2015-2016 Boys Wrestling Series Terms and Conditions

I. SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION

A. Competition in Wrestling will be held without classification by enrollment.

II. STATE TOURNAMENT SERIES DATES AND SITES

A. Regional Tournaments
   Regional meets will be held on Saturday of Week 34 in the IESA standardized calendar. For the 2015-2016 school year, the regional date will be **February 27, 2016**. Tournament hosts and team assignments will be posted on the IESA website no later than December 1. The seeding meeting is to be held the Wednesday prior to the Regional meet. For the 2015-2016 school year, the seeding date will be **February 24, 2016**.

B. Sectional Tournaments
   Sectional meets will be held on Saturday of Week 35 in the IESA standardized calendar. For the 2015-2016 school year, the sectional date will be **March 5, 2016**. Tournament hosts and team assignments will be posted on the IESA website no later than December 1. **NOTE:** All sectional tournaments must start @ 9:00 a.m.

C. State Tournament
   The IESA state finals will be held on Friday and Saturday of Week 36 in the IESA standardized calendar. For the 2015-2016 school year, the state dates will be **March 11-12, 2016**. The State Finals will be held at the Northern Illinois University Convocation Center in DeKalb, Illinois. **Wrestling will start at 3:30 p.m. on Friday of the state finals.**

III. ENTRIES, ENTRY FEES, AND ELIGIBILITY

A. Regional Entry Form
   The On-line Regional Entry Form, to be completed by logging in to the IESA Member Center, shall be used to list up to two certified contestants in each weight class for state tournament series play. The Regional Entry Forms will be available on-line for regional hosts to view. No changes may be made to the regional entries after the seeding meeting except for those that are detailed in By-Law 4.054.

   It is mandatory that schools complete the Regional Entry Form by Tuesday, February 23. A school that fails to complete the Regional Entry Form by Tuesday, February 23 shall be disqualified from regional competition. (By-Law 4.057) Teams shall be ruled ineligible to compete in any tournament series contest unless they have official entries at the seeding meeting (By-Law 4.057).

   It is the ultimate responsibility of all competing teams for all athletic activities to insure that each participant listed on the Regional Entry Form is eligible. Regional hosts for all athletic activities are also required to check each contestant on the Regional Entry Form.

B. Entry fees
   Schools must pay an entry fee of $50. The entry deadline was **October 5, 2015**. Those entries postmarked after **October 14** were considered late and were required to pay a late fee of $100. Entry fees will be refunded only upon request prior to initial entry deadline. If your school is listed in the Regional and Sectional Assignments, you have paid your entry fee for 2015-2016.

   Late entry fees will be waived for schools designated as new members or for current member schools entering an activity for the first time which petition to participate in an activity after the initial entry deadline.

   The penalty fee for a school which does not participate in the State Tournament series without notification to the IESA or withdraws after the regional seeding meeting shall be the loss of the entry fee and a $50.00 penalty. (By-Law 5.029)

C. Eligibility
   To participate in any regular season contest and the IESA state series, a student must be eligible under all of the eligibility rules and conditions of the IESA.
D. Participation

No student is eligible to participate at the same academic grade level for two different school years in the same sport. This is true whether the student attended a member or a non-member school. Participation in one interscholastic contest in a sport constitutes one season of eligibility in that sport.

No student shall be a member of a team using ninth grade or high school students. Only students in fifth through eighth grade are eligible to participate. Students must attend a member school and can only represent the school they actually attend unless the school is involved in an approved co-op.

Girls are permitted to participate on the team under the following guidelines:

**IESA is not an enforcement agency when it comes to determining a school’s compliance with Title IX and the Illinois Sex Equity Rules. The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) monitors the Federal law and the Illinois Sex Equity Rules (23 Illinois Administrative Code 200) that require school districts to offer athletic programs that accommodate the interests and abilities of both sexes to a comparable degree. IESA member schools seeking a waiver for female athletes to participate on boys’ teams must demonstrate and provide assurance to ISBE of compliance with 23 Illinois Administrative Code 200.80.**

Prior to any tryout, practice or game participation, the principal of a member school desiring to participate in an activity designated as a boys athletic activity, with a team comprised of both boys and girls shall:

1. Complete and submit the Gender Equity in Athletics Waiver Application that is available through the Illinois State Board of Education’s (ISBE) Web Application Security System (IWAS). This online application replaces the paper form ISBE 33-95.

