

2023-24 NJSIAA Boys Individual Wrestling Tournament

NJSIAA reserves the right to adjust, change or cancel dates, times, and locations for all NJSIAA State tournaments. Member schools will not be eligible to participate in any NJSIAA Tournaments if it has violated the NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Policies, or Procedures. Any student-athlete who transfers after the competition start date will not be eligible for this tournament (Bylaws, Article V, Section 4.K. 5).

Schools entering the tournament will not be granted a change of date/time due to any conflicts with school trips, proms, banquets, SATs, unless agreed upon by both schools. The NJSIAA will make every effort to accommodate schools that have a conflict with their graduation.

Schools that are disqualified from state tournament competition after the tournament has been seeded but prior to the bracket being final, then the bracket will be reseeded and the next ranked school who entered the tournament will be included. If a school is disqualified from state tournament competition after the tournament has been seeded and after the bracket is final, then the bracket will not be reseeded, and no additional school will be included. If a school is disqualified from state tournament competition during the state tournament, then the school will be removed from the tournament immediately and their last opponent will advance in their place.

Schools participating in any NJSIAA tournament are responsible for the actions and behaviors of their spectators. Schools are required to provide adequate staff security to ensure there is proper oversight of their spectators. In addition, schools are financially responsible for any damages to the property or premises caused by their student-athletes, staff, or spectators (spectators include, but are not limited to, cheerleaders, marching band participants, students, and other fans).

NJSIAA requires Certified Athletic Trainers at all its tournament events. The ATC must document all injuries on an injury report form. This form must be available to the NJSIAA upon request.

Member schools not willing or able to comply with these tournament regulations and any relevant procedures found in the Operating Procedures Handbook should not enter the tournament. Member schools are encouraged to review these tournament regulations with the school administration. Coaches must have a copy of these regulations as well as a copy of the Rule Modifications (if any) for this tournament available at all contests. Copies of these documents are available on the NJSIAA website.

NJSIAA Director of Wrestling

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Wrestling Tournament Dates

Event	Dates	Location	
Weight Certification Begins	November 1, 2023		
Tryout Period	November 20 - 22, 2023		
First Practice	November 27, 2023		
First Scrimmage	December 4, 2023		
Opening Day	December 14, 2023		
Post-Season Transfer by Date	December 14, 2023		
Two Pound Growth Allowance	January 13, 2024		
Transfer Sit Eligibility	January 13, 2024		
Tournament Entry Period (Team)	January 16 – 25, 2024		
Team Tournament Cutoff	January 27, 2024		
Entry Info Due (by 12:00pm)	January 28, 2024		
Team Tournament Seeding	January 30, 2024		
Tournament Determination Deadline (Girls)	February 1, 2024		
30 Match Limit Cutoff (Boys)	February 3, 2024		
Regular Season Competition Ends (Boys)	February 11, 2024		
30 Match Limit Cutoff (Girls)	February 11, 2024		
District Seeding (Boys)			
Regular Season Competition Ends (Girls)	February 15, 2024		
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Region Seeding (Girls)		February 19 or 20, 2024	
Region Seeding (Boys)	February 19 or 20, 2024		
Individual State Seeding (Girls)	February 26, 2024		
Individual State Seeding (Boys)	February 27, 2024		
Post-Season Meeting (Boys)	April 2024		
Post-Season Meeting (Girls)	May 2024		
Boys Public Team Tournament			
Rounds 1 & 2	February 5, 2024	Seeds #1 & #2 will Host	
Sectional Finals	February 7, 2024	Higher Seed	
State Semifinals	February 9, 2024	Higher Seed	
State Finals	February 11, 2024	Rutgers University	
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Boys Non-Public Team Tournament			
Rounds 1 & 2	February 6, 2024	Higher Seed	
State Semifinals	February 8, 2024	Higher Seed	
State Finals	February 11, 2024	Rutgers University	
Boys Individual Tournament			
Districts (Boys)	February 17, 2024	**	
Regions (Boys)	February 23 - 24, 2024	**	
Individual Championships (Boys)	February 29 – March 2, 2024	Boardwalk Hall	
Girls Individual Tournament			
	February 25, 2024	Vernon High School	
Region (North II)	• · ·	5	
Region (North II)	February 25, 2024	Union High School	
Region (Central)	February 25, 2024	East Brunswick – Churchill Junior Middle School	
Region (South)	February 25, 2024	Timber Creek High School	
Individual Championships (Girls)	February 29 – March 2, 2024	Boardwalk Hall	

^{**}Refer to Districts and Regions alignment on the NJSIAA website.

