste standing in the most recent Championship Schwingfest. Second: Wrestler who competed in the most Schwingfests.

Prioritize nominees starting with the lowest to the highest. Lowest possible points win.

If a Schwinger is Unfall in a Schwingfest – they are based on the point total they end up with for the day and fall in to the final placings, in that range and it is indicated with an * by their name.







SCHWINGFEST CALENDAR FOR 2025

Date	Event	Club	Location
4/5/2025	Annual Schwingfest & Outsiders BBQ	Imperial Valley Swiss Club	Holtville, CA
5/17/2025	Schwingfest	Tillamook Swiss Club	Tillamook, OR
6/7/20245	Spring Schwingfest	San Joaquin Valley Swiss Club	Ripon CA
6/21/2025	Schwingfest	San Diego County Swiss Club	Chula Vista, CA
6/28/2025	Spring Schwingfest	Tacoma Swiss Club	Bonney Lake, WA
7/4-6/2025	Schwingfest Weekend	Lewis Pacific Swiss Club	Frances, WA
7/19/2025	Schwingfest	Sierra Swiss Club	Truckee, CA
8/2/2025	Schwingfest	Portland Swiss Club	Portland, OR
8/9/2025	Schwingfest Weekend	Tacoma Swiss Club	Bonney Lake, WA
9/6/2025	Fall Schwingfest	San Joaquin Valley Swiss Club	Ripon CA
9/13/2025	Fall Schwingfest/ WCSWA Championship	Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club	Newark, CA



ANNUAL GEORGE E. MORRIS MEMORIAL SCHWINGER AWARD

George E. Morris (11/25/1993-10/31/19)

The George E Morris Memorial Award for 2024 was won by *Patrick Richardson, Brenden Spahr and Steven Widmer.* The 3 men split the pot of \$2,000.00 for 2024. Patrick and Steven also received an additional \$100.00 for attending George E. Morris home Imperial Valley Schwingfest. This was an impressive showing all up and down the West Coast. Thank you to George Morris for perpetuating the Memorial Award in memory of his son George E Morris who passed away tragically in 2019.

Participating in 2025 - The pot for 2025 is \$2,000.00 and you must attend 8 of the 9 Crown Schwingfests (Imperial Valley, Tillamook, San Diego, Frances, Sierra Swiss Club, Portland, Tacoma-Fall, Ripon Fall, Newark—Championship) however if you are wrestling in Switzerland there will be an exception. This year if you make the Imperial Valley Schwingfest a bonus of \$300 additional will be added and if you attend all 9 of the Crown Schwingfests it will be an additional \$200.00 in the 2025 Season.



2025 CHAMPIONSHIP SCHWINGFEST AELPLER GRUPPE - NEWARK, CA

SEPTEMBER 12-14TH 2025

Outsiders Dinner, Schwingfest, Walter Grimm Concert

Schwingers from Küssnacht and Toggenberg, Switzerland Competing

Mark your calendars now and reserve your room now at the

Wyndham Hotel 5977 Mowry Avenue 510-902-6175

\$99.00/night Code "Anniversary"

aelplergruppe@gmail.com



WEST COAST SWISS WRESTLING ASSOCIATION SCHWINGEN RULES UPDATE (MARCH 2025)

Purpose Statement for WCSWA Schwingen Rules Update March 2025

During Winter 2025 a subcommittee of all WCSWA clubs participated in a rules review for all WCSWA Schwingfests. The goal was to standardize the rules for every Schwingfest so that schwingers, judges, spectators and Swiss visitors know how the matches will be judged. The rules were also updated to include the current judging standards in Switzerland. This is a living document and will be reviewed at the end of each season.

At each Schwingfest following the initial pairing of wrestlers, the referee and scoring judges shall call all wrestlers into the wrestling ring for instructions. The following rules shall be reviewed with the wrestlers at that time.

<u>Discretionary Scoring:</u> A loss shall earn a score of 8.50 and a tie shall earn a score of 8.75. Discretion may be exercised by the two scoring judges plus the referee on each match and for each wrestler to award an extra 0.25 points for exceptional wrestling.

What is a 10?: If off a standing throw, 10 is awarded for a flat or a roll-through pin.

Judge Representation: Every club should nominate a list of potential judges to

WCSWA including their contact information. Consider asking wrestlers participating from clubs/regions to be able to nominate a judge to represent their club/region.

<u>Discretionary Pairings:</u> Judges shall exercise discretion in pairing wrestlers for each round with equal points being a consideration but not mandatory.

<u>Method of alerting wrestlers of 3-second vertical bridge count:</u> Referee shall count out loud and use hand signals for crowd awareness.

<u>Schwinghosen fit and pant legs rolled up:</u> The referee shall check belt tension and tightness of pants for each match. A wrestler may ask the referee to check tension and fit of wrestler's pants at any stoppage of wrestling during a match.

<u>Confirm loser of Schlussgang is assured a crown:</u> The loser of a Schlussgang shall be assured of winning a crown.

<u>Percentage of crowns awarded:</u> The number of crowns awarded shall be at the discretion of the host club but should target 30% with the exception of when scores result in a tie with the score of the loser of the Schlussgang.