Please note the following:

**The application process for any sport in which a school wants permission to participate with a girl on a boys team must be completed by September 30. Schools should make special note of this, especially those schools that may request permission for boys wrestling when that season does not begin until mid-December.**

**The ISBE IWAS application will require review by the District Superintendent, the Regional Office of Education Administrator, and finally the ISBE Administrator who will issue final approval.**

**The application does not have to list the names of the girls who wish to compete on the boy’s team.**

**The application can list multiple sports if you need to get permission for more than one sport.**

Questions concerning the completion of the form can be sent to:
Ms. Lynda Vaughn
Illinois State Board of Education
Office of General Counsel
Public School Recognition Department
100 W. Randolph St.; Suite 14-300
Chicago, Illinois 60601
Phone: 312-814-2223. FAX: 312-814-8636 Email: lvaughn@isbe.net

2. After submitting the ISBE IWAS application, you must send the IESA Office some type of communication (email, FAX, or written letter) that you have started the online application. Conditional approval for the girl(s) to play on the boy’s team shall be automatic upon receipt of this communication. Conditional approval allows a school to permit a girl to tryout, practice, or participate in interscholastic boys athletic activities without penalty, pending the final compliance ruling from the ISBE.

E. Age

For wrestling, a student shall be eligible through age fifteen (15). If a student in wrestling becomes sixteen (16) before the final event in the state tournament series, he is not eligible to participate in wrestling. A student must be born on or after March 13, 2000 to be eligible to participate. Each student must provide the principal of his school with a birth certificate before practice or participation in any athletic activity. This must be a birth certificate or hospital record or a thermostat copy of such. A baptismal certificate is not acceptable.
F. **Physical examination**  
No student shall be permitted to compete in a tryout, practice, or game unless he has filed with his principal a certificate of physical fitness issued by a licensed physician not more than 395 days preceding such tryout, practice, or contest in any athletic activity. No student shall be allowed to participate following disabling illness or injury without a physician's release.

G. **Amateurism**  
As the result of participating in the IESA state series (regional, sectional, state) a student in a member school may accept any award (except cash) which does not exceed $100.00 in fair market value, in the following sports: baseball, basketball, cross-country, softball, track, volleyball, and wrestling. A student in a member school may accept a school letter for an interscholastic sport, regardless of cost. Violation of the provisions of By-Law 3.070 shall cause ineligibility in the sport in which the violation occurred. An official ruling must be secured from the Executive Director before any student who violates these rules may be reinstated to eligibility.

H. **Coaching school participation**  
A student who is a member of the school team may participate, depending on local school district policy, in any coaching school/camp during the season. A coaching school is defined as any program sponsored by an organization or individual, which provides instruction in sports theory and skills to groups of persons. Students may participate in and/or receive private lessons, school physical conditioning programs and may be used for demonstration purposes in coaches' clinics.

I. **All-star participation team**  
No athletic team from any member school may compete against an "all-star" team.

IV. **SEASONAL LIMITATIONS**

A. **Practice-Competition Dates**  
No member school participating in the Boys Wrestling State Tournament Series shall organize, hold tryouts, or practice prior to Monday of Week 22 in the IESA standardized calendar. For the 2015-2016 school year, this date is **November 30**.

A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in wrestling no earlier than Monday of Week 23 in the IESA standardized calendar. For the 2015-2016 school year, this date will be **December 7, 2015**. Member schools last interscholastic contest in wrestling may be no later than Saturday of Week 39 in the IESA standardized calendar. For the 2015-2016 school year, this date will be **April 2, 2016**.

B. **Match-Tournament Limitations for Teams and Individuals**  
No wrestling team representing a member school shall, in any one season exclusive of the IESA series, participate in more than:

(a) 15 dates and 1 tournament; or  
(b) 14 dates and 2 tournaments; or  
(c) 13 dates and 3 tournaments; or  
(d) 12 dates and 4 tournaments; or  
(e) 11 dates and 5 tournaments.