DISTRICT TOURNAMENT

To qualify for the District Tournament

- 1. Any member school sponsoring an interscholastic wrestling team will be permitted to enter District Tournament.
- 2. All Independent wrestlers from member schools that do not compete on an interscholastic basis are eligible to enter the District Tournament.
- 3. Any player with two (2) or more disqualifications in the current season, before the start of the District Tournament, will be unable to compete in the District Tournament.
- 4. Any varsity team accumulating three (3) or more player or coach disqualifications before the start of the District Tournament will not be permitted to participate in the District Tournament.
- 5. The Districts and Regions will be aligned every year by a committee appointed by the NJSIAA Executive Director.

District Entry Procedure

- 1. All varsity schedules & rosters must be entered in www.njschoolsports.com by the start of the season. Rosters must be checked and updated, if necessary, by the start of the tournament. We cannot guarantee any roster changes made after the start of the tournament will make it into the tournament program. If you encounter problems, please contact hssupport@njadvancemedia.com.
- 2. All wrestlers must compete in the District Championships to qualify for subsequent championships.
- 3. Coaches MUST enter their wrestlers for the districts via the trackwrestling program by 8:00 PM on the Monday of the district week.
- 4. The District Site Manager will receive an access code from trackwrestling and will be responsible for printing out a set of 14 sheets (each weight) for every team entered.
- 5. A wrestler is permitted to wrestle in any eligible weight class, providing their name appears as a contestant or alternate at any weight class on the properly signed trackwrestling official district weigh-In form.
- 6. The trackwrestling weigh-in form is to be given to the site manager at the district seeding.
- 7. Every wrestler, at every level, must have only one individual match summary form that shows all appearances by that wrestler, at all levels, where that wrestler represented the school in any match (i.e., weight, weight class, level, W/L, etc.)
- 8. Schools entering teams in the districts must submit a facility fee of **\$175.00** to be made payable to the host school prior to the district seeding meeting. A team is defined as two or more athletes.
- 9. Girls must choose to participate in the boys' districts or the girls' regions by February 1, 2024. Girls choosing to enter the girls' region tournament will not be eligible to participate in the boys' district tournament

Entry Fee

- 1. \$16.00 per wrestler that weighs in at the districts regardless of whether they compete or not.
- 2. Make payments payable to the NJSIAA (Please note Wrestling Tournament).
- 3. Forward all entry fees to the NJSIAA, 1161 Route 130 North, Robbinsville, NJ 08691
- 4. DO NOT use certified mail

District Tournament Rules & Information

- 1. The District Tournament will consist of a 3-round qualifying tournament held at 32 locations.
- 2. The top 3 place winners in each weight class will advance to the regional championships.
- 3. A contestant shall weigh-in for only one weight class during the weigh-in period. The individual's descent plan must allow participation at the chosen weight class.
- 4. All weigh-ins will start 1.5 hours before the scheduled start time.
- 5. Only one wrestler per weight class will be given a pass for entry into the tournament.
- 6. Wrestlers receiving a forfeit must weigh-in and step on the mat for that round. Failure to do so eliminates a wrestler from the tournament and/or further competition.
- 7. All wrestlers will weigh-in in reverse seed order (10-9-8-7 etc.).
- 8. There is a two (2) scale minimum for weigh-ins. If weight checks are provided, the same scales must be used for both the weigh-ins and weight checks.

