

NSAA WRESTLING NEWSLETTER

Volume #1

January 2008

A Publication by the Nebraska School Activities Association
for Wrestling Coaches and Officials registered with the NSAA
Edited by Darin Boysen, Assistant Director

Mailing Address: PO Box 5447, Lincoln, NE 68505-0447

Phone: 402-489-0386

Comments

The 2007-08 wrestling season is gearing up for the home stretch. I would like to commend coaches and school officials on your professionalism. As we move forward to the district and state championships we focus the attention to competition and good sportsmanship on and off of the mat. Good Luck to all athletes and coaches!

Skin Condition Checks

Schools are asked to keep monitoring skin conditions with all athletes involved in the sport of wrestling. The priority of the NSAA is the safety and health of the athletes. The NSAA has requested that each district tournament site have a physician check each wrestler at weigh-ins. The onsite physician's decision will **OVERRIDE** any NSAA Physician Form for skin lesions. Please contact the NSAA office with any serious skin condition cases within your team.

NSAA Wrestling Officials Observations

Through January 12, 2008 there were 85 official's observations submitted to the NSAA. Thank you to the observers who assisted Darin Boysen in this time consuming task. The NSAA will continue to improve the observation process each year.

Officials Ballot Results

105 Head Wrestling Coaches voted on-line for the selection of the 2008 state wrestling championship officials. The number of coaches voting more than doubled from a year ago. Head Coaches: Your Vote Does Count!

NSAA Weight Management –Districts

**January 19th is the last day for an athlete to make scratch weight. Exception: The wrestler has been injured the entire season prior to January 19th. The first weigh-in after January 19th would establish the wrestler's minimum weight.

** After January 19th a wrestler may weigh-in above his/her established minimum weight while still returning to the established minimum weight class at a 1.5% per week descent. (calculated daily)

** Head Wrestling must present a copy of their ENTIRE team Pre-Match Weigh-In Form at the seeding meeting.

**After the seeding meeting a coach may replace an athlete only due to illness or injury. Wrestlers may not move from a different weight class after the seeding meeting is completed.

**A wrestler must have an official weigh-in prior to the district tournament.

**As of January 15, 2008 there had been only one athlete and one head coach suspension involving weight management. Thank you coaches for your efforts with weight management.

State Wrestling Tickets

The Qwest ticket staff has completed and planed to mail all ticket orders by January 22 that were part of the December 1, 2007 drawing. On January 3, 2008 Tickmaster began to sell remaining seats for all sessions. The link on the NSAA wrestling web page to Ticketmaster opened on January 3. Tickets may be purchased at the Qwest Ticket Office window during the days of the State Championships if seats are still available.

Wrestling Ejections Update

Ejections for wrestling as reported to the NSAA office as of January 15, 2009: **Wrestlers = 9 (6-Varsity and 3 Junior Varsity)** and **Coaches = 0**. Officials and schools are reminded to file an ejection report on-line with the NSAA office (if you have an ejection) right after the meet.

2008 NSAA State Wrestling Championship Officials

The difficult task of selecting the 2008 NSAA State Wrestling Championship officials has been completed. Nebraska is very fortunate to have many talented officials. 50 officials applied on-line for the state championships. Congratulations to the following officials that have been selected:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| 1. Jeremy Broz | Ashland |
| 2. Daryl Colwell | Alliance |
| 3. Bart Deterding | Cambridge |
| 4. Michael Evans | Gretna |
| 5. Steve Faber | Gibbon |
| 6. Doug Hoops | North Bend |
| 7. Rusty Hunt | Lincoln |
| 8. Mark Jensen | Burwell |
| 9. Nate Kamrath | Waverly |
| 10. Dan McKeon | North Platte |
| 11. Kevin Nordhues | Bartlett |
| 12. Todd Parr | Gibbon |
| 13. Phil Pisasale | Omaha |
| 14. Rick Price | Elkhorn |
| 15. Albert Rodriguez | Lincoln |
| 16. Kelly Schany | Blair |
| 17. Duane Skiles | North Platte |
| 18. Micheal Smith | Gering |
| 19. Travis Stutzman | Columbus |
| 20. David Walton | Omaha |

