

WRESTLING WITH REALITY (12 x 30')

Episodic Synopsis

SEASON 1

Episode 1: Wrestlers Rick Doyle and Peter Smith take you into the lives of professional wrestling, along with a mixed roster of experienced and inexperienced wrestlers. They have embarked a 6 stop wrestling tour to showcase the everyday struggle to keep their passions alive. They certainly don't take kindly to people labeling wrestling as "fake". This episode shows viewers the set up of the ring and getting ready for their first event, while introducing you to the characters. It wasn't a great start to the tour, and Peter Smith *AKA Brody Steele* thinks he may have too many inexperienced wrestlers on the roster and the female wrestlers on the ticket are not getting along. Hopefully, the next show will be an improvement.

Episode 2: The next episode, the conflict between the 2 female wrestlers (Krysta Lynn Scott, and Purity Saint) from the previous episode is now resolved. They share their thoughts on sex appeal and working in a man's world. There are rules you have to live by, if you're a female wrestler in this business. Will they be able to follow them while on tour?

The veteran wrestlers comment on the impressive performance that Jeff Young (Tommy Osborne) has been giving, but unfortunately they've also just found out he is contemplating leaving pro wrestling and start a new career in increasingly popular mixed martial arts.

Episode 3: The next show begins with the veteran wrestlers expressing their frustrations to the younger wrestlers. They are disgusted with their lack of responsibility, and respect. Lincoln Steen is introduced to the owner of the franchise "Simply Fit For Life" Bruce Sweeney, and starts a meal plan to better himself to look the wrestler physique. Rick Doyle has lost his voice, and is forced to go to a clinic. What's a bad guy wrestler without his bark?

Also, the team is forced to find a new ring announcer minutes before the show begins due to the original ring announcer being MIA. Cowboy Mike Hughes shocks the crowd by throwing a paraplegic out of his wheelchair. We also witness the wrestling party scene.

Episode 4: In this episode Cowboy Mike Hughes (who was the wrestler who threw the paraplegic out of his chair the night before) reads the article in the paper about his actions- he is thrilled! Krysta Lynn Scott is terribly nervous when she finds out she is doing the on-air color commentary and promotions on the radio for this event.

The veteran wrestlers discuss their disappointment with Sidewinder,AKA Nick Landry on the tour. This was a guy they all felt had huge potential, and unfortunately he does not respect the profession enough to follow through. His actions could get him kicked off the tour.

Pete Smith explains the image he needs to maintain as a wrestler, and how he relies on steroids. An intimate relationship between Tommy Osborne and Kysta Lynn Scott has ended, and has now affected their professional relationship. Gary Gallant approaches them to resolve this problem. Trash Canyon aka Rick Doyle is really angry about his partner (Lincoln Steen) neglecting the match they have tonight.

Episode 5: Now that Sidewinder is off the tour, Peter hires Tony Armstrong aka Antonio Verde to replace his spot on the tour. Tony Armstrong pranks his friend Lincoln Steen by putting a goldfish in his gallon jug of water.

Pete Smith is angry with his 'valet', Marisa LeBlanc, for being lazy. Pete wants her to help out a little more, because she is getting paid more than some of the wrestlers.

Tonight's crowd can't get enough of the show and demand an "encore" for the performance. The heat and excitement from that night led right into a great after party after the event.

Episode 6: Emotions are raw amongst the wrestlers as the tour comes to the final stop. A passionate wrestling fan steps up to take on the role as a color commentator. Unfortunately, the interviews with the wrestlers he does backstage turn out so bad, they don't end up in the show. Nick Landry aka Sidewinder, who was fired from the tour in an earlier episode for his irresponsible actions, shows up at the show, and helps the crew set up and tear down the ring. Pete Smith sets him aside and is impressed by his actions.

The relationship between Pete Smith and Mike Hughes has been in turmoil for the last couple of years due to a dispute about Pete's request to Mike about helping out on the adoption of his child. They finally confront each other about this and try to resolve it. The final match is a 3 vs. 3 tag match, where one of the fan favorites switches sides, and joins the rival team to finish the tour with a bang, and leave the audience shocked!

SEASON 2

Episode 1: Episode 1 begins with a huge blow out fight between two best friends Pete Smith and Rick Doyle. The two friends have partnered together over the last five years to try to create a successful business wrestling the local indie circuits.

After the fight, the episode rewinds back two years ago when partners Rick and Peter, along with wrestler Gary Gallant, travel to Toronto to celebrate the premier of Season 1 of their series. Being on television, and featured on magazine shows was a dream come true for the guys. The network president brainstormed a second season with them, which led them to impatiently wait for a full year to only be crushed with the news that the network was backing out of a second season.

When television producer, and business partner to Peter and Rick, Greg Hemmings, finds a new broadcaster interested in a new series featuring the 'Kardinal Sinners', Greg gets Peter and Mike on board right away, but Rick Doyle is not interested in joining. Episode one also features Peter Smith and his personal life to better understand his character and to explain his desire to find success wrestling closer to home.

Episode 2: Episode 2 kicks off as Pete and Mike wrestle with the IHW promotion. IHW is a small promotion company run by younger guys who started with backyard wrestling. Pete and Mike enjoy working for this promotion because they have solid crowds, and the fans give them the respect that the two ego-maniacs so desperately lust for.

Mike and Pete both feel that they could be at the end of their wrestling careers as their bodies are falling apart. At this stop, they get to wrestle on the same card as Robbie Ellis, the 65-year-old wrestling star. Seeing Robbie, at 65, in excellent shape, helps Peter and Mike realize that they still might have a chance to continue wrestling for many more years.