- 9. The actual weight of each contestant must be recorded by the weighmaster or designee on the District weigh-in sheet. Proper signatures must be recorded.
- 10. All schools entered in the individual tournament will be held responsible for the conduct of their coaching staff and all other school personnel. Member schools cannot expect the NJSIAA to assume responsibility for improper conduct at tournament events.
- 11. The site manager and/or the official, have the authority to address and correct any action of intimidation unethical, or unsportsmanlike conduct.
- 12. When severe weather conditions or other unforeseen circumstances necessitate postponement, the site manager will make the final decision and should have an outlined procedure to inform potential opponents, media, nj.com at hssupport@njadvancemedia.com, working personnel, assigned officials, the NJSIAA, and the tournament director.
- 13. All matches, except finals, will follow regular match order: 108 through 287. If the finals will be wrestled following a random draw the random draw will take place prior to the weigh-ins Saturday when all coaches and wrestlers are present at the designated weigh-in time (per NFHS Rule 5-21.1).
- 14. There will not be any NJSIAA Team Championship sponsored by the NJSIAA.
- 15. By rule, a bye can only happen in the first round (round of 16) of any tournament. A bye is not the same as a forfeit provided there are not enough wrestlers to complete the round of 8, then the top seed receives a forfeit victory if they weigh-in in proper uniform, ready to wrestle (forfeit will count as a win for that individual) and have their hand raised.

District Tournament Seeding Information

- 1. The site manager will serve or appoint a Seeding Chairperson, who is not an active high school coach, to run the meeting, and to only vote in the case of a tie.
- 2. The head wrestling coach and one designee may take part in the seeding discussions but only the head coach must vote. Every school must vote (no abstentions).
- 3. All districts must use the NJSIAA sponsored computerized program, trackwrestling.com, for the seeding meeting throughout the tournament.
- 4. All district seeding meetings must be held on the Thursday of district week. Coaches must be made aware of the time and location.
- 5. Wrestlers will be pre-seeded by Trackwrestling based on their best twenty (20) matches based on the pre-seed chart for the district.
- 6. Trackwrestling will do all the calculations automatically when match results are recorded on trackwrestling, and a current listing of points will be available online as the season progresses.
- 7. The Pre-seed chart will be a combination of the following:
 - a. <u>Prestige Points</u> Points a wrestler starts the season with, by virtue of the best past performance in a previous NJSIAA State Tournament. These points will be displayed on trackwrestling so possible caliber points can be determined by opponents.
 - Use same advancement criteria as stated in the state tournament criteria- i.e., replacement wrestler does not have to win in the tournament to get credit for seeding next year
 - b. <u>Caliber Points</u> Points for competition earned for wins and some close losses (by a decision) during the current season.
 - Points are calculated for the best twenty (20) matches.
 - The district pre-seed chart can be used for out-of-state competition.
 - Any win against a non-NJSIAA member will earn two (2) points regardless of state or caliber of varsity competition.
 - The individual match record will show how many points are earned or lost for each match throughout the year.
 - A single pin-point will also be added when a match ends in a fall. (Not for md, tf, dq or ff).
 - A single point will be deducted for each loss to a non-regional competitor from a previous tournament.
 - Any forfeit win counts for 2 points but no extra pin-points
- 8. Coaches MUST enter their wrestlers for the districts via the trackwrestling program by 8:00 PM on the Monday of District week. This will allow trackwrestling to calculate the Pre-Seeds, and head-to-head data per weight class. Coaches will not have to print a copy of all their individual match summaries for all of the other coaches in the district.

- 9. The District Site Manager will receive an access code from trackwrestling and will be responsible for printing out a set of 14 sheets (each weight) for every team entered. This one (1) page per weight class print-out will be a list of wrestlers with their total Pre-Seed points listed (from highest to lowest) and will include the wrestler's record and grade and will list all head-to-head matches between any contestants in this weight class during this year and will be given out at the start of the seeding meeting. Any tie in the pre-seed points will be broken by (in order):
 - a. Head-to-head
 - b. Common opponents (Win vs Loss)
 - c. Three best win(s) on a vote of the head coaches
- 10. Pre-seed point Calculations: Prestige Points + Caliber Points = Pre-seeds (see chart below)