A regular season interscholastic date shall be defined as a date where either two or three (sometimes four) teams are competing and it is not a bracketed format. A regular season tournament shall be defined as a date where opponents are determined through a bracketed format.

A wrestling team representing a member school is further limited to a maximum of 25 regular season matches, exclusive of all regular season and IESA series tournaments. All interscholastic competition shall be considered a match.

Member schools are not required to submit a copy of its wrestling schedule to the IESA Office but must keep a copy of the schedule on file in their school. Schools are encouraged to post their season schedule on their school's website.
Exclusive of the IESA tournament series, individual contestants shall be limited to a maximum of five matches per day, with a minimum rest period of 45 minutes between each match and a maximum of 37 interscholastic matches per season (includes all school matches wrestled). NOTE: If the school allows their students to participate in club wrestling during the IESA season and an IESA wrestler participates with a non-school club or team, those matches do not count toward the 37 match limitation. However, any match in which a wrestler actually wrestles (varsity, sub-varsity, exhibition, j.v., etc.) counts toward the 37 match maximum.

C. Weigh-ins and Weight Allowances

All wrestlers must weigh in at each meet and/or tournament. There is no weight allowance at any time during the season unless NFHS rule 4-5-5 is met. Each wrestler must make scratch weight at every weigh-in.

During regular season meets and regular season invitationals, weight allowance may be given when National Federation rule 4-5-5 is met. No weight allowance is given for a digital scale. **NFHS Rule 4-5-5 is not in effect for the state series.**

All wrestlers shall weigh in at each regular season meet and/or tournament. The state finals will hold weigh-ins on Friday only, no weigh-ins will be held on Saturday of the IESA finals. **IMPORTANT: ALL REGULAR SEASON CONTESTS (DUAL MEETS OR TOURNAMENTS) AND THE REGIONAL AND SECTIONAL MEETS MUST FOLLOW THE NATIONAL FEDERATION RULES REGARDING WEIGH-IN PROCEDURES. THE IESA DOES NOT REQUIRE ANY TYPE OF BODY FAT TESTING AS IS REQUIRED AT THE IHSA LEVEL.**

All State Series hosts must use digital scales. No State Series host shall make a weight scale available to check weight before the actual weigh-ins begin.

At the regional, sectional, and state level, **ALL members of a team must be present before any member of that team may weigh-in. No team may weigh-in until the head official assigned by the IESA Office is present. Host schools in particular must adhere to this rule.**

Host schools for regionals and sectionals should set a 45 minute block of time for weigh-ins. **ALL schools DO NOT have to be present when weigh-ins begin. (IHSA requires this). Schools simply show up as a team within the 45 minute block of time set aside for weigh-ins and then the team weighs in as a group.**

D. Schools With Which Contests May Be Held

Member schools may permit eligible students to participate in interscholastic activities as school representatives pursuant with the following:

- Schools which are members of this Association;
- Illinois elementary attendance centers containing any of the grades five through eight which are not members of this Association;
- Any school (Illinois or non-Illinois) containing grades five through eight as long as that contest is held in an Illinois school;
- Non-Illinois elementary attendance centers in states adjacent to Illinois which contain any of the grades five through eight.

Member schools may not permit students to participate as school representatives in interscholastic activities with high school or non-school groups. **Schools may not compete against any type of IKWF team.**

Member schools are not allowed to practice against other middle/junior high schools or allow students from their own school to practice with high school students.
V. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

A. Regional-Sectional

Each member school hosting a regional or sectional wrestling tournament shall reimburse the IESA 30% of the gross receipts for admissions. The host school shall pay the officials assigned by the IESA Office the day of the tournament. Allowable expenditures as indicated on the financial report forms shall be paid by the host school. Expenditures not permitted shall be detailed on the financial report forms. The following items will not be approved as expenditures for regional and sectional tournaments: payment for substitute teachers, rental of playing facilities, and cost of utilities used during a tournament unless previously approved by the Executive Director. Any profit shall be retained by the host school.

If there is a deficit in regional or sectional athletic tournament finances, participating schools may be assessed by the host school on a per-match basis. Assessments shall be paid directly to the host school and shall not be sent by participating schools until the financial report is approved by the Executive Director.

