

WRESTLING

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WRESTLING

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

	Week/Day	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
First Allowable Practice	Monday, Week 20	November 15	November 14	November 13
First Allowable Contest	Monday, Week 22	November 29	November 28	November 27
SDHSAA No-Contact Winter Moratorium	December 23-26 Annually – No Competitions or Practices are Allowed			
Region Meet Completed by	Saturday, Week 33	February 19	February 18	February 17
State Meet/Season Ends	(Thurs)/Fri/Sat, Week 34	February 24-25-26	February 23-24-25	February 22-23-24

STATE TOURNAMENT DATES AND SITES

- 2022 Combined Class Wrestling Tournament at Sioux Falls, February 24-25-26
- 2023 Combined Class Wrestling Tournament at Sioux Falls, February 23-24-25
- 2024 Combined Class Wrestling Tournament at Rapid City, February 22-23-24

Participation in school activities teaches that it is a privilege and an honor to represent one's school. Interscholastic activities constitute a part of the right kind of "growing up" experiences for students. Participants learn to accept success and failures, gain poise and confidence, achieve tolerance and understanding of others and gain the self-satisfaction of accomplishing goals. Under a well-administered school program, students and spectators become better citizens through participation and observation of activities conducted under established rules. Please refer to the **Sportsmanship Section of the SDHSAA Athletic Handbook** for policies and statements concerning the following items:

- General Sports Objectives and Coaching Responsibility
- Fundamentals of Sportsmanship
- Racial Harassment, Violence and Taunting (See General Section)
- Athletic Code of Ethics
- Code of Sport Ethics for Coaches

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT TEAM AWARD

In an attempt to recognize the academic excellence of the athletic teams and fine arts groups in each school, the SDHSAA created the "Academic Achievement Team Award". The "Academic Achievement Team Award" is designed to recognize "varsity" level "teams" that achieve a combined GPA of 3.0 or higher.

For additional information about the "Academic Achievement Team Award", refer to the "Academic Achievement Team Award" section of either the ATHLETIC or FINE ARTS HANDBOOK.

RULE REVISIONS FOR THE 2021-22 SEASON

National Federation Rule Changes

1-4-3.4: Wrestler representation (SD Deviation)

4-4-1(a) & (b): New weight class options for state associations to pick from, including boys' and girls' divisions, Effective July 1, 2023

4-5-7: Removal of requirement on sock length at weigh-ins

5-1-3, 5-28, 6-4, 8-2: Updates on Head, Neck Cervical Time and administration of the time allowances as it relates to injury and blood time stoppages

South Dakota Rule Changes

1. After a one-year delay due to Covid, the SDHSAA will now follow the Optimal Performance Calculator format for weights during the season. Please see additional information released to SDHSAA.com website for full regulations.
2. Amended State Tournament Schedule
3. Girls Weight Classes established for 2021-22 season only: 106-113-120-126-132-142-154-170-190-285
4. Girls Team Championship will be conducted as part of the individual State Tournament beginning in 2021-22, placing eight individuals per weight class and top six teams; one classification of schools competing
5. Boys' Team Duals will be competed out to six places

CLASSIFICATION

The member schools of the South Dakota High School Activities Association are divided into two classes of Class "A" and Class "B" for Boys' Wrestling and Team Duals. "Class "A" shall be those schools with an ADM (9-11) of 225.000 and above. Class "B" includes all other schools.

GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Athletic Contest Contracts

According to Article VIII, Section 2 of the SDHSAA Constitution, all contests must be sanctioned by the Principal or Superintendent of the schools involved. It is recommended that athletic contest contracts, as furnished by the SDHSAA (located in the General Sport Information Section, forms GENERAL #2 and GENERAL # 3) be used for all levels of competition including regular season matches, as well as tournaments, triangulars, etc.

B. Sanction with Non-members

The SDHSAA will not sanction any games/matches with a college team, independent team, alumni team, or any other school team comprised of adults. Sanction will be approved with an unaccredited high school team provided the member school submits the appropriate form located in the sanctioning events section of the athletic handbook.