District Pre-Seed Chart					
Past year	Caliber Points		Current year		
Prestige Points Own Merit- (Caliber Pts x 2)	Furthest Advancement	Caliber Points	Beat a Participant (=Caliber Pts)	Lost by Decision (20% Caliber Pts)	
125	State Champ	62.5	62.5	12.5	
115	2nd in States	57.5	57.5	11.5	
110	3rd in States	55	55	11	
105	4th in States	52.5	52.5	10.5	
100	5th in States	50	50	10	
95	6th in States	47.5	47.5	9.5	
90	7th in States	45	45	9	
85	8th in States	42.5	42.5	8.5	
80	WB4 in States	40	40	8	
75	WB3 in States	37.5	37.5	7.5	
70	WB2 in States	35	35	7	
65	WB1 in States	32.5	32.5	6.5	
50	5th in Regions	25	25	5	
45	6th in Regions	22.5	22.5	4.5	
40	WB1 in Regions	20	20	4	
35	2v3 in Regions	17.5	17.5	3.5	
15	4th in Districts	7.5	7.5	0	
10	Quarters in Districts	5	5	-1	
5	Prelim in Districts	2.5	2.5	-1	
0	Never in Districts	2	2	-1	

District Tournament Seeding Procedure

- 1. Coaches must hand in a completed trackwrestling generated Individual Match Summary Form for all of their wrestlers participating in the tournament, at the start of the seeding meeting to the district site manager.
- 2. All wrestlers will be seeded, and their names placed on a traditional 16-wrestler bracket with no wrestler seeded in more than one weight class.
- 3. Only individual varsity matches wrestled this season count towards seeding, with the winning of any previous titles made known to all.
- 4. An open or closed vote of all voting coaches is taken and is final and all discussions on that wrestler shall cease and shall not be reconsidered. The coach's late arrival is NOT grounds to re-seed.
- 5. Wild Card Procedure Prior to the start of seeding the first weight class, all coaches that are considering using the wild card designation for any wrestler(s) will be heard (2 minutes), discussed, and voted on, with

that vote final as no other wild cards will be entertained once the seeding starts. Collectively, coaches will decide what they believe is a proper use of the wild card designation for any wrestler that can include injury, academically ineligible, transfers or other unforeseen conditions AND coaches should be careful not to abuse the wildcard as it could lead to endless time-consuming debates.

- a. Mandatory wild cards simply mean that coaches must talk about why these situations have happened and a vote will be taken as to where these wrestlers should be seeded. Seeding points are not mandatory for these situations.
 - Example 1: Moving two or more weight classes over a wrestler's lowest weight class.
 - Example 2: Someone moving to another weight class AFTER the seeding meeting.
- 6. Movement after the Pre-seed will only be by Head-to-Head results.
- 7. Final seeding for the districts:
 - a. Head-to-head competition this season.
 - b. First Step eliminate round-robin set of losses between 3 or more wrestlers. Might have to use loss twice to satisfy multiple round robins. A>B>C>A or A>B>C>D>A.
 - c. Next start with the best pre-seed and work down. Discuss every head-to-head match, with the best challenge, heard first. Continue until all losses are satisfied and vote only with extenuating circumstances.
 - Majority of victories receives preference. Split decisions will be decided with the later win receiving preference
 - d. The vote will result in the challenger moving ahead of the higher, pre-seeded wrestler, moving the remaining wrestlers down, OR to remain in the pre-seed placement.
- 8. Replacement- Any wrestler named at the seeding meeting that cannot wrestle in that weight class for any reason can be replaced prior to the conclusion of that weight class's weigh-in by an "eligible" replacement or alternate and a re-seed must occur.
- 9. Unfair Seeds Where it can be substantiated that an unfair seed has occurred, the tournament director must email the NJSIAA Tournament Director by 12:00 Noon, Friday to have the matter presented to the State Tournament Committee of the seeding meeting with this committee's ruling final.
- 10. Forfeiture- Occurs after the initial weigh-in period and a subsequent reseeding meeting is over. If a wrestler successfully weighs in and subsequently does not appear on the mat to wrestle, a forfeit will be declared. Any forfeiture for not appearing on the mat eliminates that wrestler from the tournament unless as provided for in NFHS Wrestling Rules Book. Failure to provide the Tournament Committee with an acceptable reason for default or forfeit could result in Executive Committee action.
- 11. Re-seeding Any Replacement will necessitate a re-seed using the same initial district seed procedure. This re-seeding must occur prior to the start of the first session.