B. State Tournament

1) The IESA will pay the officials and the expense will be charged to the financial report.
2) All vouchers for workers and expenses shall be forwarded to the IESA office within one week. All receipts for admission and program sales shall be forwarded to the IESA Office.
3) One-third of the profit shall be returned to the host school and two-thirds of the profit retained by the IESA. Deficit expenditures will be paid by the IESA.
4) The host school will receive an amount approved by the IESA Board from the sale of t-shirts and other merchandise at the state site.
5) All concession revenue may be kept by the host school.
6) Outside vendors besides concessions must be contracted at least one month in advance through the IESA Office and not the host school.
7) Admission prices:

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<th>Adults and High School Students</th>
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<td>Sectionals</td>
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VI. TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE

A. Seeding

It shall be the responsibility of the regional wrestling host to invite the coaches of the participating schools to a seeding meeting on Wednesday of Week 34 in the IESA standardized calendar. For the 2015-2016 school year, this date will be February 24. Schools not in attendance shall have nothing to say regarding seeding.

Teams without contestants listed on a Regional Entry Form at the seeding meeting shall be disqualified from regional competition. (By-Law 4.057)

Any wrestler who is seeded must have at least eight (8) varsity matches completed in order to be a seeded wrestler.

Eight contestants in each weight class shall be seeded from entries on the Regional Entry Form in the following manner:

(a) Head-to-head competition;
(b) Record against common opponents;
(c) Overall record of VARSITY matches--include matches wrestled regardless of the weight class;
(d) Vote by the coaches if the eight seeds cannot be determined through steps a through c above.
NOTES:

- No re-seeding shall be done after all 19 weight classes have been seeded unless a seeded wrestler scratches at which time the remaining seeds are advanced. See Section B below.

- Only the wrestlers who have wrestled at least 8 varsity matches may be seeded. All other wrestlers are drawn into the bracket. For example, if the 100 lb. weight class has 12 wrestlers entered but only five of the 12 wrestlers have wrestled 8 varsity matches, then only those five wrestlers will be seeded and the remaining seven wrestlers are all drawn into the bracket. A wrestler who has not met the 8 varsity match requirement can never be seeded and will be drawn into the bracket regardless of his record. For example, one wrestler in the 126 lb. wt. class has a 16-1 record heading into regionals but only four of the 17 matches were wrestled at the varsity level with the other 13 matches wrestled at the j.v. level. Another wrestler is 1-12 at the same weight class but all matches were varsity matches. The wrestler with the 16-1 record CANNOT be seeded. That wrestler must be a draw because he has not met the 8 varsity match requirement. The wrestler with the 1-12 varsity record may be seeded. A similar situation would hold true if a wrestler, due to injury during the season, enters the seeding day with a 5-0 varsity record. That wrestler cannot be seeded and must be drawn into the bracket whereas a wrestler with a 4-8 varsity record could be seeded.

In the above procedure, if (a) determines all eight seeds, go no further. If it does not, go to (b). If this determines remaining seeds, go no further. If not, go to (c), then (d). NOTE: IN CASE A SEEDED WRESTLER SCRATCHES THE DAY OF THE REGIONAL MEET, YOU SHOULD SEED A 9TH WRESTLER THE NIGHT OF THE SEEDING MEETING. THIS 9TH SEEDED WRESTLER WOULD STILL BE DRAWN INTO THE BRACKET AND WOULD ONLY BECOME A SEEDED WRESTLER IF ONE OF THE TOP 8 SEEDED WRESTLERS WOULD SCRATCH FOR SOME REASON AFTER THE SEEDING MEETING AND BEFORE THE START OF THE REGIONAL. SEE SECTION B BELOW AS TO HOW TO HANDLE SCRATCHES AND ADVANCEMENT OF WINNERS IN THE BRACKET IF A SEEDED WRESTLER SCRATCHES.

Seeded wrestlers may be placed in the same bracket. If two wrestlers from the same school are seeded in the same bracket, do not re-seed so they are placed in opposite brackets. For example, a school has two wrestlers in the 135 lb. weight class. One wrestler received the 2nd seed and the other wrestler received the 3rd seed. These two wrestlers must remain in the exact spot where they were seeded. It is not permissible to move the 2nd or 3rd seeded wrestler to the top bracket.

