

12/21/2022 Wrestling memo

Wrestling officials, coaches, and athletic administrators,

- Be on the lookout for State Finals Ticket purchasing information. The first set of tickets will go on sale to schools on January 10. Jessica Morgan can be contacted for more information (jmorgan@iahsaa.org). A second opportunity to purchase more finals tickets will come a few days later, utilizing the same platform. General public state finals tickets will be made available the following week.
- Additional wrestling coaches floor passes for the State Wrestling Tournament will be available for purchase by schools. Each school with a qualifier will receive three complimentary passes. Schools wanting to provide access to approved and BoEE authorized coaches will have the opportunity to purchase those credentials. More information will be coming!
- Reminder that Regional Duals will be held on Tuesday, January 31, 2023. I will be contacting schools to serve as hosts, so check out your facility availability. If you are a current [IWCOA Coaches Dual Ranking](#) top16 team, be sure to consider whether or not you could host. Let me know if you know you cannot host wrestling on that night!
- Cheerleaders should be encouraged to not infringe on the 5-foot safety area near the wrestling circle. Either move toward a corner or sit off of the mat. Don't make a big deal out of this, but politely have the cheerleaders occupy a safe space at matside. This is for their safety as well as allowing for the proper amount of space in which to allow wrestling to continue.
- Indicating winners should be consistent at each event. Officials should decide beforehand if you will raise the winner's hand or raise your own-colored wristband and ask the wrestler to raise his own hand. In our IHSAA postseason events, we will raise the winner's hand.
- Encourage the proper treatment of newer officials. We need to promote their efforts, accept their decisions, and understand that mistakes might be made. A mistake does not need to constitute an argument. A better way to handle it is to demonstrate restraint and show grace and class. The call can be discussed at a later time and in an appropriate manner – like adults! Teach the students in attendance how to handle disagreements appropriately.
- Rule 5-19-8 and case 5.19.8 optional start with and without a caution.
 - The bottom wrestler gets set by the official. The top wrestler then informs the official that he wants to start in the optional start position. This is legal, and the official should allow the bottom wrestler to readjust prior to setting the top wrestler in place with the optional start position.
 - This should only be cautioned if the top wrestler does not indicate the optional start to the referee and just goes into optional start position.
 - If the top wrestler indicates that he wants to go to a neutral start after the bottom man has been set, the official will allow it without penalty. Rule 5-19 Article 6 allows the top wrestler to signal neutral without a caution because of the language “prior to assuming the offensive position”

- Rule 5-28-3 HNC can be an extension of injury time but not of recovery time. If time is needed due to an illegal action, there is a time limit of 2 minutes, not to be extended. If the wrestler cannot continue, he is declared the winner by default.
- Ejection report location and link reminder:
 - [Ejection Report for Schools](#) [Ejection Report for Officials](#)
- Headgear straps – it is legal to cross the headgear straps. It is legal to use a connector device designed by the headgear manufacturers in order to pull the straps closer together and provide a better fit. The use of tape is illegal on headgear.
- [State seeding criteria link](#)
 - Coaches need to check each of their returning state qualifiers seed criteria
 - Click on the wrestler's name on the TrackWrestling Roster page
 - Click on the Seed Criteria heading
 - Verify that the State Qualifier criteria is accurate
 - Verify that the State Placewinner criteria is accurate
 - Inaccuracies need to be reported to Lewie Curtis by January 29!
- Committing weigh ins in TW. Only allowed three open weigh ins, so if you have cancellations and need help getting rid of those weigh in reports, please email me the details. Once an event is held and the weigh ins have been added, you must save and commit the form. Be sure to do that for all events, including Junior Varsity events!
- Reminder: The District Tournament will be wrestled out completely, to a true-second place. All 14 weight classes will have matches to determine the 2nd place contestant! This is a change from past Sectional and District Tournaments. [The IHSAA Postseason Wrestling Manual](#) is available for viewing. Be sure to give it a look!