Athletic Trainers Assignments & Payment - District Tournament

The host school will assign and pay all Athletic Trainers & Blood Personnel.

Officials Assignments & Payment - District Tournament

- a. The NJSIAA State Assignor will assign all officials for the districts.
- b. The host school is responsible for paying all officials via any means they prefer.
- c. Two officials will be assigned to each mat after the quarterfinals.
- d. Officials will alternate as the bout official and the assistant official for each match starting with the semifinals.
- e. One of the officials will also handle the weighmaster duties.

<u>Awards - District Tournament</u>

- a. NJSIAA The top three (3) place winners in each weight class will receive a medal.
- b. NJ Wrestling Coaches Association (NJWCA) Awards:
 - District Most Outstanding Wrestler
 - District Coach of the Year
 - Designation of the #1 Team in the District.
 - · District Assistant Coach of the Year

REGION TOURNAMENT

Region Tournament Rules & Information

- 1. The region tournament will consist of a two-day, 3-round qualifying tournament held at eight different locations throughout the state.
- 2. The top 4 place winners in each weight class will advance to the State Championships.
- 3. The weight class order will be 108 to 287. A random draw may be used for the final matches only (per NFHS Rule 5-21.1).
- 4. No weigh-in form is needed. All weigh-ins will start 1.5 hours before the scheduled start time.
- 5. Wrestlers will wrestle-back to 3rd through 6th place in the regions.
- 6. Tickets for wrestlers, administrators, and coaches will be given in a packet following the District Tournament
- 7. All schools entered in the individual tournament will be held responsible for the conduct of their coaching staff and all other school personnel. Member schools cannot expect the NJSIAA to assume responsibility for improper conduct at tournament events.
- 8. The site manager and/or the official, have the authority to address and correct any action of intimidation unethical, or unsportsmanlike conduct.
- 9. When severe weather conditions or other unforeseen circumstances necessitate postponement, the site manager will make the final decision and should have an outlined procedure to inform potential opponents, media, nj.com at hssupport@njadvancemedia.com, working personnel, assigned officials, the NJSIAA, and the tournament director.

Region Tournament Seeding Information

- 1. We will be using the past advancements in the previous state tournament to pre-seed the regions
- 2. Committee chaired by the Regional Tournament Director, or designated seeding chairperson, who will break any tie votes, and four (4) District Representatives one from each District in the Region.
- 3. Each District Rep may bring a non-voting, non-speaking assistant/coach. No other coaches.
- 4. The region seeding meeting will take place no later than Tuesday of the region week. There will be only one seeding meeting.
- 5. The purpose of the seeding meeting is to:
 - a. To ensure that the criteria for seeding is correctly followed
 - b. Provide the district champions with a BYE in the first round
 - c. Pre-Seed, Head-to-Head movement and seed all 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place district place winners and/or replacement
- 6. To ensure that district champs get a BYE in the first round all champs must be seeded in the top eight (8) spots.
 - a. If a champ is seeded outside the top eight, that wrestler will be placed at the 8th seed and the other wrestlers will be moved to accommodate that placement. If multiple, use 7th and 8th spots, etc.
 - b. The lowest four, 2nd/3rd seeds, will be paired with the highest four, 2nd/3rd The best-seeded 2nd/3rd will be paired with the lowest-seeded 2nd/3rd
 - The 2nd best 2nd/3rd vs. the 2nd lowest 2nd/3rd, etc.
- 7. If a wrestler medically forfeits during the District tournament, then the forfeit will be considered a loss for seeding purposes only.