C. Wrestling Schedules and Weight Certification Forms are Due:

1. Wrestling Schedules must be completed online at www.sdhsaa.com under the School Zone Login. The online schedules need to be completed no later than October 1.
2. Weight Certification Forms must be filed with the SDHSAA Office no later than January 15.

D. Weight Classification

Competition for boys' individual competition and team duals will be in the following fourteen weight classes – 106, 113, 120, 126, 132, 138, 145, 152, 160, 170, 182, 195, 220 and 285.

Competition for girls' individual competition will be in the following ten weight classes – 106, 113, 120, 126, 132, 142, 154, 170, 190 & 285

Co-Ed Events are allowed to continue and may use either set of weight classifications as needed by tournament administration. Specifically, Region and State Events will use the prescribed classes, however.

E. Meet Limitation

1. All individual wrestlers are restricted to a maximum of 15 weigh-ins, regardless of the number of duals and/or tournaments or the level on which they occur (Varsity/JV/Freshman/Etc).
2. Wrestlers may not compete in more than the number of meets allowed a squad. Wrestlers, therefore, may not participate in more than 15 weigh-ins (duals/tournaments) regardless of the squad where participation occurs.
3. Wrestlers may not wrestle more than a total of 30 minutes, excluding overtime, in a single day. If a wrestler starts a match under the 30 minute limit, they will be allowed to finish the match. When two wrestlers meet in the consolation round of a tournament and both have already wrestled a maximum of 30 minutes, the wrestlers will split team points. (Example: if third place is to receive nine points and fourth is to receive seven, the two would split the total and each receive eight points.)

4. Exhibitions, default and forfeiture are considered competition.
5. A wrestler wrestling exhibition or receiving a forfeit or default in a preliminary or “JV” match is not eligible to compete in a varsity match in that same session.
6. If a wrestler weighs-in and does not wrestle or does not receive a forfeit at the match that night, the weigh-in does not count as one of the official weigh-ins.
7. **(New, 2019) Of the fifteen allowable weigh-ins for a competitor, up to three may be a “combination” weigh-in. Combination weigh-ins are specifically for events that include both individually-bracketed tournaments as well as dual/team competition either on the same date(s) or consecutive date(s). These combination weigh-ins would only count as one of the fifteen allowable weigh-ins for a competitor a maximum of three times during a single season. A fourth such combination event would constitute two weigh ins.**

F. Rules of Competition

Rules passed by the National Federation Wrestling Rules Committee and published by the National Federation of State High School Associations are the official wrestling rules for all SDHSAA schools except in cases modified by SDHSAA regulations.

G. Certification and Weight Eligibility (Updated 2020)

The SDHSAA will now follow the OPC calculator for determining a minimum certified weight, based upon a body fat and hydration test and specified descent plan. Please see additional information released to the SDHSAA.com website for full regulations of the use of this modified Weight plan.

