

WIAA // GESA CREDIT UNION

POSTSEASON STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

WRESTLING

FEBRUARY 16-17, 2024

Tacoma Dome

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COACH INFORMATION

EVENT SCHEDULE

- **Monday, February 12** - Coaches Meeting, 7:00 pm via Zoom - [LINK](#)
- **Thursday, February 15** - 3:00 - 6:00 pm: Doors open to coaches for team registration (no mat time) Pre- Sale pickup available for Rush Team Apparel Orders.
- **Friday, February 16**
 - 7:00 am: Doors open for weigh-in
 - 7:15 am: Hair/nail check begins in Tacoma Dome
 - 8:00 - 8:30 am: Weigh-ins (at each classification mat by classification and weight class)
 - 9:00 am:
 - Doors open to public
 - Scorers meeting at SE corner of Dome
 - 10:00 am to 6:00 pm: FRIDAY SESSION
 - Bouts No. 1 thru 280 - 2A, 4A, estimated to end 5:45 pm
 - Bouts No. 1 thru 280 - 1B/2B, 1A, 1B/2B/1A/2A Girls, estimated to end 5:45 pm
 - Bouts No. 1 thru 728 - 3A, 3A/4A Girls, estimated to end 7:00 pm
- **Saturday, February 17**
 - 7:00 am: Doors open for weigh-In
 - 8:00 - 8:15 am: Weigh-ins (at each classification mat by classification and weight class)
 - 9:00 am: Doors open to public
 - 9:45 am: Presentation of the WIAA Team Academic Awards and State Coaches Awards
 - 10:00 am - 2:00 pm: All classifications
 - 3:00 pm: Championship Finals

CHECK-IN

- Extra coaches passes may be purchased at check-in using a credit card through GoFan.
- Schools will not be billed separately as in the past.
- Coaches must have completed the WIAA Rules Clinic, as verified through FinalForms.
- Additional Parking Passes sold on Friday morning via GoFan

SITE DETAILS & PARKING

- Entrance at Upper NE Gate open to pre-approved school staff, cheer staff, Hall of Fame members.

SPORT-SPECIFIC REGULATION

PASS GATE REGISTRATION

- Each **team** with at least one entry is entitled to the following passes:
 - One pass per competitor
 - Coach Passes - Must be a certified coach:
 - 1-2 Athletes = 2 Coach passes
 - 3-9 Athletes = 3 Coach passes
 - 10+ Athletes = 4 Coach passes

- One Manager pass (no floor access) entrance through the pass gate
- One Administrator Supervisor pass (no floor access)
- Up to 5 Extra Coach Passes can be purchased at full tournament rate.
 - These coaches must complete the WIAA Rules Clinic and be on their school's FinalForms List to be eligible.
 - Extra passes are available for purchase on Thursday at packet pick-up or Friday before the Tournament.
- A Pass with "No Floor Access" will be granted to those persons with photo identification at the "Pass Gate" and to one school photographer and one school newspaper reporter as submitted by the Athletic Director on the "Verify My Pass Gate."
- Cheerleaders may enter through the "pass gate" with uniforms, but **No Floor Access**.

STATE QUALIFIERS

- Allocations will be based upon a regional format.
- Seeding shall be by draw, illustrated in the [seeding procedure](#) posted on the [MyWIAA Wrestling page](#).
- Qualified alternates will gain entry if an open slot appears in their region prior to the first round.
 - Alternates will be admitted when accompanied by their coach.
 - Alternates will not be issued floor passes and must remain in the general seating areas.