The event is a big success, great matches, and good energy back stage. Peter and producer Greg Hemmings' partner Rick Doyle is still not on the road with the guys. This has added tension to the three partners. Peter is upset that Rick isn't putting the effort into being on the road with them, while Rick for some reason feels that Greg, the tv producer, is ripping him off. Rick's behavior is starting to get under Greg's skin, and Greg is contemplating not taking the show any further if Rick keeps it up. The future of the tour is in jeopardy.

Pete visits with Gary Gallant to encourage him to jump on board for the rest of the tour. Gary has lost all his passion and isn't interested in going, unless he hears that Rick is going as well. Gary and Rick talk on the phone and are both left in contemplation about going back on the road, and into the ring again...despite the mounting tensions between Rick, Peter and Greg.

Episode 3: This episode begins at the home of Rick Doyle. Rick has moved on from the wrestling business, he has a full time construction job, and he has given up the dream of going any further in wrestling. The validation that he thought wrestling would bring him from his family, friends and fans did not happen, and he feels that Mike and Peter are fools to continue chasing a dead end dream. He is still very bitter and he is convinced that Peter and Mike should be moving on and get real jobs like he did to support their families.

But Rick's family, knowing how depressed he has become, encourage him to get back in the ring, despite all the tension and risks involved. Rick picks up his old wrestling mate, Frankie Sloane, who flew in from his hometown of Liverpool, England where he is a national wrestling star. Frankie was hired to join the Kardinal Sinners for this next tour. He is a welcome breath of fresh air and comic relief in a tension filled group, as they travel to their next stop in the middle of a snowstorm.

Rick is in a very depressed state and is looking for a way to get home already, even though they haven't even made it to their first event. Pete confronts Rick about his bad attitude, and leaves with the other boys to have some drinks and unwind. Rick does not join them, but ends up explaining to the camera in his room why he is so disillusioned. The tour is now officially toxic.

Episode 4: All the guys, but Rick, are having a good time on the town. They discuss how they love being on the road, and this is where the passion is, hanging out with the mates. A bond is created between the new friends Gary and Frankie, and Mike and Peter are in great spirits, despite Rick's attempts to bring everyone down.

The next morning, they dig the van out, and hit the road. The snowstorm makes driving is low, and the wrestlers are concerned that they will be late for their next gig. They end up making it just in time, but the drama begins within seconds as they realize that their highly anticipated shows were not going to be filled with a the promised full house. To make matters worse, Mike confronts the promoter, Dean, about their pay, and all hell breaks loose when they realize that they will not be guaranteed a "pay-out"- a minimum from the gate. Rick puts all the blame on Pete as he feels that Peter should have been the one that brokered the deals for the guys before they hit the road.

Gary and Rick wrestle for the first time in over a year, and it was a disaster, they blame each other for the poor match. The episode ends with Pete and Mike discussing whether they should punch the promoter in the face, if they don't get a payout when they see him at the bar later that night.

Episode 5: The episode begins at the bar after the last event. Dean, the promoter ends up giving the guys their pay... but the guys are offended that they were paid a measly 40 dollars.

They are used to being paid 10 times that rate for a show. Instead of punching the promoter out, they decide to drink and make the best of a bad situation.

The next event, expectations are high that the show could be sold out because it was in the hometown of one of the promoters, Wayne Cryderman, who himself is a popular wrestler (Crusher Klein). The guys were used to wrestling in front of 300-500 people, but they were expecting much larger crowds at this event.

Dean and Mike continue their disagreement about the pay-out. Dean argues that having Mike and the Kardinal Sinners here isn't bringing more people through the doors, therefore they aren't worth any more than \$40. Everyone blames each other for the poor attendance.

Peter and Mike are disappointed because they fight two very inexperienced wrestlers named "The Twin Terrors" resulting in Mike getting injured. Pro wrestlers know how to keep their "opponents" safe in the ring and this was a perfect example of how the wrestling business is going downhill. Al makes similar points and mentions that the young wrestlers have lost respect for the business, and have no sense of history, or where the business came from. Al feels that a television show that exposes the mystery of wrestling might not be a good thing for the wrestling business. Frankie Sloane shares that thought as the UK wrestlers still hold the secrets of wrestling very close, and does not like them to be exposed.

Episode 6: In this episode, Rick ends up having a surprisingly good match with Frankie Sloane. It seemed to finally loosen Rick up a little bit and later on while they are out drinking, Pete and Rick seem to be getting along well and are joking around like old times.

The wrestlers then travel their next event and Mike is contemplating missing the event thinking it's not worth getting hurt for such little money. Wayne Cryderman (one of the promoters), argues his case yet again of why he is paying so low and the tension, again, hits a fever pitch.

Gary then has an awful match with Frankie. After the match, Frankie attempts to have a drink of whiskey in the dressing room, but he is told not to drink by one of the promoters. The rest of the wrestlers are baffled by this and claim that no promoter has ever told that to a wrestler, especially when that promoter is paying such a small wages. To spite Dean, Gary opens a beer in front of Dean in an attempt to aggravate him.

Later on that evening at the bar after the last match of the tour, Rick explodes at Pete once again, while Mike dukes it out, verbally, with Dean. Rick is accusing Peter of being a bully and years of pent up anger is unleashed. Pete is not one to back down from confrontation and the two have it out. The two travel in different vans back home and Rick vows never speak to Peter again.

The tour ends disastrously. What was hoped to be the rekindling of a dream to create a sustainable wrestling scene is now once again on thin ice. Will this be the last time Peter, Rick and Greg work together? Will Gary end up back in the ring, or will he continue down the road of bad health? Will Mike and Peter continue to support their families by wrestling abroad? Or will they get jobs and be closer to home, even if it means less money? The passion and excitement that ended the first tour/season is lost at the end of this tour/season. Friendships were damaged, dreams disappeared, and struggles for the future increase.