H. Weigh-in Information

1. All contestants shall weigh in according to NFHS Rules/Regulations, including in legal uniform.
2. Time of weigh-in for dual meets (4 teams or less) shall be a maximum of one hour and a minimum of thirty minutes before the meet is scheduled to start. If a “sub-varsity” meet precedes the “varsity” meet, weigh-in starts one hour before scheduled start of “sub-varsity” meet and must end one-half hour before the “varsity” meet starts. All wrestlers, varsity and sub-varsity, must make weight during this period.
Supervision of weigh-in should be by the referee or other authorized person. Both teams shall be present and it is the responsibility of the visiting team to arrive at the scheduled time of the weigh-in. If the visiting team is late, the home team may start weigh-in at the scheduled time if the meet referee or a school official, not a coach, is present and conducts the weigh-in in person. The two coaches involved in a dual meet may conduct the weigh-in.
3. For regular season tournament competition (5 or more teams) teams will be allowed to weigh-in at home no earlier than 7:00 AM with the following exception: If departure is earlier than 7:00 AM weigh-ins can take place no earlier than one hour prior to departure.
4. Weigh-ins for the second day of a two-day tournament during the regular season will be conducted as follows: Teams traveling home after the first day will be allowed to weigh in at home no earlier than 7:00 AM or 1 hour prior to departure if departure is prior to 7:00 AM. Teams not traveling home and staying in a motel will be required to weigh in with the host school at the host site at a time designated by the host team management no earlier than 7:00 AM.
5. The weigh-in for regional and state tournaments must be conducted at the site of the tournament.
NOTE: During the regular season, sub-state and state tournament competition, weigh-ins for two-day tournaments will be conducted on each day of the tournament. A one-pound allowance is granted over the weight limit of the previous day.
6. Contestants may only compete at the weights in which their day-of weigh-in allows them to do so in accordance with the OPC rules and regulations. This includes that a wrestler may wrestle no more than one class above where their weight qualifies them at via weigh-ins, and at no time may a wrestler compete at a weight class for which they have yet to qualify by OPC rules.
7. Meets may be wrestled on consecutive days. A one pound allowance shall be given to a team that wrestles on consecutive days whether it is dual to dual, dual to tournament, or tournament to tournament, even though some members of the team may not have wrestled. Their opponent(s) in the second meet shall also be given the one pound allowance. A team wrestling on consecutive days must notify their opponent(s) forty-eight hours in advance so they can plan on the allowance. If a team wrestles on a Saturday and again the following Monday, Sunday will be treated as a dead day, and a one pound allowance for consecutive days competition will be allowed. A maximum of two pounds may be granted for consecutive days’ competition.
NOTE: A team receiving a one pound allowance is based on that same level of competition. Wrestler(s) who wrestle on a Junior Varsity team one day and the varsity team the following day does not warrant the granting of the additional pound. From a varsity match to a varsity match on consecutive days does permit the giving of an additional pound to that team and its opponent.
8. In the event a regular season scheduled dual match or tournament is postponed/canceled due to inclement weather, school closing, or any other Act of God, the extra pound allowance for a match or tournament scheduled for the next day, shall be permitted provided participating schools have been given a 48 hour notice. The acceptable person(s) to receive that notice shall be the head coach, principal or athletic director.

9. Competitions that are postponed for one calendar day or more, for reasons beyond the control of the participating school(s), or practices that can not be held in these situations due to school policy shall be treated the same as competitions when there are consecutive days of competition in terms of the one pound allowance, with the exception of the required 48 hour notice.
10. A two pound growth allowance will be granted on December 25.
11. If a team wrestles multiple duals in one day only one weigh-in is required. A copy of the original weigh-in must be presented at the scheduled site and time of the second weigh-in, should one exist. A wrestler not participating in the first dual must have been weighed at the first weigh-in or he must weigh-in at the second.

I. SDHSAA Forms

1. Updated, 2020. All Weights must be tracked for all competition within TrackWrestling and the NWCA/OPC system. Further information, including a tutorial, shall be featured on the SDHSAA website prior to the start of each year's season.

J. Wrestling Scale Certification

1. The accuracy of each school's wrestling scales must be checked annually for use by a licensed individual as below.
2. The Department of Public Safety Office of Weights and Measures will assist with the certification of the scales. The service does not include any scale repair. For scale repair, it is the responsibility of the school to contact a certified scale service and have the scale re-inspected after repairs are complete.
When purchasing new scales, the only scales that the Department of Public Safety will "certify" are those that have a Certificate of Conformance from the National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP). Many medical scales do not meet these standards. NTEP scales are often identified as "Legal for Trade". Weights and measures Inspectors or the Office of Weights and Measures may be able to assist you in determining whether a scale has an NTEP certificate. If you choose a scale without NTEP certification, the scale cannot be used for competition, as per administrative rule they cannot be certified any longer.
3. Weights and Measures Inspectors will certify and seal those scales determined to be accurate and consistent with current government and industry standards. ONLY Scales that have been "calibrated and placed into service" by a registered service agent or "certified and sealed" by the State of South Dakota may be used for weigh-ins for high school competition.