Region Tournament Pre-Seeding Criteria

- 1. Own Merit in a Previous Tournament this level or better
 - a. Higher placement(s) or further advancements(s) in wrestle-backs will earn the better pre-seed.
 - · NOTE: All wrestlers get credit for being here, minimum advancement if out
 - b. Greater number of appearances with the most recent advancement receiving preference.
- 2. Defeated a seeded wrestler(s) in this weight class during this season
 - NOTE: The better the pre-seed the better the victory. Use other victories using this criterion, if needed. Wins vs. multiple opponents with the same criteria is better than beating the same opponent twice
- 3. Defeated any tournament participant(s) from a previous year during this season.

- NOTE: Better the defeated wrestler's advancement the higher the pre-seed. Use other victories
 using the criterion if needed. Wins vs. multiple opponents with the same criteria is better than
 beating the same opponent twice
- 4. In the event of a tie, a two-minute discussion of each wrestler is held, discussing, COVID-19 season (2020 2021), wins vs. known competition, win percentage, etc. the committee will vote on the tie.

Region Tournament Final Seeding

- 1. Head-to-head competition this season.
 - a. First Step eliminate round-robin set of losses between 3 or more wrestlers. Might have to use loss twice to satisfy multiple round robins. A>B>C>A or A>B>C>D>A.
 - b. Next start with the best pre-seed and work down. Discuss every head-to-head match, with the best challenge, heard first. Continue until all losses are satisfied and vote only with extenuating circumstances.
 - Majority of victories receives preference. Split decisions will be decided with the later win receiving preference
 - c. The vote will result in the challenger moving ahead of the higher, pre-seeded wrestler, moving the remaining wrestlers down, OR to remain in the pre-seed placement.
- 2. Unfair Seeds Where it can be substantiated that an unfair seed has occurred, the tournament director must email the NJSIAA Tournament Director by 12:00 Noon, Thursday to have the matter presented to the State Tournament Committee of the seeding meeting with this committee's ruling final.
- 3. Re-seeding Any replacement will necessitate that district treat their three (3) remaining wrestlers as 1st, (best remaining and receives a bye 1st round) 2nd (next best remaining), and 3rd place finishers (3rd best remaining).
 - a. Replacement Any wrestler named at the seeding meeting that cannot wrestle in that weight class, for any reason, can be replaced prior to the conclusion of that weight class's weigh-in by an "eligible" replacement alternate. A re-seed must occur using the same initial region seed procedure. Whether replacement or not there must be a reseed.
- 4. Replacement The replacement must have competed in the finals or consolations IN THE DISTRICTS unless injured. Only someone placing 1st through 4th may be a replacement for the Region. The coach of the withdrawn or possibly withdrawn wrestler must notify the coach of the 4th place finisher so that wrestler may be the third representative from that district.
- 5. Forfeiture Occurs after the initial weigh-in period and a subsequent reseeding meeting is over. If a wrestler successfully weighs in and subsequently does not appear on the mat to wrestle, a forfeit will be declared. Any forfeiture for not appearing on the mat eliminates that wrestler from the tournament unless as provided for in NFHS Wrestling Rules Book. Failure to provide the Tournament Committee with an acceptable reason for default or forfeit could result in Executive Committee action.

Athletic Trainers Assignments & Payment - Region Championships

- a. The host school will assign all Athletic Trainers & Blood Personnel.
- b. Two Athletic Trainers and two blood personnel will be assigned
- c. The NJSIAA will pay all Athletic Trainers & Blood Personnel.

Officials Assignments & Payment - Region Championships

- a. The NJSIAA State Assignor will assign all officials for the regions.
- b. Two officials will be assigned to each mat.
- c. Officials will alternate as the bout official and the assistant official for each match.
- d. One of the officials will also handle the weighmaster duties.
- e. The NJSIAA will pay all officials.

Awards - Region Championships

- a. NJSIAA The top four (4) place winners in each weight class will receive a medal.
- b. NJ Wrestling Coaches Association (NJWCA) Awards:
 - Region Most Outstanding Wrestler
 - Region Coach of the Year Region Assistant Coach of the Year
 - Designation of the #1 Team in the Region.