RULES & REGULATIONS

- The Tournament Games Committee will consist of at least three members:
 - The tournament manager or designee
 - The Head Official
 - One WIAA-appointed representative.
- Mat Classic XXXV Tournament Directors:
 - Mat Classic Director: [Tim Graham](#)
 - 1B/2B Boys: [Kyle Dodge](#)
 - 1A Boys: [David Wilson](#)
 - 2A Boys: [Mark Perry](#)
 - 3A Boys: [Jim Meyerhoff](#)
 - 4A Boys: [Marty Fortin](#)
 - 3A/4A Girls: [Stark Porter](#)
 - 1B/2B/1A/2A Girls: [Sally Wheeler](#)
- Games Committee members must be present and immediately available to the tournament manager.
- Decisions of the Games Committee are final and may not be appealed.
- National Federation Rules for overtime matches apply in State Tournament competition.
- Artificial limbs, which, in the judgment of the WIAA, are no more dangerous to contestants than the corresponding human limb and do not place an opponent at a disadvantage, may be permitted.
 - If a wrestler is allowed to wrestle with an artificial limb, he/she must weigh in with the limb.
 - It is desirable and encouraged that the wrestler or coach have a written statement from a doctor and the WIAA, giving approval of this artificial limb, which should be obtained prior to the start of the season.
- Weigh-in for all classifications will begin at 8:00 am on Friday and Saturday.
 - All wrestlers must be present with photo identification and Tournament ID at the start of weigh-in.
 - Weigh-ins will be closed by classification by the tournament manager following the last wrestler to weigh in.
 - A wrestler becomes an official entrant when they have successfully completed the weigh-in process.
 - Coaches are asked to sit in the bleachers during weigh-ins.

- Weigh-ins must be conducted by the Tournament Manager or appointed representatives.
- The Head Official and a Games Committee member must be present at the weigh-ins.
- Certified scales will be provided for this event.

SITE ADMINISTRATION

- Lots F and G have been designated as the team lots.
- Teams **MUST** park in designated parking stalls
- Parking Passes are determined by the following criteria:
 - 1-6 contestants = 1 Parking Pass
 - 7+ contestants = 2 Parking passes
 - Alternates do not count as contestants for parking passes.
- Parking passes are for school vans that hold 15 passengers or less.
- No motor homes are allowed to park in Lots F or G.
- Violations will result in vehicle tows and loss of pass privileges for following years.

STATE MEET FORMAT & SCORING

- The State Tournament will be an 8-, 12-, 16-, or 20-entry double-elimination format.
- Regional Tournaments are 8-entry double-elimination brackets, unless altered by the Executive Board.
- Brackets will be posted on the [WIAA Wrestling](#) website on Sunday afternoon following Regional Tournaments.
- The Thursday time from 3:00-6:00 pm will be for coaches packet and pre-order merchandise pick-up only, no practice.
- Special consideration will be made in scoring if two wrestlers from the same school meet.
 - When two wrestlers from the same school and weight compete in the Regional or State Tournament, the winner will automatically receive advancement points based on a fall. The match must be wrestled.
- At Mat Classic, scoring is based on 8 places for the 20- and 16-entry tournaments, 6 places for 12-entry tournaments, and 4 places for 8-entry tournaments.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

ALLOCATIONS

Postseason berths are allocated to WIAA Districts based on the total number of schools offering the sport in that classification/gender.

STATE TOURNAMENT TICKETS

The WIAA has transitioned to paperless ticketing with State Tournament tickets available for purchase digitally through GoFan, the WIAA's ticketing partner. Fans are encouraged to purchase tickets online in advance of the events but will have the ability to purchase digital tickets onsite by accessing the GoFan digital ticketing site using their mobile devices. Limited paper tickets will be available at most sites on the day of the event. **SERVICE FEES APPLY TO ALL TICKETS SOLD. The Tacoma Dome, Yakima Valley SunDome, and Spokane Arena manage their own tickets. Venue-imposed fees apply.**

- **SENIOR:** Age 62 and over
- **MILITARY:** Active Duty, Veterans, Guard, and Reserves with proper Military I.D.