K. Licensed Officials Mandatory

1. Only "Registered" or "Certified" officials may be used in interschool varsity wrestling competition. No official shall be eligible to officiate in any interschool varsity wrestling contests unless (s)he is licensed by the SDHSAA Office and has completed all requirements of registration for wrestling.
2. Officials from Minnesota, North Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, Wyoming, and Montana must have received reciprocity with South Dakota to be eligible to officiate interschool varsity wrestling matches in South Dakota.
3. The SDHSAA office publishes a list of all "registered" and "certified" wrestling officials along with a listing of all "out-of-state" officials.

L. Head Coaches Must Complete On-line Rules Meetings and Pass Open Book Test

1. All head coaches in South Dakota high school sports programs must complete an on-line rules meeting in their sport(s). In addition to completing the on-line rules meeting, each head coach must complete and pass the on-line open book test in the sport.
2. The Board of Directors has adopted the following penalty code for non-compliance of this policy:
A fine of \$50.00 will be assessed against the member school if the head coach fails to complete an online rules meeting and complete and pass an online open book test. If the head coach fails to complete both requirements, the fine will be \$75.00.

M. Collaboratives/Practice Co-Ops (NEW 2016). Schools may now form a "practice co-op" or "collaborative" with another member school, due to demonstrated need by way of lack of facilities, lack of coaching staff or lack of participant numbers. No more than five wrestlers from the "satellite" school who demonstrates the need, grades 7 through 12, may participate in the collaborative. The school requesting the collaborative will be seen as its own entity for competition, although coaches or facilities may be shared. For full information, please see the Co-Operative Agreement section of the SDHSAA Handbook.

TOURNAMENT ADMINISTRATION AND REGULATIONS

A. Official Tournament Management Program

Each region must use TrackWrestling as its program for tournament management software. The program is completely web-based and accessible through www.trackwrestling.com. This tournament management program will automatically communicate results to the SDHSAA and State Tournament hosts. Regions are responsible for staffing the tournament management software, while the SDHSAA will cover the expense of licensure and obtain the program rights for each region.

UPDATE – 2018: Schools & Coaches are responsible to ensure that accurate information is entered in the TrackWrestling system in accord to a system of deadlines established by the SDHSAA. Those deadlines are as follows:

By December 15 th	All Competition Results through	December 1 st must be entered online in TrackWrestling.
By January 1 st	All Competition Results through	December 15 th must be entered online in TrackWrestling
By January 15 th	All Competition Results through	January 1 st must be entered online in TrackWrestling
By February 1 st	All Competition Results through	January 15 th must be entered online in TrackWrestling
By Region Meet Seeding Meeting	All Competition Results through	The Entire Regular Season must be entered online in TrackWrestling

B. Each Region will Conduct Their Own Tournament

NOTE: Only Boys' individual competitions will be part of region competition. Girls' Qualifying and Team Dual qualifying will be described later in this handbook.

1. Committees: A Committee is to be formed within each region with each school having the opportunity to designate an administrative staff member (superintendent, principal, athletic/activities director) who is not coaching wrestling to represent their school on the committee.
2. A committee chairperson (superintendent, principal, athletic/activities director) is to be elected and each committee shall function following generally accepted Rules of Order. The region chairperson must be currently employed as an administrative staff member from a region member school. Minutes shall be kept of each meeting with a distribution made to each school represented on a timely basis.
3. A description of the duties and responsibilities of the region committees may be found in the general section of the Athletic Handbook.
4. All schools participating in the meet/tournament shall be notified as to time and place of any meetings.
5. The current region chairperson must submit to the SDHSAA Office the name of the individual that will be the chairperson for the following year. This notification, along with an indication of the date and site should be made prior to May 1. If a committee chair can not be named for the following year, the committee must designate a school and administrative position that will assume the chairmanship duties. Failure to name either an individual or a school, including the designated administrative position, for the chair will result in naming the current chairperson as the chair for the following year. If the above information is not supplied to the SDHSAA Office by May 1, a \$50.00 fine will be assessed against the region not in compliance. Fines will be assessed for the ensuing school year. The new region committee is responsible for payment.
6. **Input of Coaches** - All committees are required to give coaches an opportunity to have input to the committee prior to any decision making by the committee.
7. Financial Report:
 - a. Sub-State Ticket prices
 - i. Students - \$4.00
 - ii. Adults - \$7.00
 - iii. Failure to charge the correct prices will result in the participating schools making up the financial shortage
 - b. Not later than one week after the completion of the tournament, the Committee Chairman shall complete a financial report and submit it to the Finance Director of the SDHSAA on forms provided by the SDHSAA office.
 - c. Forty percent of the gross receipts of all Class "B" and "A" Region Tournaments shall be forwarded to the SDHSAA office for deposit in the general treasury of the Association.
 - d. Both receipts and disbursements are to be run through a regular school account or a school activity account.
8. There are to be no matches conducted the day or night prior to the region wrestling tournaments.