STATE INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

State Individual Championships Schedule

Thursday, February 29, 2024					
Weight Check	8:00 am	Boys and Girls			
Weigh-Ins	8:30 am	Boys and Girls			
Wrestling	10:00 am	Girls: Pre-Quarters – Quarters – WB 1 – WB 2			
Wrestling	10:30 am	Boys: Preliminaries – Pre-Quarters – WB 1			
Awards – 6:00 pm					
	Friday, March 1, 2024				
Weight Check	7:00 am	Boys			
Weigh-Ins	7:30 am	Boys			
Wrestling	9:00 am	Boys: WB 2 – Quarters – WB 3 – WB 4			
Weight Check	11:00 am	Girls			
Weigh-Ins	11:30 am	Girls			
Wrestling	1:00 pm	Girls: Semifinals – WB 3			
	Awards – 5:45 pm				
Wrestling	6:00 pm	Boys: Semifinals – WB 5			
Wrestling	6:00 pm	Girls: Consolation Semifinals			
Saturday, March 2, 2024					
Weight Check	7:00 am	Boys and Girls			
Weigh-Ins	7:30 am	Boys and Girls			
Wrestling	9:00 am	Boys: WB 6			
Wrestling	9:45 am	Boys and Girls: 3 rd – 5 th – 7 th place			
Girls Parade – 12:45 pm (approximately)					
Girls Finals – 1:00 pm (not before)					
Boys Parade – 3:20 pm (approximately)					
	Boys Finals – 3:30 pm (not before)				

State Individual Championships Rules & Information

- a. The state championships will consist of a three-day tournament that is held at the Atlantic City Boardwalk Hall.
- b. Thirty-two (32) wrestlers per weight class will be seeded.
- c. Medals will be given to the final eight wrestlers.
- d. Weigh-in Procedures:
 - a. The weight class order will be 108 to 287. A random draw may be used for the final matches only per NFHS Rule 5-21.1.
 - b. Weight check will be a ½ hour prior to the weigh-in period, WRESTLERS ONLY in the room, no coaches
 - c. Weight allowances: Thursday 108, Friday 109, Saturday 110.
 - d. Thursday –Starts at 8:30am at 108 and concludes with 287 lb. weight class in the ballroom
 - e. Friday Starts at 7:30 am at 109, concludes with the 288 lb. weight class in the ballroom
 - f. Saturday Starts at 7:30 am at 110, concludes with the 289 lb. weight class in the ballroom
 - g. Weigh-ins for each weight class will be in alphabetical order.

- e. All schools entered in the individual tournament will be held responsible for the conduct of their coaching staff and all other school personnel. Member schools cannot expect the NJSIAA to assume responsibility for improper conduct at tournament events.
- f. The tournament director and/or the official have the authority to address and correct any action of intimidation unethical, or unsportsmanlike conduct.
- g. When severe weather conditions or other unforeseen circumstances necessitate postponement, NJSIAA will make the final decision.

State Individual Championships Seeding Information

- 1. The committee is chaired by the Wrestling Coordinator and will consist of the NJWCA eight Region Presidents. The Wrestling Coordinator will break any tie votes.
- 2. The seeding meeting will take place at the NJSIAA office in Robbinsville, NJ.
- 3. All Region Presidents will pre-seed assigned weight classes to present to the entire seeding committee.
- 4. Goal of the state seeding meeting:
 - a. To ensure that the criteria for seeding is correctly followed
 - b. Pre-seed, head-to-head movement and seed 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place region medal winners.
- 5. If a wrestler medically forfeits during the Region tournament, then the forfeit will be considered a loss for seeding purposes only.

