

## REGIONAL TOURNAMENT SEEDING

*These are the guidelines for seeding wrestlers in regional competition as well as other individual tournaments. This was taken directly from the 2009-10 winter season regulations on pages 50-52.*

### c. Regional Seeding Information and Procedures

1. Track Wrestling shall be used for seeding of all regional tournaments.
2. Materials to have on hand: Computer, projector and screen.
  - a. Tournament host should provide to all coaches a list of participants by weight, not by team, with their records. For example, all 103 pound wrestlers should be listed not alphabetically but according to their record, with the best winning percentage listed first and the one with the poorest record listed last.
3. When drawing a bracket, every wrestler shall be seeded and all seeds are placed on the bracket.
4. General considerations.
  - a. Do not start you meeting early unless all coaches are present and ready to start. The meeting must be conducted by a licensed WIAA wrestling official and they will have final authority.
  - b. The seeding meeting is a working session and attendance should be limited to coaches and at the host's option, working media. The seeding meeting should not be open to spectators.
  - c. Prior to the beginning of the meeting, the head official will meet with each head coach in confidence and they shall verify their contestants / wt. class. This means they may alter their line up in any manner as long as the wrestler is eligible for that weight class. Coaches may not request to see nor may the official divulge other school's lineup changes during this process.
  - d. Final line up changes will now be announced by the head official prior to the start of the seeding meeting.
  - e. Any ground rules to be used that are not already entered into track wrestling must be established by a simple majority vote of the head coaches present with the official voting if there is a tie.
  - f. All coaches may appeal for a specific seed by using the following mechanisms:
    1. The coach making the appeal shall make a statement regarding factual information indicating a seed is justified.
    2. Any head coach present may either support or make a statement of disagreement regarding the request. His opinions should also be limited to factual information.
    3. A simple majority vote of the head coaches present and voting will prevail (a coach does not need to vote). A tie vote means the appeal lost. The head official may not vote on such appeals.
  - g. The following ground rules should be the followed.
    1. Percentage win / loss records of a wrestler will be a basic consideration.
    2. All wrestlers are seeded. Those wrestlers with 10 or more matches will be seated first. Those with less then ten matches will be seeded immediately following.
    3. The following criteria should be used to calculate record percentages.
      - a. A wrestle may not assume losses in order to build up their record to the minimum number of 10.
      - b. Only varsity experience shall be counted. It is considered varsity competition if either wrestler is representing his varsity. All varsity experience shall be counted regardless of the weight class the record was earned at.
      - c. Matches won by a forfeit shall be included in the win record of a wrestler. This would not apply if the whole team won by a forfeit. For example, the opposing team did not show up for the contest. Forfeit losses caused by an earlier default in a tournament shall not be included on a wrestler's record unless he returns to competition in that tournament.
      - d. All byes in the championship bracket or consolation bracket received during regular season tournaments will count as wins if the wrestler won his next match in the bracket.
      - e. Wins and losses resulting from defaults shall be included in a wrestler's record.



## REGIONAL TOURNAMENT SEEDING (continued)

- c. 4. g. 4. A wrestler deserving a seed may not refuse nor request a lower seed (with the possible exception noted in 5c below).
- 5. If a percentage tie exists, and the wrestlers have not met earlier in the season, the wrestler with the greater number of total matches receives the higher seed.
- 6. If a percentage tie exists, and they have met earlier in the season, the outcome of that match will get the better seed. Also, if two wrestlers are consecutively seeded (such as 3 and 4) and they have met earlier in the season, the winner of that match will get the better seed.
- 7. Excuses for losses, such as illness, are NEVER to be considered.
- 8. The appeal mechanism as described above is always available.
- 9. All wrestlers in a bracket will be seeded and when byes exist, the highest seed(s) will receive bye(s).
- 5. Some additional considerations that may be considered through the appeal mechanism.
  - a. In cases where a wrestler has wrestled far fewer times than another wrestler in his weight class, his record need not be considered best. For example, an 18-3 record may be considered better than a 9-1.
  - b. The caliber of competition that a record has been established against may be considered. For example, some good records may have been earned at the expense of junior varsity caliber opposition.
  - c. The basic objective of seeding is to place the best wrestlers so that they will advance the furthest in the tournament before they meet. With this in mind, coaches present may, by simple majority vote, do virtually anything they wish. An example of a mechanism that may help resolve a difficult situation is the following: If in a given weight class, there is one wrestler who is clearly superior to all others, he should be given the number one seed. If the next three wrestlers are very close in ability, rather than place one of them in the same half-bracket with the outstanding wrestler, it would be permissible to place these wrestlers in the lower half-bracket. In effect what this does is to allow them to decide the second best wrestler by actually wrestling one another. It would be advisable to identify the number two seed so that he would be placed in the quarter-bracket of the lower half away from the number three and four seeds. Such procedure would, of course, be done by a simple majority vote of the head coaches present.
  - d. General seeding guidelines not using track wrestling (during the regular season, outside of regional competition).
    - 1. Refer to the general considerations in c4.
      - a. Modifications include:
        - 1. A simple majority vote by head coaches or the host school will determine the minimum matches necessary for a seed.
        - 2. All wrestlers may be seeded or records at .500 or better may be seeded.
        - 3. If .500 or better record is required, then seedable wrestlers will be seeded, byes will be drawn, then the unseeded wrestlers will be randomly drawn to fill in the remaining positions on the bracket.
        - 4. If all wrestlers are seeded, as in track wrestling, the highest seeded wrestler(s) will receive the byes.