



# OHIO ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

## Grade School Sectional, District & State Tournaments

### Rules and Regulations

#### New for 2020

#### Sectionals:

Wrestlers may enter any sectional regardless of hometown

Wrestlers in Division 2,3 and 4 must place top 5 in a Sectional Tournament to advance to a District Tournament.

Wrestlers in Division 1 must place top 4 in a Sectional Tournament to advance to a District Tournament.

Wrestlers that do not qualify from Sectional to District, may enter another Sectional to attempt to qualify for District.

#### Districts:

Once a wrestler qualifies to districts, they may enter any district of their choice (unless weight or overall limit is reached).

District Qualifiers may enter any District regardless of hometown.

All Divisions at District must place top 4 to advance to State.

Wrestlers that do not qualify from a District to State may enter directly into another District without having to compete in a sectional again. Wrestlers are encouraged to have 1 coach or parent follow them through the weigh in process at all OAC events.

#### Points of Emphasis

**Coaches& Parents must have completed the Ohio Department of Health Concussion Info <https://oacstate.com/2siUFbQ> and Lindsay's Law <https://oacstate.com/2sifoMB> prior to coaching**

Any wrestler that does not show up for the Sectional, District or State weigh in without notifying the O A C in advance that they will not be attending, will be charged a fee equal to a late District entry. If you have a wrestler that cannot make it to the tournament please notify [info@ohioathletics.com](mailto:info@ohioathletics.com) and the Tournament Director via email; failing to do so will result in the wrestler's account being frozen until a

\$40 donation is made to the OAC College Scholarship fund. The OAC is trying to reduce the number of wrestlers that do not show up and fail to notify the OAC. The District and State events meet their capacity and when someone just does not show, it takes away the ability for the OAC to offer the opportunity to another wrestler.

Ohio's return-to-play law (Concussion Protocol) went into effect on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Starting on that date, coaches' referees, or officials must remove an athlete exhibiting signs, symptoms, or behavior consistent with a concussion, from practice or a game/match. The athlete CANNOT return to play on the same day that he/she is removed. The athlete IS NOT PERMITTED to return to play until they have been assessed and receive written clearance by a physician (MD or DO). The Ohio Athletic Committee fully supports and follows Ohio's return-to-play law & Lindsay's Law.

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## **1. Registering for an OAC Account**

To register for an OAC tournament you must first have an OAC Account. If your wrestler already has an account, do **NOT** open a new one. This may cause the loss of the wrestler's history and seeding criteria for District and State. Each time a wrestler account is created the computer treats it as a new wrestler. If your wrestler does not have an account, go to [www.register.ohioathletics.com](http://www.register.ohioathletics.com) to open an account. The person opening the account is considered the Account User. If you are an Account User and cannot recall your password, click the "Forgot Password" link on the registration page and a reset password link will be sent to your email address. If you do not receive the new password email, check your spam folder. If you still do not see the email, contact [info@ohioathletics.com](mailto:info@ohioathletics.com).

### **1.1 Registration Deadline**

Each event has its own separate date and time for registration to close. Be sure to check the Sectional & District Info page to see the deadline information. Each event also has a maximum number of entrants it can accept. If the maximum number of entrants is reached before the registration deadline date and time, the registration will close. No one will be accepted to an event once the registration has closed. If registered within 10 days of the registration deadline there will be a late fee.

### **1.2 Refund Policy**

All registrations and online sales are final. There are no refunds.

### **1.3 Grade School Eligibility**

A wrestler must reside in Ohio and attend an Ohio school. Home school students that reside in Ohio are eligible. No wrestlers above grade 6 may compete in the Grade School District or State Tournaments regardless of their birth year.

When there is an eligibility challenge, the challenging party must submit a challenge fee of \$100.00 to the Tournament Director before any challenge is heard. If the challenge stands, the fee is returned. If the challenge fails, the fee is deposited in the OAC College Scholarship fund.