SEEDING FOR 9-10 TEAM REGIONALS WITH 17-20 WRESTLERS IN A BRACKET

In regionals with 9 teams assigned, eight wrestlers shall be seeded using the criteria established. Once the schools of those 8 wrestlers are determined, at least one wrestler from the remaining schools shall have one of their two wrestlers drawn into the 16 man bracket. The remaining wrestlers shall then be drawn into the pigtail matches. In regionals with 10 teams assigned, if there is a 19 or 20 man bracket, eight wrestlers shall be seeded using the criteria established. However, it may be that not every school can be drawn into the 16 man bracket. If this occurs, then simply draw all of the remaining wrestlers into all of the "draw" slots including the pigtail matches. In these situations, wrestlers who lose the pigtail match are eliminated from the regional and will not be placed in the wrestleback. Seeds #1, #4, #5, and #8 shall be placed in the top half of the bracket and seed #2, #3, #6, and #7 shall be placed in the bottom half of the bracket.

B. Pairings/Day of Regional Meet Scratches

1) After the seeds have been placed on the bracket chart, the remaining wrestlers shall be placed by draw. Seeds #1, #4, #5, and #8 shall be placed in the top bracket and seeds #2, #3, #6, and #7 in the bottom bracket. If a seeded wrestler scratches the day of the regional meet, the remaining seeded wrestlers shall be advanced in the bracket. If you seed 9 wrestlers at the seed meeting, then the 9th seeded wrestler would become the 6th seeded wrestler as the wrestlers are advanced. The wrestlers that are drawn into the bracket will have to be re-drawn to accommodate the scratch. Example: The 105 lb. bracket has 10 wrestlers entered. The 6th seeded wrestler does not make weight. The 7th seeded wrestler now moves into the 6th place slot, the 8th seeded wrestler moves into the 7th place slot, the 9th seeded wrestler (who was originally a drawn wrestler) now becomes the 8th seeded wrestler. Since there are now only 9 wrestlers in the bracket refer to
the 9 man bracket chart for pairings. The above example only occurs when a seeded wrestler scratches. Seeds and the placement of the drawn wrestlers remain as done the night of the seeding meeting if there are no scratches.

2) The sectional meet shall be organized on the basis of regional results. The state meet shall be organized on the basis of sectional results.

C. Scoring

Scoring shall be as in the National Federation Wrestling Rules Book. Team points shall be scored 14, 10, 7, and 4 points for four places at regionals and sectionals, and shall be scored 16, 12, 9, 7, 5, and 3 points for six places at the state final meet.

D. Length of Periods

Regular match, Consolation matches and wrestlebacks: First period will be one minute in length. The second and third periods will be one and one-half minutes in length.

Overtime

IESA does not use the overtime procedure that the IHSA uses and is listed in the NFHS rule book.

In regular season and tournament competition, the overtime period shall be conducted as follows:

If the score is tied at the end of the three periods, the wrestlers will wrestle an overtime period which will be a maximum of one minute in length. Both wrestlers will be in the neutral position. The wrestler who scores the first point(s) will be declared the winner. If no winner is declared by the end of the 1 minute overtime period, a 30 second tiebreaker will be wrestled. Choice for position is given to the wrestler who scores the first point in the regulation match. The wrestler who scores the first point in the tiebreaker will be declared the winner. If no scoring occurs in 30 seconds the offensive wrestler will be declared the winner and one match point is added to the offensive wrestler's score. Of course, if the points earned in the overtime period or tiebreaker involve a takedown or reversal straight to the back, the match shall continue until the near fall or fall situation has concluded.

E. Scoring Software

Schools hosting an IESA regional or sectional will receive a software program to assist in computer scoring if requested.

VII. ADVANCEMENT OF WINNERS

The first, second, third, and fourth-place regional individual weight class winners shall advance to sectional level competition.

The first, second, and third-place sectional individual weight class winners shall advance to state level competition.

If a wrestler who has advanced to the sectional or state level is ill, injured, or ineligible, he must be scratched.