Alternate 1: Jim Sackett Omaha

Alternate 2: Jerry Frerichs Elkhorn

2007 – 2008 NFHS Wrestling Rules Interpretations

SITUATION 8: In the first period, Wrestler A earns a takedown. No other scoring occurs until a flurry at the end of the first period in which Wrestler B earns an escape and a takedown, then Wrestler A earns an escape. The official scorer does not see the referee award Wrestler B's escape, and because of the flurry, the official scorer believes the referee was unable to give the signal for a reversal and records a reversal instead of an escape and a takedown. The scoreboard operator (not the official scorer) sees Wrestler B's escape awarded and posts it and points for the ensuing takedown. At the end of the first period, the scoreboard has a 3-3 score posted, an escape and a takedown for each wrestler, but the official scorer has recorded 3 points (takedown and an escape) for Wrestler A and only 2 points (reversal) for Wrestler B. Because the scoreboard shows a score of 3-3, the error is not challenged by Wrestler B or his coach. The match is wrestled to conclusion with each wrestler earning an additional escape, making the official scorer's score 4-3 in favor of Wrestler A. At this point, Wrestler B and his coach, both still in the mat area, point out the recording error claiming the match should be tied 4-4, and should now go into overtime. **RULING:** According to 2007-08 NFHS rules change, this error can be corrected prior to the offended wrestler leaving the mat area. The match would proceed to overtime. It is good practice for a referee to clarify all points awarded at the end of a flurry, and particularly at the end of a period. It is also one of the duties of the official scorer to be in constant communication with the scoreboard operator to make sure they agree. In the event of errors by the timekeeper, official scorer or referee which require additional wrestling, Rules 6-6-4a1 and 6-6-5a1 both allow the correction of such errors prior to the offended wrestler leaving the mat area. (3-3-1; 6-6-4a1; 6-6-5a1)

SITUATION 9: A wrestler advances to the championship finals of a tournament that will be held the day after the semifinals. On the day of the finals, the wrestler, who was not injured nor became ill during the tournament, fails to make weight. Does the wrestler who failed to make weight earn second place? **RULING:** No. Rule 10-2-7 states that in order to place in a tournament, a wrestler must make weight each day of the tournament. The other finalist would be awarded a forfeit for the final match. There would be no second-place winner. The wrestler who failed to make weight would lose all place points earned for his team. The wrestler who failed to make weight would retain advancement points as well as points earned for falls, forfeits, defaults, technical falls, disqualifications, decisions and major decisions for his team. (10-2-7)

SITUATION 10: In a dual meet, Wrestler A, whose actual weight at the weigh-in was 129 pounds, properly reports to the scorer's table to compete in the 130-pound weight class. Wrestler B then properly reports to the scorer's table, at which time Wrestler A withdraws and thus Wrestler B is awarded a victory by disqualification in the 130-pound weight class. Wrestler A then again reports to the scorer's table as the competitor in the 135-pound weight class. **RULING:** Wrestler A is ineligible to compete in the 135-pound weight class even though his weigh-in weight qualifies him to compete at that class. Once a wrestler properly reports to the scorer's table and is then withdrawn, he/she is disqualified (Rule 5-8) from competition in the dual meet because "No wrestler shall represent the school in more than one weight class" (Rule 1-2-2). Wrestler A has already represented his school at the 130-pound weight class and then was disqualified by his withdrawal. (1-2-2; 5-8)

SITUATION 11: Wrestler A takes a second injury time-out at the conclusion of the first period. Wrestler B is now given the choice at the start of both the second and third periods. During the second period, Wrestler B now takes a second injury time-out. Who has choice on the restart and does Wrestler B still get choice at the start of the third period? **RULING:** On the restart in the second period after Wrestler B has taken a second injury time-out, Wrestler A would now have choice of top, bottom or neutral position on the restart only. Also, Wrestler B would no longer have choice at the start of the third period because the second injury time-out has been used. Wrestler B could still have the option to start the third period if it was his/her choice because of the rotation determined by the pre-meet choice with the flip of the disk. **COMMENT:** If the second wrestler, during the course of the match, takes a second injury time-out, the choices in place for this wrestler

should be disregarded. New choice(s) should be issued to the opponent based on the second injury time-out procedure. (1-2-6, 8-2-1)

