NEW JERSEY STATE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
1161 Route 130 North, P.O. Box 487 Robbinsville, New Jersey 08691  

GIRLS WRESTLING RULES COMMITTEE  
Minutes  
September 12, 2019  
2:00 PM  
NJSIAA CENTRAL OFFICE  

Voting Members Present  
Howie O’Neil, Tournament Director  
Jack Kinner, Assistant Tournament Director  
Ashley Iliff, Coach, Newton  
Scott Pressman, Coach, Manalapan  
Bryan Stoll, Coach, Delbarton  

Also Present:  Lori Ayers, Liaison; Pete Frampton, Wrestling Official, Kim Cole, Assistant Director NJSIAA, Bill Bruno, Assistant Director NJSIAA, Jewel Sellers, Wrestling Support Staff NJSIAA.  

I. Bill Bruno, Assistant Director:  
a. Welcome  
b. Minutes  
Motion to approve June 19, 2019 minutes  
Approved unanimously  

Bill introduced Peter Frampton, wrestling official who discussed the need for more wrestling officials citing the anticipated growth of girls wrestling. Currently the training period for wrestling officials is during the wrestling season. It takes two years to complete training and Peter asked if it would be possible to have training in the spring. Also discussed was the possibility of having one location for all interested in officiating girls wrestling. It was pointed out to the committee that the NJSIAA rules mandate that only certified officials, not cadets, are permitted to officiate varsity matches. When girls participate in a girl’s non-scoring team event it is considered varsity.  

It was noted that those attending the girls wrestling training will not be limited to girls wrestling. They will also be able to officiate boys as well.  

The committee discussed the need to advertise for officials and suggested a detailed flyer be composed and circulated amongst the various news outlets and posted on the NJSIAA website. Peter will draft a notice to be approved and circulated.
Regions:

The committee discussed the concerns regarding the number of girls permitted to enter the Regions. Last year all were allowed to enter and 263 girls participated. It is anticipated the number of girls participating in wrestling will increase dramatically this year and the need to limit how many can qualify for Regions will be necessary.

- Motion to approve 2 girls per weight class plus 2 wild cards per team with the provision that the 2 wild cards not be in the same weight class to qualify for regions
- Approved unanimously

States:

Bill informed the committee that 6 (six) girls, 3 from each region per weight class) will qualify for the states. Bill cited the fact that we added a weight class, there are 11 weight classes this year, so 66 girls will be eligible for the states which will necessitate an additional cost and add time to the tournament. The committee was advised increasing the amount of wrestlers qualifying for the States will be revisited next year.

II. Lori Ayres, Liaison

a. Attire for weigh ins

Lori discussed weigh in attire and the need to have different locations for girls and boys to avoid any issues that might arise with one location for all weigh ins. Lori asked that Bill address the issue of the possibility of requiring singlets at weigh ins for all wrestlers to be presented at the NFHS wrestling rules meeting. Several members of the committee will submit A Best Practices Procedure to the NJSIAA for review and posting. We now follow NFHS Rule 4-5.7.

b. Hair Covering

Lori informed the committee that in free style wrestling hair coverings are not required and questioned NFHS Rule 4-2.1 covering the need for hair covering for high school wrestlers. It was the opinion of all attendees that hair coverings will, at some point, become unnecessary and the rule will be changed, but for now the NJSIAA is 100% state and will continue to follow NFHS Rule 4-2.1. Lori asked that Bill discuss this issue with NFHS at their wrestling rules meeting.
III. **Fared Syed, Coach Kingsway**
Fared couldn’t attend meeting but he emailed three items for discussion.
  i. A list for girl’s tournament to be posted
     Jewel Sellers, Wrestling Support Staff advised committee that she can post the
     list of tournaments on the NJSIAA website under the wrestling tab and on the
     Athletic Director’s forum and update the list as new tournaments become
     available.
  ii. 4 girls qualifying for States – see Bill Bruno’s statement above
  iii. South Region
     Bill assigned committee members to research a north and south site for the
     regions. They will report back to Bill with their results.

IV. **Howie O’Neil, Tournament Director**
Howie presented the committee with a time line for the State Finals at Atlantic
City. See attached.
The committee gave approval for Bill, Howie and Jack Kinner, Assistant
Tournament to present the Boardwalk Hall for review.

The format for girls and boys at Atlantic City was discussed. The committee
wants to make sure that both boys and girls are given an equal opportunity to be
highlighted throughout the tournament. The committee will review the
timeframe and when it’s finalized by Boardwalk Hall and move forward with
format.