### **1.5 Proof of age**

Birth Certificate must be provided upon challenge or request by tournament Director.

## **2. Divisions and Weight Classes**

Division I weight classes: Birth Year 2013 and later  
40, 45, 50, 55, 60, HWT (max 75)

Division II weight classes: Birth Year 2011 & 2012  
45, 50, 55, 58, 61, 65, 70, 75, 85, HWT (max 120)

Division III weight classes: Birth Year 2009 & 2010  
55, 60, 65, 68, 71, 75, 80, 85, 95, 110, 130, HWT (max 160)

Division IV weight classes: Date of Birth Aug. 1st, 2006 through 2008.  
The date range now coincides with the Junior High State age range.  
7th Graders are not eligible to compete in Grade School Districts/State  
65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, HWT (max 180)

### **Weight & Growth Allowance**

Growth allowance is the amount of weight that is given to a weight class to account for the growth of a child.

Sectional=Scratch Weight (weight stated on website) Example; 55lbs. weight class

Districts = Scratch +1 (weight stated on website)

Example; 55lbs.scratch weight class. + 1lb.= 56lbs. weigh-in weight.

State Weigh-In= Scratch +2 lbs. Ex: 55 + 2lbs. = 57 lbs. for State Weigh-In.

State Weigh-Out= Scratch +3 lbs. Ex: 55 + 3lbs. = 58 lbs. for State Weigh-Out.

Weight classes listed above (scratch weights) are the maximum a wrestler can weigh to be in that particular weight class. They are not weight ranges. Example 55, 60, does not mean they can weigh between 55 and 60 to be in the 55lbs. weight class. The most a wrestler can weigh to be considered in the 55lbs. class is 55.0. If they weigh more than 55.0 and up to and including 60.0 lbs. they are considered in the 60 lbs. class.

## **3. Changing Sectional and or Weight Class**

### **3.1 Changing Sectional**

All Account Users must register their wrestlers for an OAC Tournament.

After registering them for tournament the User may switch their Sectional tournament at any time prior to the registration-closing deadline, providing the tournament or weight class has not reached capacity. They can do this by logging into their account and clicking the "Change Tournament Info" link however; once the registration has closed there are no changes to

your Sectional site selection.

### **3.2 Changing Sectional Weight Class**

After registering them for a weight class the User may switch their weight class at any time prior to the registration closing deadline, providing the weight class has not reached capacity. They can do this by logging into their account and clicking the "Edit Registration". If registration closes early because capacity has been met, you must contact [info@ohioathletics.com](mailto:info@ohioathletics.com) to request any weight change. When registering make certain you have chosen a weight class your wrestler can actually make. If they weigh-in and cannot make the registered weight, they do not move up or down a weight. They are disqualified from the tournament and there are no refunds.

## **4. Changing District and or Weight Class**

### **4.1 All wrestlers must first qualify through a Sectional.**

User may switch their District tournament at any time prior to the registration-closing deadline, providing the tournament or weight class has not reached capacity. They can do this by logging into their account and clicking the "Change Tournament Info" link however; once the registration has closed there are no changes to your District site selection.

### **4.2 Changing District Weight Class**

There are NO changing of weight classes for the District Tournament. Wrestlers must remain in the same weight class for Sectional, District and State

When registering for **SECTIONAL** make certain you have chosen a weight class your wrestler can actually make. If they weigh-in and cannot make the registered weight, they do not move up or down a weight. They are disqualified from the tournament and there are no refunds.

## **5. How to Qualify for District & State**

### **5.1 District Qualification**

Division 1 wrestlers must place top 4 in a Sectional Tournament to qualify to a District. Divisions 2, 3 & 4 wrestlers must place top 5 in a Sectional to qualify to a District.

If wrestler fails to qualify to District, they may enter another Sectional. Wrestlers may enter any Sectional tournament regardless of hometown

### **5.2 State Qualification**

District qualifiers may wrestle in any district tournament. Once they place in the top 6 (Top 4 Div. 1) they can no longer compete in any other Sectional.

