



IOWA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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11/15/16

To: Wrestling Officials

From: Lewie Curtis, IHSAA Wrestling Administrator

Welcome to the 2016-17 Wrestling season! As always, this is an exciting time of year and I want to wish all of you the best of luck throughout the season. If you have questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact me by email at lcurtis@iahsaa.org or by phone at 515-432-2011. If there is an emergency and you feel an absolute need to get in touch with me outside of office hours, my cell phone number is 402-699-6957. I don't mind taking calls on that number, but please try to utilize your resources (rule book, case book, coaches' knowledge, winter sports manual, experience, etc.) prior to calling me with a question. If it can wait until Monday, that would be best!

I will try to send out information to you on a regular basis. I'd like to make contact or send reminders about every 2-3 weeks. I'll try to be brief and touch on some general concerns that I observe or that have been shared with me. With that in mind, here are some pre-season thoughts, ideas, and suggestions.

- The due date for wrestling officials wanting to be considered for post-season assignments is Monday, November 28, 2016. You need to have completed the following requirements before midnight of the 28th if you want to be on the list of potential tournament officials hired by the IHSAA: Registration, online rules meeting, online exam, officials request form and schedule.
- Officials looking to simply work regular season meets need to complete their registration, online rules meeting, and online exam before they actually work a meet or tournament.
- In the 2016-17 Wrestling Case/Manual book, on page 88, the items lettered "cc" and "dd" should not appear under the listing for illegal holds/maneuvers, as those two are actually potentially dangerous. That will get corrected in next year's books.
- I will do my best to get out around the state to do some observing and evaluating. For those of you that submit your schedule on your official's account, I will know where you are officiating. For those who don't put in for post-season, yet still would like to be evaluated, please send me your schedule (might be JV or JH matches) and if I can get into your area, I'll observe you. I'll do my best to try and send you an email of my observation/evaluation for all officials I see work.
- Skin checks can be done prior to or after weigh ins. If there is a medical professional conducting the skin checks, they may be under a time constraint, so we need to work with those individuals. If weigh ins are starting at 4:30, and the health professional can be there to conduct the skin check from 4:00-4:15 or possible 4:50-5:00, then that's acceptable. The time frame should be at or near the weigh ins.
- Based on a recommendation from our Wrestling Advisory Committee, third place finishers in 1A and 2A sectional may enter district due to injury, illness, or skin condition right up until 10:00, the start of weigh in. Previously there was a 9:00 deadline. That has simply been changed to 10:00. At 10:00, all wrestlers scheduled to weigh in are now officially entered into the tournament and no replacements can take place at that time. A wrestler missing weight does not allow the third place wrestler to weigh in in his place, that spot becomes a forfeit.

- With regard to weigh in procedures:
 - Eligibility issues (academic rule – state and local, good conduct rule, transfer rule, ejection policy, etc.) prevents a participant from weighing in, thus they can't participate in that event (including a multiple-day event).
 - Skin conditions makes a wrestler disqualified from participation but not from weighing in. They can weigh in for purposes of certification, or, if they are cleared for the 2nd day of a tournament, they'd be able to weigh in on day 1 but not compete, then weigh in on day 2 and compete (with proper clearance on the skin form)
 - Concussion protocol does not keep a wrestler from weighing in, but the school must have medical clearance prior to the athlete competing
 - Wrestler listed at a weight, but weighs in at a higher weight – cross out the weight and replace it with the correct weight class that he weighed in at. (i.e. Weigh in sheet says 106 for Wrestler A. Wrestler A weighs in at 113. Simply cross out 106 and write in 113 and Wrestler A is eligible to compete at 113 and/or 120 in that event, must make weight at same weight class for multiple day event)
- If competing against teams from other states, keep in mind that those schools follow their state rules with regard to skin forms, so we should accept their state's skin form. Likewise, some other states allow participation from their junior high athletes as part of their high school team. We'd allow that to take place in Iowa, as the out-of-state team follows their own states rule. If an Iowa school competes in another state that allows JH wrestler to participate, we still do not.
- In a 2-day tournament a wrestler suffers a possible concussion on day 1 and is removed from competition – he would need written clearance prior to competing on day 2. He does not need to have written clearance prior to weighing in, but would need it prior to competing.
- Officials wanting to view the concussion course that coaches are required to view can access that at <https://nfhslearn.com/> then select Concussion Courses and "Concussion in Sports" video. I challenge all officials to view this course at least one time!
- The NFHS Wrestling Rules Interpretations can be found at this link. Be sure to read through these scenarios to be sure you are following the rules and won't get anyone disqualified. <http://www.nfhs.org/sports-resource-content/wrestling-rules-interpretations-2016-17/>
- Attached are some "play pics" that take the place of the photos in the "Illustrations" section of the 2015-16 Wrestling Rules Book. Hopefully these play pics help illustrate the situations a little more clearly.

Best of luck this season,



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 Iowa High School Athletic Association
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