- **STUDENT:** Children aged 5-11 and students aged 12 and over with a valid high school or middle school ASB card (the actual ASB card must be presented; pictures of ASB cards on cell phones will not be accepted)
- **Children under the age of 5 are admitted free**
- 1st and 2nd Round ticketing for Soccer and Football is managed by the respective WIAA host Districts
- Tickets are valid only at the site/event for which they are purchased EXCEPT for Regional Basketball and Semifinal Football where tickets are valid at all sites on the day for which they are purchased

QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS/EVENTS

Qualifying events must be completed by the Saturday prior to the start of the WIAA State Tournament.

PASSES

Passes are to participating schools according to the respective sport-specific guidelines.

- **Supervisory Passes**
Supervisory passes are to be used only by the designated school staff who are in attendance to supervise the student body fan section.
- **School Media**
School Photographers will be granted entry. Each must be added to the school's pass list based on the allocated spaces in FinalForms. These positions are intended for student media, however, adults will be allowed to fill these spaces if necessary.
- **College Coaches**
Passes shall not be issued to college coaches for scouting purposes.

ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAMS

- The WIAA does not select/announce an 'All-Star' or 'All-Tournament' team.
- If one is selected, it is announced and publicized by an outside group.

INSURANCE

- Leagues, Districts, and the WIAA maintain General Liability insurance policies for their League, District, and State Championships.
- The WIAA also provides a Catastrophic insurance policy for post-season/Championship events.
- All other coverage, including accident insurance, is the responsibility of participating schools and or individuals.

GAMES COMMITTEES

- Tournament Managers will appoint and name a Games Committee that will be onsite or readily accessible by phone for all postseason qualifying and/or State events.
- Participating coaches will be informed of the process and makeup of the Games Committee prior to the start of each event.
- Questions concerning infractions may be brought to the Games Committee by the Head Coach or a school administrator, NOT by a contestant, parent, or spectator.
- The Games Committee shall be composed of no fewer than three (3), nor more than five (5), members.
- Games Committee members may not have a conflict of interest with the teams/individuals involved with the game/contest under dispute.

Games Committee Duties:

- Assist the Tournament Manager as needed and be immediately available at all times during the event.

- Act as an arbitration board of dispute on questions or protests that might arise - the final decision must be the consensus of the Games Committee.
- The Games Committee WILL include:
 - The Tournament Manager or designee;
 - The Head Official;
 - A Coach, Athletic Director, or School Administrator;
 And MAY include:
 - The Official Scorekeeper, OR
 - Another member of the event staff

PROTESTS

In all WIAA State Tournaments, the following process will be conducted for protests:

Protest Process:

- If a Head Coach believes there has been a misinterpretation/misapplication of a specific rule, the coach shall notify the game officials following the incident and prior to the resumption of action that the contest is under protest.
- The official(s) will suspend the contest until a decision of the Games Committee has been determined. The Games Committee will meet immediately or as soon as is reasonably possible upon receiving notification of the protest.
 - During the Games Committee meeting, the coach shall be afforded the opportunity to present rationale and justification including the specific rule(s) in question, how the officials misapplied/misinterpreted the rule(s), and the desired outcome of the protest.
 - The official(s) shall be afforded the opportunity to present the rule and its implementation in the protested situation.
- The Games Committee will consult with the WIAA staff member who oversees that sport; will follow any additional protest procedures covered in the specific NFHS rule book; and will utilize the NFHS and/or WIAA playing rules, scorebook, and/or statistics to determine the appropriate ruling.
- The Games Committee will deliberate in a closed session.
- The decision of the Games Committee is final and cannot be further appealed.
- Protests of an official's judgment will not be heard.

TEAMS/INDIVIDUALS UNABLE TO ARRIVE FOR SCHEDULED COMPETITION AT A STATE EVENT

Teams/individuals earning the right to participate in State events should have those rights protected as much as possible. Participating schools must also realize that these events are held to certain restrictions with facilities, game officials, and all other game administration and operations.