The following procedure should be used to determine place finishers at the regional level and sectional level for the sectional and state tournaments when a scratch has occurred:

Regional: The first alternate shall be the wrestler who won the most matches in the championship bracket but failed to qualify as a place winner. Should more than one (1) meet the alternate criterion then the one who was defeated by the highest place winner shall qualify as the alternate and advance to the sectional.

Sectional: The first alternate shall be the wrestler defeated in the third place match. The second alternate shall be the wrestler who won the most matches in championship bracket competition but failed to qualify as a third place winner or as the first alternate. Should more than one (1) wrestler meet second alternate criterion then the one winning the most matches in both the championship and consolation brackets shall be the second alternate. However, if two (2) wrestlers remain tied for the second alternate position, the
one defeated by the highest placing wrestler shall advance. If the above criterion does not produce a replacement then the third alternate would be the wrestler who loses the first round championship bout to the champion.

Note: It shall be the responsibility of the principal or coach of the wrestler who is scratching to notify the IESA Office that an alternate may be necessary. The IESA Office will then contact the alternate’s principal or coach to inquire if the substitute is available to wrestle at the next level.

VIII. STATE SERIES TOURNAMENT RULES

A. The official 2015-16 National Federation Wrestling Rules shall be in effect for all dual meets and tournaments with the exceptions noted herein.

B. Contestants Entered
Each member school is eligible to enter one team, consisting of no more than two contestants in each weight class. A member school may elect to enter one or two individuals in one to eight of the weight classes without being eligible for team awards at the regional level.

C. Weigh-ins and Allowances

All wrestlers must weigh in at each meet and/or tournament. There is no weight allowance. Each wrestler must make scratch weight at every weigh-in. Contestants of the same gender must weigh-in together. If a team has a girl that will be participating in a contest, no males may be present when the girl weighs in. Schools must make provisions for a responsible adult female to supervise a girl who needs to weigh-in.

During the state series, all teams shall weigh-in together with their coach present. If even one wrestler is absent, the team shall wait until all members are present before they begin their weigh-in. If a wrestler fails to make weight at the regional meet, the wrestler cannot move up to the next weight class and must be scratched. No contestant listed on the Regional Entry Form can replace him, but another certified contestant who has not been listed on the Regional Entry Form may. Another certified contestant who has not been listed on the Regional Entry Form may also be used as a replacement for listed regional contestants who are ill, injured, or ineligible for competition on that day. No re-seeding will be done when a contestant is scratched. However, wrestlers may be switched after seeding if necessary to balance the brackets when a seeded wrestler scratches.

Weigh-ins for all levels in the state series may be conducted as a team as opposed to weight class. Teams may not begin weighing-in until ALL team members have arrived. No individual may weigh-in after the team has weighed-in. For example, if School A completes their weigh-in without one of their wrestlers who missed the team bus, and then 10 minutes after the completion of weigh-ins, the individual shows up, that individual must be scratched from the tournament. He may not weigh-in separately.

All State Series hosts must use digital scales.

No State Series host shall make a weight scale available to check weight before the actual weigh-ins begin. At the regional, sectional, and state level, ALL members of a team must be present before any member of that team may weigh-in. No team may weigh-in until the head official assigned by the IESA Office is present. Host schools in particular must adhere to this rule.

Host schools for regionals and sectionals should set a 45 minute block of time for weigh-ins. ALL schools DO NOT have to be present when weigh-ins begin. (IHSA requires this). Schools simply show up as a team within the 45 minute block of time set aside for weigh-ins and then the team weighs in as a group.

If a wrestler fails to make weight at the regional meet, the wrestler cannot move up to the next weight class and must be scratched. No contestant listed on the Regional Entry Form can replace him, but another certified contestant who has not been listed on the Regional Entry Form may. Another certified contestant who has not been listed on the Regional Entry Form may also be used as a replacement for listed regional
contestants who are ill, injured, or ineligible for competition on that day. **If a seeded wrestler scratches, the remaining seeded wrestlers are advanced in brackets. See Section VI, Part B.**

If a wrestler fails to make the required weight at the regional, sectional or state meet in his entered class, he can not move up to the next weight class and must be scratched.

**D. Scratched Wrestlers and Substitutions**

**State**

Scratches of state qualifying wrestlers must be reported by 12 noon on the Thursday prior to the state tournament in order for the alternate to advance. Scratches reported after 12 noon on that Thursday will not be replaced including wrestlers who fail to make weight at the state meet.