Wrestlers that finish 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th, in their District weight class for all divisions, qualify for the State Tournament.

Wrestlers that finish 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> in their weight class are considered State Alternates and may compete in another District to attempt to gain a qualifying top 4 spot. A wrestler may compete in multiple District tournaments only if they have not already placed in the top 4 at a District. Once they place in the top 4 they can no longer compete in any other District. If they are unsuccessful in another attempt, they do not lose their Alternate status. Any wrestler that is unable to place at a District can continue to compete in other Districts to earn a State Qualifying spot.

Any wrestler that does not show up for the Sectional, District or State weigh in without notifying the OAC in advance that they will not be attending, will be charged a fee equal to a late District entry. The OAC is trying to eliminate the number of wrestlers that do not show up and fail to notify the OAC. When doing this, it takes away the ability for the OAC to offer the opportunity to another wrestler.

### **5.3 State Alternate**

A state Alternate is a wrestler that can be added to the State bracket to replace wrestlers that drop out of the tournament. This includes wrestlers that are injured, ill, family reasons, unable to make weight, etc. Alternates will be contacted via the user's email on their OAC account if a spot is available for them at State. All Alternates may weigh-in at the State Tournament and they are eligible to fill spots that are vacated after weigh-ins.

All State Alternates receive a free admission tickets to the State Tournament if they weigh in to accept a spot that may be open. Even if they do not make it into the tournament, they still receive free admission tickets.

## **6. Pre-Tournament Check**

All wrestlers must pass a skin, fingernails and hair inspection at all OAC weigh-ins and weigh-outs.

### **6.1 Skin**

Must be free of any communicable disease. A wrestler that is undergoing treatment for a skin condition must present a physician completed [skin check form](https://bit.ly/ohsaaskinform) (bit.ly/ohsaaskinform) at skin check. The form cannot be dated more than 10-days prior to the date of weigh-in. Form must state when the skin condition will be non-contagious. On site Doctor and Tournament Staff decisions are final regardless of any doctor note stating otherwise.

*The Ohio High School Athletic Association as recommended by its Joint Advisory Committee on Sports Medicine has adopted a policy to require that it be a physician, defined as a medical doctor (MD) or doctor of osteopathy (DO) who is authorized to clear a wrestler for continued participation in this sport. In addition, Certified Nurse Practitioners or Physician's Assistants (PA) who work in a dermatology practice as identified on the list found here <https://oacstate.com/2M3Z23u> are eligible to sign this form return the student to participation.*

## **6.2 Fingernails**

Must be neatly trimmed and no sharp edges.

## **6.3 Equipment/Hair/Skin Check**

Wrestlers with braces **MUST** bring mouthpiece to weigh-ins. If a wrestler has hair longer than allowed by rule, it may be braided or rolled if it is contained in a cover so that the hair rule is satisfied. The cover must be a part of the headgear. The cover must be of a solid material and be nonabrasive. All wrestlers with hair longer than allowed **MUST** show their hair cover to inspection official.

Female wrestlers are required to wear a T-Shirt under their singlet. If an individual has hair longer than allowed by rule, it must be contained in a cover so that the hair rule is satisfied. If the hair is in a style other than its natural state (i.e. braids, rolls, bun, etc.), it must be contained in a cover so that the hair rule is satisfied.

During competition, all wrestlers shall be clean shaven, with sideburns trimmed no lower than shirt collar in the back; and on the sides, the hair shall not extend below earlobe level; in the front, the earlobe level and hair trimmed and well groomed. The hair shall not extend below the top of an ordinary hair shall not extend below the eyebrows. If an individual has hair longer than allowed by rule, it may be braided or rolled if it is contained in a cover so that the hair rule is satisfied. The cover must be a part of the headgear. The cover must be of solid material and be nonabrasive. The wrestler opting to wear a legal hair cover must bring it to the weigh-in procedure and be checked for grooming.