<u>Time clock:</u> The clock should be kept on the table and the time keeper should be sitting next to the announcer.

<u>Wrestlers checking on scoring results:</u> Wrestlers may view only their score at the end of each full round. Any complaining may result in a consensus of the judges issuing a 0.25 deduction to the wrestler's score.

<u>Criteria for Calling Break at edge of platz while wrestling on the ground:</u> The wrestlers shall be returned to the center of the ring when any part of a wrestler's torso, defined as from the belt of the Schwinghosen to the top of the head and from the shoulder- to-shoulder, passes outside of the wrestling ring.

<u>What constitutes a pin:</u> When 2/3rds of a wrestler's back is in contact with the sawdust, a pin shall be called

When time is called mid-throw (Standing throw/wrestling on ground): For a pin to be called, the loser's shoulders must be in contact with the shavings when time is called. The timekeeper should count down audibly at the table with 5-4-3-2-1-Time (Time called on mic)

Continued.....

Who makes the call away from the table or towards the table: The referee shall make the decision on a throw when the throw goes away from the table; the table makes the call when a throw is made towards the table. In the event a throw is made towards the table, the referee shall defer to the table. The table shall make the call timely and announce that call over the microphone.

<u>Wrestler's "timeout" in the event of minor injury:</u> In the event a wrestler is injured, the Judges may use their judgement to grant a "timeout" of any duration deemed appropriate to protect the health of the injured wrestler.

<u>Scoring for wrestler when opponent Unfall occurs:</u> In the event a wrestler is injured and unable to continue and no pin has occurred, the Judges will request a volunteer with approximately the same score to wrestle with the un-injured wrestler. That selected wrestler's score will count as their next round; If this occurs in the 6th round, a wrestler shall be selected to wrestle a 7th round and that wrestler shall receive an extra 0.25 point if they win.

<u>Wrestlers who do not finish:</u> Wrestlers who stop without injury are not eligible for prizes or money. <u>New wrestlers without normal 2-3 prior practices:</u> Participation of new wrestlers, defined as having participated in less than 2 prior practices in their Swiss wrestling career, shall be a discretionary decision of the majority of the judges.

<u>Timing for lunch break (what round):</u> The decision to hold a break for lunch and the timing of said break is at the discretion of the host club. The duration of lunch break may also vary depending upon the needs of the club. Schwingers and judges should be allowed to proceed to the front of the food line.

If a wrestler "lays down" granting for their opponent, how is it scored: In the event the Judges deem that a wrestler has intentionally allowed themselves to be pinned, the Judges may award the winner an 8.75 and the loser an 8.50. Host clubs shall inform all wrestlers at the initial wrestler's instructions of this rule to promote good sportsmanship and competition on behalf of all wrestlers.

Rules Committee: Chair - Don Odermott

Committee: Don Odermott (Portland, Tillamook), Don Widmer (Ripon), Dom Reichmuth (Newark), George Morris (Imperial Valley), Urs Gwerder (Sierra), Joe Baur and Bob Holdener (Tacoma), Tony Odermott (San Diego), Patrick Richardson (Frances)



EIDG 2022

GRANT WIDMER, ANDREW BETSCHART, CONNOR TREAT AND STEVEN WIDMER WITH URS GWERDER

(AS SEEN ON TV!)



WHERE THE TOP WRESTLERS WILL MEET IN THE 2025 SEASON By www.schlussgang.ch



Until the start of the Kranzfest on May 4, the top wrestlers will continue to announce their season plans for 2025. The big ticker for the 2025 season will regularly update the wrestling festivals at which the top wrestling events will take place this year. We have highlighted those Schwingers that are planning to come to Newark in September.

<u>Bergkranzfeste Stoos-Schwinget, June 9</u> • BKSV: Matthias Aeschbacher, Matthieu Burger, Christian Gerber, Lukas Renfer, Fabian Staudenmann, Adrian Walther • ISV: Joel Ambühl, Marcel Bieri, Marc Lustenberger, Pirmin Reichmuth, Roland Reichmuth, Noe van Messel, Joel Wicki • SWSV: Romain Collaud, Benjamin Gapany, Sven Hofer, Lario Kramer

Schwarzsee-Schwinget, June 22 • BKSV: Matthias Aeschbacher, Christian Gerber, Florian Gnägi, Patrick Gobeli, Remo Käser, Michael Ledermann, Michael Moser, Curdin Orlik, Lukas Renfer, Dominik Roth, Fabian Staudenmann • NOSV: Fabian Kindlimann, Samir Leuppi, Damian Ott, Marcel Räbsamen, Domenic Schneider, Jeremy Vollenweider • SWSV: Romain Collaud, Benjamin Gapany, Sven Hofer, Lario Kramer

<u>Rigi-Schwinget, July 13</u> • ISV: Joel Ambühl, Jonas Burch, Marco Fankhauser, Marc Lustenberger, Luca Müller, Pirmin Reichmuth, Roland Reichmuth, Sven Schurtenberger, Noe van Messel • NOSV: Samuel Giger, Fabian Kindlimann, Armon Orlik, **Damian Ott, Werner Schlegel •** NWSV: Andreas Döbeli, Lukas Döbeli, Oliver Hermann, Sinisha Lüscher, Adrian Odermatt