State Individual Championship Pre-Seeding Criteria

- 1. Wrestlers own merit in a previous tournament this level or better
 - a. Higher placement(s) or further advancements(s) in wrestle-backs will earn the better pre-seed.
 - b. Greater number of appearances with the most recent advancement receiving preference.
 - NOTE: All wrestlers get credit for being here, minimum advancement if out
- 2. Defeated a seeded wrestler(s) in this weight class during this season.
 - NOTE: Better the defeated wrestler's advancement the higher the pre-seed. Use other victories using the criterion if needed. Wins vs. multiple opponents with the same criteria is better than beating the same opponent twice
- 3. Defeated any tournament participant(s) from a previous year during this season.
 - NOTE: The better the pre-seed the better the victory. Use other victories using this criterion, if needed
- 4. Pre-seed by winning percentage, if tied, discuss and vote

State Individual Championship Final Seeding

- 1. Head-to-head competition this season.
 - a. First Step eliminate round-robin set of losses between 3 or more wrestlers. Might have to use loss twice to satisfy multiple round robins. A>B>C>A or A>B>C>D>A.
 - b. Next start with the best pre-seed and work down. Discuss every head-to-head match, with the best challenge, heard first. Continue until all losses are satisfied and vote only with extenuating circumstances.
 - The majority of victories receive preference. Split decisions will be decided with the later win receiving preference
 - c. The vote will result in the challenger moving ahead of the higher, pre-seeded wrestler, moving the remaining wrestlers down, OR to remain in the pre-seed placement.
- 2. Replacement The replacement must have competed in the finals or consolations in the Regions unless injured. Only someone placing 1st through 6th may be a replacement for the State Finals in Atlantic City. The coach of the withdrawn or possibly withdrawn wrestler must notify the coach of the 5th or 6th place (if needed) finisher so that wrestler may be the fourth representative from that Region.
- 3. Forfeiture Occurs after the initial weigh-in period and a subsequent reseeding meeting is over. If a wrestler successfully weighs in and subsequently does not appear on the mat to wrestle, a forfeit will be declared. Any forfeiture for not appearing on the mat eliminates that wrestler from the tournament unless as provided for in NFHS Wrestling Rules Book. Failure to provide the Tournament Committee with an acceptable reason for default or forfeit could result in Executive Committee action.

- 4. Re-seeding All appeals must be made by 12:00 Noon Wednesday. A re-seed/re-draw of wrestlers will occur before this time.
 - a. If a wrestler is out of the tournament for any reason prior to 8:00 pm Wednesday, a reseed will occur.
 - b. Any replacement will necessitate that Region to treat their four (4) remaining wrestlers as 1st (best remaining) 2nd (next best remaining) 3rd and 4th best remaining for reseeding purposes.
 - c. If the 5th or 6th place Region finisher cannot replace an injured/withdrawn wrestler, then a walkover (forfeit) in that spot will occur.
- 5. Failure to make weight in Atlantic City
 - a. A re-seed WILL NOT occur after the initial weigh-in.
 - b. If there is a legal replacement from that Region, the replacement will occupy the spot(s) of the withdrawn wrestler(s).
 - c. If no replacement, then a walkover (forfeit) will occur in the first round.

Officials Assignments & Payment - State Championships

NJSIAA will assign and pay all officials for the state individual championships.

- a. Two officials will officiate each bout (official & assistant).
- b. Officials will alternate as the bout official and the assistant official for each match.
- c. Four officials will be assigned to every mat prior to the semi-finals.
- d. Three officials will be assigned to every mat for the semi-finals (Friday) and consolation rounds (Saturday).
- e. Six officials will be assigned to the finals (Saturday).
- f. NJSIAA will pay all officials.

<u>Athletic Trainers Assignments & Payment – State Championships</u>

NJSIAA will assign and pay all athletic trainers & blood personnel.

Awards - State Championships

NJSIAA:

- a. The top eight (8) place winners in each weight class will receive a medal.
- b. Donald Ringler Award will be given to the Most Outstanding Wrestler (Saturday)

NJ Wrestling Coaches Association (NJWCA) & NJ Wrestling Officials Association (NJWOA):

- a. Media Award (Thursday)
- b. State Assistant Coach of the Year (Thursday)
- c. Wilfred E. Cann Award State Coach of the Year (Thursday)
- d. Girls State Coach of the Year (Thursday)
- e. Ernie Finizio/Pug Williams Award #1 Team in New Jersey (Thursday)
- f. Vincent Russo Golden Whistle Award Excellence in Officiating (Friday)
- g. Richard Mirshak Award Premium Award for Officiating (Friday)
- h. Harry E. Lake Award Contributions to Wrestling (Friday)