C. Appeal and Grievance Procedure for Region Committees

1. If at all possible, the committee shall solve its own problems and make its own decisions.
2. Protests based upon a challenge to the interpretation given to a contest regulation or administrative ruling thereon must be submitted in writing within 24 hours after the contest, to the chairman of the region committees. The committee shall render its decision promptly to the Executive Director of the Association, and shall notify the protester, by telephone, to be followed by a written notice of its decision sent by email or mail to the protester. An appeal from the decision of the region committee shall go directly to the Board of Directors. The decision of the Board of Directors shall be final. The appeal must state the decision of the region committee and the basis for the request to overrule that decision.
3. Part V, Section 1 of the SDHSAA Constitution and By-Laws states, "**Decisions of the Judges.** Judges' decisions in any contest are by their nature necessarily regarded as final and shall not be considered as the basis for protest."

D. Withdrawal from Region Meet

Should a school find it necessary to withdraw from a qualifying meet after filing an intent to participate, such school shall notify the committee chairman of its withdrawal by a predetermined date established by the committee. Failure to supply such a notice makes the school responsible for its share of the expenses of the meet. If a school finds itself unable to give notice of withdrawal before the deadline because of weather conditions, the illness of contestants, or some other act of God, release from this responsibility may be obtained by filing a report of the circumstances with the Executive Director of the Association.

E. Tournament Entries/Seeding (REVISED 2016)

1. **(NEW: 2018):** Each region is responsible for their own seeding and draw process. Final entries for Region competition are due at 9:00 AM CT on the Thursday of Region Tournament weekend, regardless of the date of the event, and must be entered into TrackWrestling. The only movement of wrestlers allowed after this deadline will be for documented injury or illness. In order for entered wrestlers entered to be moved between weight classes, a documented injury/illness must exist.
2. Region Chairman will have the wrestling weight certification sheets of schools in their tournament sent to them from the SDHSAA Office prior to tournament time for verification of each competitors certified weight. This should be done prior to creating brackets.
2. Tournament Brackets:
 - a. When the number of competitors is not a power of two - that is 4, 8, 16, there shall be byes in the first round.
 - b. The number of byes shall be equal to the difference between the number of competitors and the next high power of two.
 - c. Each bracket is to be considered individually because in an eight team tournament, there could be weight classes that have four or less contestants. If this is the case, there will be no first round byes and the wrestlers would automatically be placed in the semi-finals.
 - d. No quarter-bracket shall have more than one bye in excess of its paired bracket.
3. REGION Seeding and Drawing Rules (**Updated 2017**):
 - a. **UPDATED, 2020:** If it is determined that there should be wrestlers seeded in a given weight class, there will be a minimum of **five** and a maximum of six wrestlers seeded for an eight-man bracket. If a sixteen-man bracket is to be used, a minimum of **five** a maximum of eight wrestlers may be seeded.
 - b. All non-seeded wrestlers will draw for bracket positions.
 - c. The entire season varsity record is to be used for seeding, regardless of the weight class. This would include out-of-state and tournament matches.
 - d. Forfeits will count as wins. Defaults and disqualifications will count as wins and/or losses. In Tournament competition, should a wrestler choose not to compete against an opponent in any round, it will count as a forfeit and therefore a loss.
 - e. Byes do not count as wins.
 - f. Contestants must have a minimum of eight matches actually wrestled at the weight class in which they are entered for competition at the Region Meet in order to be considered for seeding. Any injury, illness, or ineligibility will not alter the above rule. This minimum number may be reduced provided committee members and head coaches in a Region vote by majority to do so.
 - g. The following criteria will be used to seed wrestlers for the Region Tournaments (listed in priority order):
 - 1) Head to Head Competition – If two wrestlers have wrestled more than once and one has a better record against opponent, the higher seed goes to the wrestler with the most wins. If two wrestlers have identical records against each other the higher seed goes to the wrestler with the most recent win.
 - 2) Record against common opponents – TrackWrestling default Common criteria shall be used
 - 3) Returning state place winner at any weight (order of place).
 - 4) Returning region place winner at any weight (order of place).
 - 5) Wrestler who earned state/region place at the weight class nearest to the one being considered.
 - 6) Winning percentage – percentages recorded in thousands (no rounding).
 - 7) Coin flip.If more than two wrestlers are being considered, return to the top of the criteria with the remaining wrestlers once a seed has been awarded or a wrestler eliminated from contention for that given seed.
 - h. Procedure for seeding and drawing for eight-man bracket:
 - 1) Place number 1 seed on line one.
 - 2) Place number 2 seed on line eight.
 - 3) Place number 3 seed on line five.
 - 4) Place number 4 seed on line four.
 - 5) If there is a number 5 seed, it should be placed on line 3 or drawn for line 2, 3, 6 or 7 depending on the wishes of the committee.