- A WIAA State event shall be defined as any tournament event managed by the State Office.
- Competing schools are responsible for notifying the WIAA Staff or the Tournament Manager in a timely manner if they are having difficulty traveling to the event site due to weather or an emergency and may not arrive in time for their scheduled competition.
- School personnel have the responsibility of making alternative travel plans based on weather forecasts and other foreseeable barriers to travel.
- As a common practice, input and recommendations are to be sought from the Highway Patrol and/or the Department of Transportation.
- Specific circumstances not covered by this policy are left to the discretion of the WIAA Staff.

- If a team/individual is unable to arrive at a State event site for their scheduled competition due to circumstances beyond their control (e.g., an earthquake, all passes closed, roads closed due to flooding, etc.), that team/individual will be allowed to participate in their scheduled event provided they arrive at the event site and are able to compete on the day of their scheduled event.
- The WIAA Staff, in cooperation with the Tournament Manager, shall adjust the schedule of the event for the purpose of allowing maximum participation for all qualified teams/individuals.
- If the team/individual is unable to arrive to compete on the day of its event, a forfeit is recorded and that team/individual shall move into the consolation bracket or be dropped from competition, whichever is applicable to that particular stage of the event.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

- In the interest of safety, weather/conditions beyond the control of the participating teams/individuals and/or Tournament Manager, there may be times that it becomes necessary to delay, postpone, or cancel a contest or tournament, though the intent of this policy is to accommodate teams/individuals by rescheduling.

The following practices shall be observed:

- If severe weather conditions affect a participating team/individual, but not the tournament, the team must notify the Tournament Manager.
- If severe weather conditions affect the tournament, the WIAA Staff will make the final decision concerning tournament postponement or rescheduling.
- Play will resume on the next playable date.
- Changing of sites, postponement, or cancellation of events will be determined by the WIAA Staff.

Procedures to follow if contests are rescheduled:

- The WIAA Staff has the final authority on contest rescheduling.
- If contests are rescheduled on the same day as originally scheduled but at a different site, the Semifinal and Championship contests will be scheduled at the same time or later than originally scheduled.
- The time between contests may be shortened. *Example: If contests were originally scheduled at two (2) hour intervals, they may be rescheduled at one and one half (1½) hour intervals.*
- Individuals/teams shall be granted a minimum of twenty (20) minutes for rest between contests.
- Whenever possible, contests played on the final day of the tournament shall be scheduled to allow individuals/teams to return to their home community that day.
- If during the last scheduled day of a tournament, contests are unable to be restarted requiring overnight postponement, only those teams/individuals still in contention for the Championship will continue play.
- Teams/Individuals not in contention for the Championship shall be awarded a tie for the highest placing that could have been earned if postponement had not been necessary.
- Ticket revenue will not be refunded in the event the schedule and/or day(s) of the event are changed due to inclement weather.

TEAM CEREMONIES

Except for the postgame awards presentations, team ceremonies held before or after a contest must be conducted in the locker room or on the sideline so as not to delay the start of the contest or impact any other participating teams.

UTILIZING STUDENTS FOR SUPPORT POSITIONS AT ATHLETIC EVENTS

Students younger than high school age will not be allowed for any support positions at a WIAA State Championship UNLESS the school signs a waiver ahead of time and the school assumes all risk.

- [Underage Worker Form](#)

SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL

Participating schools must register a supervisory staff member in FinalForms to monitor their student fan section.

- **Supervisor Duties:**
 - Report to the Tournament Manager upon arrival.
 - Wear a WIAA-issued 'Supervisor' pass for easy identification.
 - Monitor fan behavior as outlined in the [WIAA's Fan Expectation Guidelines](#).
 - Assist the facility security staff or Tournament Management staff when necessary.

