



To: NJSIAA Program Review Committee

From: Colleen Maguire, Executive Director

Date: September 12, 2022

RE: NJSIAA Boys Wrestling – Elite Events

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**Background:**

In June 2021, the Executive Committee approved a clarification to the Wrestling Rules and Regulations, Section 8, Maximum Meets to account for certain elite invitational wrestling events that take place during the wrestling season. The clarification provided wrestlers the opportunity to compete in events that suit their skill level – elite wrestlers may compete in nationally recognized tournaments while other wrestlers on the team will be able to compete in local events and tournaments without individual or team penalty. The clarification indicates that qualifying “Elite Events” shall be determined on a yearly basis.

Last year, the following three Elite Events were approved by the Executive Committee:

- Beast of the East, University of Delaware
- Sam Cali Tournament, Fairleigh Dickinson University
- Escape the Rock, Council Rock High School, Pennsylvania

**Proposal:**

The NJSIAA Wrestling Committee and NJ Wrestling Coaches Association would like to add one additional Elite Event to this list – the Powerade Tournament – which will be held at Canon McMillan High School, Pennsylvania, December 28 - 30, 2022. However, schools will only be allowed to participate in three of these events under the rule clarification. If student-athletes participate in a fourth Elite Event, then their teammates will not be allowed to compete in local events and tournaments at the same time.

Additionally, in this proposal, the NJSIAA Wrestling Committee and the NJ Wrestling Coaches Association seek to make clear that participation in Elite Events shall count toward the 30-match limit for individual wrestlers.

Below is the proposed amendment to the clarification.

**PROPOSED REGULATION AMENDMENT**

[Additions are underlined and deletions are ~~struck through~~.]

## **NJSIAA Regulations, Specific Sport Regulations, Wrestling, Section 8 (Maximum Meets)**

A team may not schedule nor may a wrestler participate in more than four weigh-ins per week. A team may schedule only one event involving more than four teams during the week. A two-day tournament with a weigh-in each day will count as one weigh-in.

NOTE: Make-up matches must fall within the four weigh-in regulations.

CL 1: A weigh in counts only if the wrestler appears on the mat to accept forfeit or to compete.

CL 2: A wrestler may not compete in MORE than a maximum of 30 sub-varsity and/or varsity matches during the regular season (exclusive of the NJSIAA Tournament, Team and Individual). Teams not qualifying for or being eliminated from the Team Tournament may compete consistent with Section 8 Maximum Meets and such meets during the week of the Team Tournament will not count towards the maximum thirty (30) sub-varsity and varsity matches governing a wrestler. Thirty (30) sub-varsity and varsity matches are exclusive of NJSIAA Tournaments, both Individual and Team.

CL 3: No matches, regular season meets or tournaments may be scheduled during or after the week of the District Tournament, but a school may schedule interschool “workouts” (excluding match format-scoring, no officiating and no weigh-ins) the week of the Districts through the week of the State Finals.

CL 4: Two-day tournaments that are held on a Saturday and a Sunday will be considered as a tournament for the week of the initial day the tournament starts (in this case Saturday). A weigh-in for a two-day tournament starting on Saturday will count for the week the tournament started (in this case Saturday) and will not impact weigh-ins for the following week.

CL 5: For those events that qualify as “Elite Events,” to be determined on a yearly basis, the restrictions applicable to this Section 8 shall not apply, with the exception of the requirement that a wrestler may only participate in up to four weigh-ins per week. Participation in Elite Events shall count toward the 30-match limit set forth in CL2 above. Additionally, only one wrestler per weight class, per team shall be permitted to participate on the same day. For example, if a 285-pound wrestler on Team A wrestles at an Elite Event, Team A will not be permitted to enter another 285-pound wrestler in any other event on the same day.

For the 2022-2023 school year, the following Elite Events shall qualify for this rule clarification. Teams will be limited to participation in no more than three Elite Events per season. ~~The events that qualify as Elite Events shall be reviewed annually.~~

- Beast of the East, University of Delaware, December 17-18, 2022
- Sam Cali Tournament, Fairleigh Dickinson University, December 27-28, 2022
- Powerade Tournament, Canon McMillan High School, Pennsylvania, December 28-30, 2022
- Escape the Rock, Council Rock High School, Pennsylvania, January 14-15, 2023