SITUATION 12: A match is still tied at the conclusion of the one-minute sudden victory period in overtime. The referee penalizes Wrestler A for unsportsmanlike conduct: (a) prior to the start of the first 30-second tiebreaker; (b) in between the conclusion of the first 30-second tiebreaker and the start of the second 30-second tiebreaker; or (c) after the conclusion of the second 30-second tiebreaker, but prior to the start of the ultimate tiebreaker. **RULING:** In (a) or (c), award the appropriate penalty points to Wrestler B and the match is over. In (b), award the appropriate penalty points to Wrestler B and continue with the second 30-second tiebreaker. (5-31-2; 6-7-1; 8-1-3; penalty chart)

SITUATION 13: At the start of the second period, Wrestler A has choice and chooses the down position. Wrestler B then signals neutral position to the referee. The referee signals a neutral position and then awards one point to Wrestler A and starts the second period with both wrestlers in the neutral position. **RULING:** This is a correct procedure and ruling as Wrestler A had choice in the second period and chose down. Wrestler B then has three options: 1) assume the legal starting position from the mat; 2) optional starting position; 3) signal to the referee to start the second period from the neutral position and, in turn, Wrestler A is awarded an escape point prior to the referee starting the match in a neutral position for the second period. (5-20-6)

SITUATION 14: In the second, 30-second tiebreaker, a wrestler was given the wrong choice. How is this handled? **RULING:** This would be considered bad time with each segment of the overtime being considered just like a period in a regulation match. The bad time would need to be corrected prior to the start of the next overtime period. The second, 30-second tiebreaker would be re-wrestled after a one-minute rest. If the wrong wrestler in the first, 30-second tiebreaker was given the choice, his/her opponent would be given the choice to start the second 30-second tiebreaker. (5-1-3; 6-6-2)

SITUATION 15: A takedown occurs on the edge of the mat and Wrestler A is out of bounds when that wrestler initiates the move and remains out of bounds at the conclusion of the move. Wrestler B lands close to the boundary line in the following situations: (a) with weight on both hands and feet; (b) on the knees; (c) on the side of the thigh; or (d) on the buttocks. **RULING:** The definition of inbounds should be reviewed in each situation since contestants are considered to be inbounds if the supporting parts of either wrestler are inside the boundary line. Since Wrestler A is clearly out of bounds in all of these situations, the decision on awarding a takedown or signaling out of bounds would be decided on where the supporting points were on Wrestler B with regards to the boundary line. In (a), the referee should make sure at least two supporting points of Wrestler B were inside the boundary line. That would mean both feet, one hand and one foot, both hands, etc., before awarding a takedown. If three of the supporting points were on the boundary line or outside of the boundary line, it is an out-of-bounds situation. In (b), for this to be a takedown, both knees of Wrestler B would have to be inside the boundary line. In (c), the thigh would need to land inside the boundary line to be a takedown. In (d), all of the buttock of Wrestler B would need to be inside the boundary line. (5-15; 5-16; 5-19)

REMINDER OF RULE CHANGE 5-31-1

Coaches and Team Personnel. Unsportsmanlike conduct of coaches and other team personnel is any act which becomes abusive or interferes with the orderly progress of the match. These acts may occur prior to, during or after a match. This includes violations of the bench decorum rule (7-5-2), taunting, acts of disrespect, or those actions which incite negative reaction by others. The offender shall be penalized for unsportsmanlike conduct in accordance with the Penalty Chart. The head coach shall be penalized for unsportsmanlike conduct if wrestlers report to the scorer's table not in proper uniform, no headgear, no mouth guard for braces, not properly groomed, not properly equipped or not ready to wrestle. Only Exception: The head coach shall not be penalized when a wrestler reports to the scorer's table with shoe laces that are not properly secured.

Preventive Officiating Reminders:

Quickly confirm score with table after each period.
Check & sign bout cards during a tournament.