FAN/SPECTATOR EXPECTATIONS

The WIAA supports social justice, racial equity, and sportsmanship. Derogatory cheers, slurs, and hateful comments relating to identity (race, ethnicity, gender expression, disability, religion) are not permitted. Tournament Managers and event personnel have the authority to remove individuals for inappropriate behavior or comments. If you witness any of the above behavior from those in attendance, you can report the incident to the WIAA via the [Discrimination & Harassment Reporting Form](#).

- Participating schools are encouraged to share the [WIAA's Fan Expectations](#) with their communities and student bodies prior to attending State events for policies regarding Cheers, Signs, Artificial Noisemakers, Mascots, Face Painting, Continuous Standing, Clean-Up Expectations, Drones, and more.

PEP BAND EXPECTATIONS

- Restrict playing to timeouts, between periods, pre and postgame, or other dead ball situations.
- Maintain appropriate fan behavior as outlined in the [WIAA's Fan Expectation Guidelines](#).

CHEERLEADER EXPECTATIONS

- Use only school district-approved cheers at appropriate times.
- Direct cheers and chants towards your school's team only.
- Maintain appropriate fan behavior as outlined in the [WIAA's Fan Expectation Guidelines](#).

TEAM ARRANGEMENTS

- **Lodging:**
 - Participating teams are responsible for their own lodging.
 - Schools must provide supervision for all school representatives at their place of lodging.
- **Locker Rooms:**
 - Teams must be supervised by school personnel while in their assigned locker room.
 - Participants are responsible for leaving locker rooms in undamaged condition.
 - Tournament Management is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- **Physicians/Trainers:**
 - Teams are encouraged to supply their own physician/trainer.

- Athletes removed from participation and attended to by a physician cannot reenter competition until authorized by the physician who made the original decision.
- **Participant Admission & Roster Limitations:**
 - The roster limits for each of the State events are listed in the respective sport-specific regulations.
 - Only those participants included on the roster can be in uniform.
 - Students not included on a team's roster/squad must pay admission or included on the Pass Gate list.
 - Participant admission/asses is non-transferable.

STATE TOURNAMENT IDENTIFICATION AND SPONSORSHIP

The WIAA has registered the WIAA logo and identification term, "State High School Championships," with the Secretary of State, establishing the ownership of events through legal action and WIAA Executive Board policies. Phrases such as "On to State," "On the Road to State" or any other phraseology that implies State High School Championships are included.

- The WIAA has licensed only one company to print, sell, and/or distribute WIAA-registered merchandise and schools are encouraged to contact the [WIAA Staff](#) directly for information regarding that partnership.
- Only official, pre-approved merchandise will be sold on-site before, during, or after the event.
- WIAA member schools that wish to produce merchandise utilizing any of the phraseology outlined above must utilize any one of the following processes:
 - Contact the [WIAA Staff](#) to procure desired merchandise through the WIAA's merchandise partner, or
 - Remit a percentage of the gross revenue of merchandise sold to the WIAA; the percentage will be agreed upon by the school and WIAA.
- Permission to distribute items onsite at a State event must be approved by the WIAA Staff..
- Advertising or recognition of non-school organizations/products is limited to WIAA-approved sponsors.
- Political displays and/or solicitation are prohibited.

EXPECTATIONS DURING AWARDS PRESENTATIONS DURING STATE EVENTS

- Spectators will not be allowed onto the competition floor or field.
- All individuals (coaches, participants, managers, statisticians, etc.) will remain on the competition floor or field until all awards have been presented.
- **Losing Team Expectations:**
 - Send the entire team to the center of the field/court/competition area to receive their award,
 - Cooperate with the school supervisors and spirit squads to dispel any rude comments directed to the opposing team or tournament officials,
 - Remain on the field/floor until after the award has been presented to the winning team,
 - Display appropriate congratulatory efforts towards the winning team.
- **Winning Team Expectations:**
 - Remain on their own side of the floor or field until after the award has been presented to the other team,
 - Cooperate with the school supervisors and spirit squads to subdue overly exuberant fans until after the award has been presented to the other team.
 - Demonstrate respect for the opposing team.