

April 2, 2008

NIAA Wrestling Coaches Advisory Committee

Eddie Bonine, Executive Director of the NIAA
Mitch Domagala, Battle Mountain (2A Northern League representative)
Ben Fermon, Laughlin (2A Southern League representative)
Wade Pehrson, Spring Creek (3A Northern League representative)
Skyler Woods, Virgin Valley (3A Southern League representative)
Jeff Tomac, Reno (4A Northern Region representative)
Bob Clements, Coronado (4A Sunrise Region representative)
Tim Jeffries, Cimarron-Memorial (4A Sunset Region representative)
Dave Nevin, State Rules Interpreter for the NIAA
Jim Coverley, Weight Management Director for the NIAA
Donnie Nelson, Assistant Director of the NIAA
Jim Porter, CCSD Trainers Coordinator

MEETING MINUTES

The Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association's Wrestling Coaches Advisory Committee in charge of the Wrestling Policy Manual, met Tuesday, March 25 at the U.S. Bank Building (NIAA office) in Reno. The key discussion / review items included a thorough review of the NIAA's Wrestling Policy Manual and its incorporated Weight Management Program, various health-related concerns and the skin condition form, the extension of the season by one week, and the possibility of a 16-person state bracket.

NIAA Wrestling Policy Manual

The first proposal/draft for the 2008-2009 NIAA Wrestling Policy Manual, which is posted on www.niaa.com, wrestling main page, was reviewed.

It was suggested that a more complete definition of wrestling "***contacts***" be developed (pages 4 and 5).

It was agreed that a wrestler will have a "***three (3)-percent*** allowance for weight gain from their lowest recorded eligible weight class achieved with an official weigh-in" (Nevada Wrestling Weight Management Program, pages 4 and 9).

It was agreed that a wrestler will receive a two (2)-pound growth allowance after ***December 25*** – not January 1 – (pages 5 and 8).

It was agreed that the penalty for coaches who are unable to produce their NWCA pre-match weigh-in form and Alpha Master forms to the on-site official will be, in the second offense of the season, ineligible to participate in the next ***session*** (one round of weight classes, page 9).

It was agreed that a State of Nevada-licensed *athletic trainer* would be permitted to oversee (have authority) and rule on skin checks (page 12).

It was agreed that the Class 4A state bracket would be scored as a *16-person bracket*, thus incorporating the championship first round (pig-tail) and consolation first round matches in to the scoring program (as done by rule interpretation this past season, pages 22-23).

It was agreed that the dress code would read, “Coaches must dress in long pants (no jeans) and a school-issued collared shirt / coaching attire or dress shirt (the “and tie” was removed) for all sessions of post-season tournaments (page 25). The authority on the enforcement of this rule will revert to the NIAA representative on site.

NIAA Skin Form

Lengthy discussion centered around the skin condition form, the responsibility of the coach and student-athlete in getting medical clearance with regards to the form, the role of a Nevada-licensed / certified athletic trainer compared to a doctor and/or official’s judgment while on site, and the ethical responsibility of an opposing coach wishing to challenge (late report) a skin lesion on a wrestler.

Dave Nevin plans to contact the National Federation of State High School Associations’ (NFHS) Wrestling Rules Committee and proposed a change to effectively limit the power of the opposing coach to challenge a skin lesion during the actual meet (whereas it should have been noted by tournament/meet staff during weigh-ins).

State Meet Sites

It is the goal of the NIAA to conduct all three (Class 2A, 3A and 4A) state meets in one location over a two-day format. The Winnemucca Events Center will be used in 2009. The NIAA has begun the search for a Las Vegas-area site for 2010 and a Reno-area site for 2011.

Length of Season

The Committee endorsed the idea of expanding / lengthening the season by one week to accommodate league duals starting later (and providing more time for fall season athletes to transition into the winter wrestling season).

Official’s Rating & Evaluation System

It was suggested that the Northern Nevada Officials Association (NNOA), Southern Nevada Officials Association (SNOA) and Northeastern Nevada Officials Association (NENOA) all share their methods for evaluating of officials as those ratings help to determine those officials eligible (selected) to work post-season tournaments.