A wrestler who has advanced to the state meet who is too ill to compete, becomes injured or ineligible, or fails to make weight the day of the tournament must be scratched. When the scratch is due to an illness, an injury, or the result of an ineligibility situation, it is the responsibility of the principal or coach to notify the IESA office as soon as possible prior to the state meet. The IESA office will then contact the school administrator of the wrestler who is next qualified from that sectional, according to criteria listed below, to inform him/her that the next qualified contestant can participate at the state meet. The criteria that is used to determine replacement for the state meet is as follows:

*The first alternate shall be the wrestler defeated in the third place match. The second alternate shall be the wrestler who won the most matches in championship bracket competition but failed to qualify as a third place winner or as the first alternate. Should more than one (1) wrestler meet second alternate criterion then the one winning the most matches in both the championship and consolation brackets shall be the second alternate. However, if two (2) wrestlers remain tied for the second alternate position, the one defeated by the highest placing wrestler shall advance. If the above criterion does not produce a replacement then the third alternate would be the wrestler who loses the first round championship bout to the champion.*

If a wrestler fails to make weight the day of the state meet, the wrestler must scratch and there will be no substitute.

**Sectional**

Scratches of sectional qualifying wrestlers must be reported by 4:00 p.m. on the Thursday prior to the sectional in order for the alternate to advance. Any scratches reported after 4:00 p.m. on that Thursday will not be replaced.

When a scratch is reported to the IESA office prior to 4:00 p.m. on the Thursday preceding the sectional, the following criteria has been established to determine who the replacement wrestler will be:

*The first alternate shall be the wrestler who won the most matches in the regional championship bracket but failed to qualify as a place winner. Should more than one (1) meet the alternate criterion then the one who was defeated by the highest place winner shall qualify as the alternate and advance to the sectional.*

If a wrestler fails to make weight the day of the sectional, the wrestler must scratch and there will be no substitute.

When there are substitutes at the sectional or state levels, contestants shall be advanced in brackets. e.g. A wrestler who won the sectional is injured during the week before the state meet and has to be scratched. The fourth-place finisher from the sectional will replace him. The second-place sectional finisher now moves to the first-place bracket slot, the third-place finisher moves into the second-place bracket slot, and the fourth place finisher moves into the third-place bracket spot. If a wrestler scratches at the sectional level, you can still advance the wrestlers but there will end up being a 4th place bye if no replacement contestant is used.

**E. State Final Order of Competition**

Two mats will be used for the championship matches at the NIU Convocation Center. The championship matches be held on two mats in the following order: 112 & 119; 105 & 126; 100 & 135; 95 & 145; 90 & 155; 85 & 167; 80 & 185; 75 & 215; 70 & 275; 65. The order will be reversed each year.
F. Pass Gate for State Final
   Only four (4) coaches and those wrestlers who have qualified for the state finals receive free admission. All schools that qualify an individual for the state finals must access the pass gate form online through the IESA website. Schools must enter their school password to access the form and must complete the form online. Contestants and coaches must have their name listed on the pass gate form in order to receive admission tags. Statisticians, managers and scorekeepers are NOT admitted free.

   Schools **MUST** complete the online pass gate list by Tuesday, March 8.

IX. EXCEPTIONS TO NATIONAL FEDERATION RULES

A. All contestants must meet the uniform rules as explained in National Federation rule 4-1-1.

B. Weight classes shall be as follows: 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 105, 112, 119, 126, 135, 145, 155, 167, 185, 215, and 275. [4-4-1; 4-4-2] **PLEASE NOTE: THE MAXIMUM WEIGHT IN THE HEAVYWEIGHT CLASS IS 275 LBS.….NOT THE 285 LB. LIMIT AS SET FORTH BY NFHS RULE.**

C. Weigh-in time period may begin two and one-half hours prior to the beginning of a meet. [4-5-1]

D. Weigh-ins must be conducted in accordance with NFHS rule 4-5-7. Contestants may NOT weigh-in nude. [4-5-7]

E. The following time limits shall apply to all state series matches and are recommended for regular season dates and tournaments:

   **Regular match, Championship Bracket, Consolation and Wrestlebacks** [6-1-1]
   (1) First period—one minute
   (2) Second and third periods—one and one-half minutes

   **Overtime**
   In regular season and tournament competition, the overtime period shall be conducted as follows:
   If the score is tied at the end of the three periods, the wrestlers will wrestle an overtime period which will be a maximum of one minute in length. Both wrestlers will be in the neutral position. The wrestler who scores the first point(s) will be declared the winner. If no winner is declared by the end of the 1 minute overtime period, a 30 second tiebreaker will be wrestled. Choice for position is given to the wrestler who scores the first point in the regulation match. The wrestler who scores the first point in the tiebreaker will be declared the winner. If no scoring occurs in 30 seconds the offensive wrestler will be declared the winner and one match point is added to the offensive wrestler's score. If the points earned in the overtime period or tiebreaker involve a takedown or reversal straight to the back, the match shall continue until the near fall or fall situation has concluded. [6-1-7]

F. Weigh-ins for the state series may be conducted as a team as opposed to weight class. Regional and sectional host schools shall designate a 45 minute block of time to conduct weigh-ins. ALL members of a team must be present before weigh-ins for that team may begin. [4-5-3]

X. TOURNAMENT POLICIES

A. Displaying of signs, banners, placards, balloons, or constructed frames through which players run is prohibited. Such devices obstruct the view of spectators, can be unsightly, and in many instances may become safety hazards. Local tournament managers should not permit these devices to be brought into the playing areas.

B. Tournament managers should not permit spectators to bring mechanical noise-making devices, megaphone, radios, or tape players into the playing area of the state tournament contest.

C. Video-taping will be allowed unless the videotape is being reviewed during the contest.

D. No alcoholic beverages shall be served at any IESA activity where there are students participating.

E. Prayer at an IESA state series contest that takes place over a public address system is prohibited.
F. Host schools should make every effort to accommodate the media.

G. **Cheerleaders**
   Due to space restrictions, cheerleaders are not permitted on the floor during the state series in wrestling.

**XI. AWARDS**

A. Plaques shall be awarded to the first place team at all regionals and to the first and second place teams at all sectionals. Duplicate awards will be made for tied team scores at regionals and/or sectionals, which should be ordered from the IESA Office by the host school.

B. Trophies shall be awarded to the first, second, third, and fourth-place winners in state final competition. In case of a tie, a flip of the coin shall determine which team takes the award and a duplicate shall be ordered for the other school.

C. Ribbons will be presented to the first, second, third, and fourth place winners in each weight division at each regional wrestling meet. **A medal will be presented to the first, second, and third place winners in each weight division at each sectional meet.** A ribbon will be presented to the fourth place winner in each weight division at each sectional wrestling meet. **A bracket board will also be given to each sectional and state champion.** Medals will be presented to the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth-place winners in each weight division in the boys state final wrestling meet. Thirty-eight (38) individual awards will be presented to the competitors of the first, second, third, and fourth place team winners at the state final competition.

**XII. OFFICIALS**

A. **It is required that member schools use Illinois High School Association officials licensed in wrestling for all regular season contests.** Coaches from participating teams should never be the contest officials.

B. Three officials shall be hired for all regional and sectional boys wrestling tournaments. The IESA Office shall contract the officials for the regional, sectional, and state final tournaments in wrestling.

C. Ten officials shall be hired to work the state wrestling finals.

D. Contest officials shall make all decisions regarding the rules of play. Their judgments and decisions cannot be protested.

F. Payment will be $160.00 at the regional level with no mileage. At the sectional level payment will be $150.00 with no mileage. Payment for the state finals will be $155.00 per day plus one night's lodging expense.

**2015-2016 IESA WRESTLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

- Shane Morgan, Oswego, Official (term expires 2017)
- Ed Bryson, Coach, Barrington Station (term expires 2016)
- John Schaidle, Coach, Eureka (term expires 2016)
- Kevin Hinkle, Coach, Auburn (term expires 2016)
- TJ Austin, Coach, Decatur Robertson (term expires 2017)

Please contact Mr. Endsley at the IESA Office if you are interested in serving a three year term on the advisory committee. There are currently 2 coaches opening on the committee.