## **7. Weigh-In**

### **7.1 Making Weight**

A wrestler must make the weight that is on his registration at the time the registration closes. If they are over their weight limit, they cannot move to another weight class. They also may not move down a weight class from their registered weight class. Wrestlers in these situations are removed from the tournament and there are no refunds. If they are under; see “**Changing Weight Class**” in section 3.2 above.

The OAC does not tolerate any action that puts an athlete’s health and safety at risk. The use of drugs or dehydration (saunas, plastic sweat suits, etc.) for weight reduction is strictly prohibited. Coaches, participants, and clubs in violation may be disqualified from the event and banned from future OAC events.

### **7.2 Weigh-In Clothing**

All wrestlers must weigh-in wearing no more than a singlet (*with straps up or both a short sleeve compression shirt & competition performance shorts*). They may not remove any of the above-mentioned clothing in an attempt to make their registered weight class. No weight allowance is given for the clothing.

### **7.3 Female Wrestlers**

If a female wrestler is wearing a “boys’-cut” singlet she is required to wear a tight-fitting, short-sleeved or sleeveless tee shirt under the singlet. If a female is wearing a “girls’-cut”.

singlet, no such tee shirt is required.

#### **7.4 Weigh-In Attempts**

During Sectionals, District and State weigh-ins, Wrestlers have 2 tries on the first scale, then 2 tries

on each additional scale in their assigned area. At Sectionals & Districts, the wrestler not making weight during the early weigh-in may attempt to make weight during the day of weigh-ins. For Sectionals & Districts that have multiple weigh-in periods on the same day, they cannot attempt at both weigh-in sessions on that same day.

No exercise, no dehydrating, no rehydrating or leaving the scale room to come back for extra tries are permitted at the weigh-in. Those in violation of this rule will be disqualified from the tournament and potentially for future events and not refunded.

#### **7.5 State Weigh-Outs**

There will no weigh-outs for Division I or II.

Division III & DIV wrestlers will weigh out at Grade School State on Sunday during a specified period. If wrestler does not make the weigh out during specified time, the wrestler will forfeit their remaining matches and not be awarded placement.

### **8. Equipment**

#### **8.1 Uniform**

A legal uniform consists of a one-piece singlet cut no lower in the back or front than the level of the armpits and under the arms no lower than one-half the distance between the armpit and the belt-line. The one-piece singlet may be worn with full-length tights, with stirrups or WITHOUT. Any other undergarment worn under the one-piece singlet which extends beyond the inseam shall be tight-fitting and shall not extend below the knee. NOTE: Female contestants see 6.5

#### **8.2 Two Piece Uniform**

Compression shorts or shorts designed for wrestling shall have a minimum 4-inch inseam that

shall not extend below the knee; shorts designed for wrestling shall have an elastic waistband and a drawstring that is not exposed. These shorts shall not have exposed drawstrings, belt loops, zippers, snaps, buttons or pockets. A Suitable undergarment must be worn under shorts designed for wrestling. Shorts designed for wrestling may be worn over the singlet. Compression shorts or shorts designed for wrestling may be worn with a form-fitted compression shirt. A form-fitted compression shirt shall not cover or extend below the elbow; NO long-sleeved undershirt or compression shirts are allowed! The form-fitted compression shirt may be worn under a singlet or with compression shorts or shorts designed for wrestling. Freestyle singlets are illegal and will not be allowed.

#### **8.3 Ear Guards**

Wrestlers shall wear wrestling ear guards designed by the manufacturer for the sport of wrestling that are rigid and padded, which provide adequate ear protection with no injury hazard to the opponent. No

match will take place without proper ear guards for both wrestlers. “Stickers” on ear guards are allowed provided they do not pose a safety concern by blocking vent holes.

