



Missouri State High School Activities Association

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April 16, 2026

The MSHSAA Board of Directors took the following action on recommendations from the Wrestling Advisory Committee from the Winter 2026 meeting.

Approved:

- Recommend amending the district official's selection procedure language in the wrestling manual, Section 5, Item J. 2.B: A Wrestling official can be drafted to the district tournament with 1 "not recommended", so long as... (multiple schools/ certain percentage less than 50% 25%) that have submitted their official recommendations have "recommended" the same official.
- Recommend amending the language in Appendix E, Depth of Seeding language in the wrestling manual to read: The fewest number of wrestlers possible should be seeded. Seeding is to occur only when records and performances clearly indicate a justification for seeding. The minimum number of wrestlers to be seeded in any weight class shall be 4 or 50% of the announced entries, whichever is less. The maximum number of wrestlers to be seeded is 8. After entries are revealed at each weight class, coaches shall determine the number of wrestlers to be seeded. If necessary, coaches shall vote on the number of seeds.
- Add a procedure to district seeding criteria #12 in the wrestling manual under Seeding Criteria:

(#12 Criteria) If everything is still equal after having considered all of the above criteria, a vote of the coaches shall be taken. A coach's vote shall only break the tie for one seed, once the coach's vote breaks a tie or multiple way tie for that one seed position, the remaining wrestlers shall be then compared again for determining the next seed.

Procedure:

- Each coach shall speak about their wrestler's credentials.
 - An open vote of coaches shall be made for all wrestlers being considered. One vote per school. Each school must vote.
 - If tied, a secret ballot vote shall be taken.
 - If still tied AND only two wrestlers are being considered, a coin flip shall be conducted. The call will be made by the school whose name appears first in the alphabet. In odd years, A-Z, In even years, Z-A
- Recommend setting the maximum percentage of schools in class 1 Girls Wrestling to approximately 45%.

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- Amend the scratch meeting language to allow: If a seeded wrestler scratches from the tournament, the coach of the next available seed may challenge the higher seed at the Scratch Meeting.
- Recommend adding a setting in Track Wrestling to allow coaches to declare a minimum weight class for each wrestler. This will stop a wrestler's descent plan when it reaches the desired weight class

Tabled for Further Study:

- The Wrestling Advisory Committee acknowledges that the annual questionnaire sent to schools included a question regarding seeding for the state wrestling tournament. The committee would like to formally express its support for seeding the state wrestling tournament according to the guidelines outlined below:

At the conclusion of the district tournaments in all classes the 4 district champions from each class will be seeded using the MSHSAA/Track Wrestling district seeding program. The remainder of the bracket will be placed using a formula based on the result of the top 4 seeds (24 different formulas). All district champions will be on the opposite side of the bracket from the 2nd and 3rd place finisher from their respective district. The champion and 4th place finisher from the same district will be placed on the same side of the state bracket, but in different 1/4 brackets. In the first round of the state meet, the district champions will be paired with a 4th place wrestler from a different district, a 2nd place district finisher will be paired with a 3rd place wrestler from a different district.

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