Weissenstein-Schwinget, July 19 • BKSV: Matthieu Burger, Christian Gerber, Florian Gnägi, Remo Käser, Michael Ledermann, Michael Moser, Curdin Orlik, Dominik Roth, Fabian Staudenmann • NOSV: Samir Leuppi, Armon Orlik, Werner Schlegel, Marcel Räbsamen, Roger Rychen, Domenic Schneider • NWSV: Nick Alpiger, Andreas Döbeli, Lukas Döbeli, Oliver Hermann, Sinisha Lüscher, Adrian Odermatt, Tim Roth

<u>Brünig-Schwinget, July 27</u> • BKSV: Matthias Aeschbacher, Matthieu Burger, Patrick Gobeli, Michael Ledermann, Michael Moser, Curdin Orlik, Lukas Renfer, Adrian Walther • ISV: Joel Ambühl, Marcel Bieri, Jonas Burch, Reto Fankhauser, Luca Müller, Pirmin Reichmuth, Roland Reichmuth, Sven Schurtenberger, Joel Wicki • NWSV: Nick Alpiger, Andreas Döbeli, Lukas Döbeli, Oliver Hermann, Sinisha Lüscher, Adrian Odermatt, Tim Roth Schwägalp-Schwinget, August 17 • ISV: Marcel Bieri, Marco Fankhauser, Marc Lustenberger, Luca Müller, Noe van Messel • NOSV: Samuel Giger, Fabian Kindlimann, **Damian Ott, Marcel Räbsamen, Werner Schlegel,** Domenic Schneider, Jeremy Vollenweider • SWSV: Romain Collaud, Benjamin Gapany, Lario Kramer

Get the Schlussgang App—follow www.schlussgang.ch for the Agenda and Results of all of the Schwingfests—and where to watch them live

WEST COAST SWISS WRESTLING ASSOCIATION SWISS CLUBS

CLUBS	EMAIL / WEBSITE	ADDRESS
IMPERIAL VALLEY SWISS CLUB	swissclubofiv@gmail.com IVSWISSCLUB.ORG	1585 E Worthington Rd, Holtville, CA
TILLAMOOK SWISS CLUB	tillamookswisshall@gmail.com Facebook: tillamookswisssoci- ety	4603 3rd Street, Tillamook, OR
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY SWISS CLUB RIPON	riponswissclub@aol.com Sjvscriponswiss.com	110 N Manley, Ripon, CA
SAN DIEGO COUNTY SWISS CLUB	swissclubevents@gmail.com Sdswissclub.com	2001 Main Street, Chula Vista, CA
LEWIS-PACIFIC SWISS SOCIETY FRANCES	lewispacificswisssociety.org	19 Swiss Picknick Road, Raymond, WA
PORTLAND SWISS CLLUB	Facebook: portlandswiss	10308 NW Helvetia Rd, Hillboro, OR
SWISS SPORTSMEN'S CLUB OF TACOMA	Tacomaswiss.com	9205 198th Ave E, Bonney Lake, WA
AELPLER GRUPPE SWISS CLUB—NEWARK	Aelplergruppe,com Aelplergruppe@gmail.com	5911 Mowry Ave, Newark, CA
SIERRA SWISS CLUB - TRUCKEE	https://sierraswissclub.org	Schwingfest: Truckee/Donner Comm Ctr 8924 Donner Pass Road, Truckee, CA

MEET THE 2025 WCSWA BOARD:

President: Arnold Ambiel - Aelpler Gruppe SC **Vice President:** Urs Gwerder - Sierra Swiss Club

Secretary: Chris Schallberger - San Joaquin Valley SC

Treasurer: Logan Schallberger - San Joaquin Valley SC **Director:** Tony Odermatt - San Diego County SC

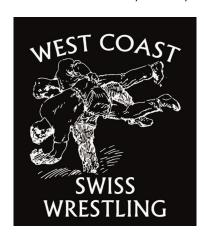
Director: Tony Odermatt - San Diego County SC

Director: George Morris – Imperial Valley SC

Director: Don Odermott - Portland, OR

Director: Patrick Richardson - Frances, WA

Director: Joe Bauer/Bob Holdener - Tacoma, WA



THANK YOU DON WIDMER!



The West Coast Swiss Wrestling Association would like to express their gratitude and appreciation to Don Widmer who served on the board for 40 years! Don was thanked at the recent Ripon Schwinger Club Dinner for all of his work as Treasurer and consistent guidance over his tenure on the board. He couldn't remember how many years and guessed 30—but it was as his wife Kim specified its over 40! Don served when Josef Inderbitzin was on the board! Thank you Don! True to his encouragement in the Schwingen community, Don

reached out to Logan Schallberger, to fill in as his replacement. Don exemplifies what commitment is to the Schwingen and to the West Coast Wrestling Association, his contributions to meetings will be missed, but we know we can always reach out for support and his knowledge in the future.