A wrestler that reports to the mat without proper ear guard (OR uniform, OR hair cover, OR mouthpiece) will be penalized 1-point and the “injury time clock” will be started. The wrestler MUST have the proper equipment in place before the end of injury time (1:30 min.), or they must FORFEIT the match!

#### **8.4 Mouthpiece**

Mouthpiece for braces is required. A wrestler that reports to the mat without a headgear is penalized 1-point and the injury time clock is started. The wrestler must have a headgear before the end of injury time (1:30) or they must forfeit the match.

#### **8.5 Shoelaces**

Shoes that have laces are NOT required to be secured by tape or Velcro strap; BUT it is highly recommended that laces be double-knotted, taped, or secured by Velcro straps so as to eliminate any safety concerns and allow for continuous action during the match. Laces that come undone during a match will not be penalized; the referee will resolve repeated lace issues as they occur.

#### **8.6 Knee Pads/Elbow Pads**

Knee pads and elbow pads will be considered legal equipment as long as there is padding manufactured into the product. No “sleeves”, consisting of just fabric with no padding, will be allowed; all parts of a pad must fit snug against the wrestler’s body. Loose pads are prohibited.

### **9. Match Rules**

General NFHS regulations apply to all levels of interscholastic wrestling unless otherwise noted. Sectional, District and State events are Double Elimination tournaments however; it is possible to lose 2 matches and still be alive in the placement rounds. Be certain to check with the head table before you leave to see if you have another match. Bout Sheet: The Coach of the winning wrestler must confirm the bout sheet at the table to make sure the correct wrestler is declared the winner. ***This MUST be done by the COACH, not the wrestler.***

#### **9.1 Period Length**

Championship rounds: Three (3) periods of 1:30

Consolation rounds: Three (3) periods of 1:00

#### **9.2 Overtime**

When the match score is a tie after regulation time, an overtime period is required. The period is 1:00 in length and begins with wrestlers in the neutral position (on their feet). When either wrestler scores a point or points; the match ends and the scoring wrestler is declared the winner. If neither wrestler scores in the 1:00 period, a second-over-time period is required. The match official will flip a 2-sided disc (Red on one side and Green on the other) with the winner of the flip (wrestler wearing the red or green anklet) choosing the top (offensive position) or the bottom (defensive position); neutral is not an option. The second-over-time period is 30 seconds in length. If either wrestler scores a point or points, the match ends with the scoring wrestler declared the winner. If neither wrestler scores, the wrestler in the top position is awarded 1-point and declared the winner.



### **9.3 Technical-Fall**

Technical-Fall is declared, and the match ended when a wrestler gains a 12-point advantage.

### **9.4 Head and Neck Injuries**

In addition to the 1½ minutes of injury time allotted for each wrestler, an appropriate health-care professional will have a maximum of five minutes to evaluate injuries to the head and neck involving the cervical column and/or nervous systems. At that point, the wrestler would have to continue or default the match. A second injury to the head and neck involving cervical column and/or central nervous system in the same match shall require the wrestler to default the match. If an appropriate health-care professional is not present, all injuries to the head and neck would be covered by the same timeframe as other injuries. In the case of a wrestler exhibiting signs of a concussion, the individual would be removed from the match and could not return to competition in the absence of an appropriate health-care professional.

### **9.5 Bracketing**

Weight classes with 5 or less wrestlers will be round robin. 6 or more wrestlers will be placed in a bracket. Please refer to event seed criteria document. Byes will be randomly placed in bracket.

## **9. Coaching**

### **9.1 Coach Bands**

Coaches must have coaching band to access floor and to sit in 1 of 2 coaching chairs.

