



REPORTING TO THE MAT

DUAL MEETS

Official should check the weight class eligibility of all contestants prior to the beginning of the contest. Do this by comparing the names and weights of each contestant on the weigh-in sheet with the names entered in the official scorebook. Next, inform the scorekeeper that **no** name changes may be made without your approval. If you notice that an athlete is not eligible for a weight class, then report that to **both** head coaches. If you do not have the opportunity to verify weights prior to competition, then you **must** do it as the athletes report to the score table. Do not avoid this important procedure, even in a multiple dual tournament format. You will begin the check-in procedure by asking the scorekeeper which wrestler has to report first (determined by the pre-meet disk toss). Next, motion to the coaches/bench of that team to inform them that it is their wrestler who must report to the score table first. If a team intentionally delays sending their athlete to the table, it should be considered unsportsmanlike conduct on the head coach. When a contestant reports to the score table, have the athlete **give their full name** (first and last) to the scorekeeper. If you have not checked their weight-class eligibility yet, do so at that time. It is important that the wrestlers say their full name out loud, so there is no chance of miscommunication due to an inattentive or excited athlete. The scorekeeper should not say "Are you ---". If the athlete is not eligible for that weight class, call the coach to the table and explain the situation. This error can be corrected without penalty to the team or athlete (Rule 6-2-2), and that team may then send an eligible athlete to the table for that weight class. Once you have established that the athlete is eligible for the current weight class, and has reported in the correct sequence to the table as determined by pre meet disk toss, that wrestler may not be withdrawn or replaced without the team forfeiting that weight class. If that wrestler is withdrawn, that individual is also ineligible to compete in any other weight class during that dual. Once the first wrestler has checked in, motion for the next wrestler to report to the table and repeat the procedure as indicated above. If both athletes report to the score table at the same time, instruct the first wrestler to check in, while the second wrestler waits for his turn to do the same. Make sure you check them in according to the correct sequence. If you should inadvertently check them in using the **incorrect** sequence, the athlete that reported early may then be withdrawn or replaced without penalty to the team or the athlete. Once the second athlete has properly reported, he also may not be replaced or withdrawn without forfeiture as described above. Once the athletes have properly reported in the correct sequence, take both wrestlers to the center of the mat, at the same time, to avoid any potential delays or problems that might occur by sending them to the mat separately. If the coach accompanies the athlete to the score table to check in, that is acceptable, but, when you escort them to the center of the mat, they cannot go back to the coach. If they do, that is considered stalling. As they are going directly to the mat, a slap of a hand / back / buttocks is not considered a violation of this rule. They are supposed to report directly to the ten foot circle. As you are walking from the score table and near the 10 foot circle, you may say "*to the center*", "*cover your color*" or "*go to your start lines*" to signify that you want the wrestlers on their respective start lines. If the wrestlers do not go directly to their start lines when instructed, they will be warned for stalling. This is an issue that should be addressed in the pre-meet talk with each team, so that the expectations are clear and the procedure is followed by everyone. Once a wrestler enters the **28 foot** circle, if they leave for any reason without your permission, it is considered a technical violation, which is a one point penalty.

INVITATIONALS

Do not check in either wrestler until both athletes have reported to the table. Athletes have 5 minutes to report to the mat after they have been called to check in. Use the same procedure for checking in the wrestlers that is described above, but the athletes can report to the score table in any sequence. Once they have reported, the same above guidelines apply as they approach and enter the 28 foot circle. To prevent any potential problems, the official should escort both athletes to the center of the mat.

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