#### **With a Coach Band you can...**

- Coach your wrestler with 1 other coach from designated coaching chairs
- Approach the table during a match for the following calls only
- Error in time
- Error of Score
- Error of Starting Position
- Enter the floor through bullpen with your wrestler as he is escorted to the mat

#### **With a Coach Band you CANNOT ...**

- Coach from the side of the mat if; not one of the 2 coaches in the corner.
- Stay on floor or designated coach area
- Approach the table during a match for the following
- To question a judgment call (ie: Takedown, Stall, Back points)
- Argue with an official after that match
- Enter the floor through the bullpen without your wrestler

### **9.2 Coaching from Chair Only**

Coaching from the side of the mat by anyone that is not seated in the coaching chairs is prohibited. Coaching from side could be a 1-point MATCH penalty. The continued offense is deemed Flagrant unsportsmanlike and will be penalized accordingly.

### **9.3 State Laws**

Coaches & Parents must have completed the Ohio Department of Health Concussion Info

<http://bit.ly/2M6IBG4> and Lindsay's Law <http://bit.ly/2gWrF7e> prior to coaching.

## **10. Conduct**

### **10.1 Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

Unsportsmanlike Conduct of wrestler/coaches is any act which becomes abusive or interferes with the orderly progress of the match. This includes profanity, taunting, acts of disrespect or those actions that incite negative reaction by others. The offending coach may be disciplined by having his/her wrestler penalized ONE or MORE MATCH POINTS! Any Coach who is penalized for continued Unsportsmanlike Conduct (Flagrant Unsportsmanlike Conduct) may be ejected from the event/tournament and may not return.

### **10.2 Flagrant Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

Any wrestler/coach who is penalized for flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct (i.e. fighting or biting) is ejected from the event/tournament and may not participate for the remainder of the event. If this occurs in the placement round of a tournament the wrestler does not receive an award. Placing wrestlers do not move up a position.

### **10.3 Reinstatement**

The offending wrestler and or coach is ineligible for all future Ohio Athletic Committee events until a letter requesting reinstatement is sent to the Ohio Athletic Committee along with payment of \$75 to the OAC College Scholarship Fund. The Ohio Athletic Committee Staff reviews the request and a written response to the letter will be sent to the offending wrestler's parent or guardian with the Ohio Athletic Committee Staff's decision.

Any Coach who is penalized for Flagrant Unsportsmanlike conduct is ejected from the event/tournament and may not Coach or be on the arena floor for the remainder of the event. This may include removal from the premises if the action is deemed as necessary. The offending Coach is ineligible for all future Ohio Athletic Committee events until a letter requesting reinstatement is sent to the Ohio Athletic Committee along with payment of \$75 to the OAC College Scholarship Fund. The Ohio Athletic Committee Staff reviews the request and a written response to the letter will be sent to the offending coach with the Ohio Athletic Committee Staff's decision. For a first offense, the period of ineligibility may be up to 1 full year. A second offense may result in a lifetime ban from Ohio Athletic Committee events.

## **11. Awards and Presentation**

Wrestlers' that earn 1-8 State Placement must take part of the Podium Awards Presentation. Those that do not, will not receive their award nor will they be recognized as placing. They will also be ineligible to compete for 1 calendar year. Those that do not make State Weigh outs do not receive placement.

## **12. Challenge to Eligibility**

Challenging party must pay a challenge fee of \$75.00 (cash) to the tournament director before any challenge is heard. Once payment is made, the challenging party must fill out a challenge form and submit it to the tournament Director. If the challenge is ruled in favor of the challenging party, the fee is returned to the party that is challenging. If the challenge is ruled in favor of the challenged party, the fee is deposited to the OAC College Scholarship Fund

## **13. Media**

### **13.1 State Credentials**

Media credential requests shall be submitted to the OAC via email [info@ohioathletics.com](mailto:info@ohioathletics.com). All requests should include the Subject "OAC State Media Request" and include the date(s) for credential requests. The deadline for submitting requests is the Monday prior to the State event by 5pm. Walk up requests will not be accepted. Proper identification must be presented for entry to event.

### **13.2 Video Review**

The Ohio Athletic Committee and its event officials will NOT review video.