- 6) Draw line numbers for BYES (if needed). Byes will be distributed evenly between each half-bracket.
- 7) Seeded wrestlers will have the same opportunity to draw a bye as any other wrestler.
- 8) Draw line numbers for the remaining wrestlers in order on entry list.

F. Substitutions

In the Region Tournaments substitutions may be made after the seeding and drawing meeting, up until weigh-in time ends, provided the substitution is requested because of illness, injury, or disciplinary action.

No substitution is permitted for a wrestler who does not make weight.

- a. For illness or injury, the substitution will be permitted only if a doctor's written excuse or a written excuse signed by a school administrator is submitted to the Committee in charge.
- b. For disciplinary action, the substitution will be permitted only if the reasons are verified in writing, by the school's administration.
- c. The substitute designated to replace his teammate will do so in the position of the original draw unless the substitute is replacing a "seeded" wrestler, whereby there shall be a re-seeding and re-drawing of that weight class.

NOTE: If there is not a substitute designated to replace a teammate who is a "seeded wrestler" there also shall be a re-seeding and re-drawing of that weight class. **Any re-draw eliminates positions established in a previous draw.**

- d. If an athlete is entered at the seeding meeting and fails to meet the requirements following weigh-ins (illness, injury, not making weight, etc.) and there is no replacement, the open spot becomes a forfeit not a bye. Byes will only be used if no wrestler is actually entered during the seeding meeting.

G. Injury or Illness of a Contestant After Weigh-ins End

1. A contestant suffering injury or illness following weigh-ins and prior to their first match may default their match in the first round and go into the consolation round.
2. A forfeit or default because of an injury or illness which occurs in a previous round does not eliminate a contestant from further competition.

H. Weigh-in

1. For Region competition the weigh-in shall be at the tournament site a maximum of three hours and a minimum of one-half hour before the first session each day.
2. For those who have a two day tournament, there shall be a one pound allowance granted on the second day over the weight limit of the previous day.
3. Any contestant failing to make weight during the time period allotted for weigh-ins shall be ineligible for the weight class in which he is entered and also any of the other weight classes.
4. For the State Tournaments the weigh-ins shall be at the tournament site in conjunction with each days' competition in a matter determined by the site host and SDHSAA staff. A one pound allowance is granted for the second days competition over the weight limit of the previous day. A two pound allowance is granted for the third day of competition.
5. Medical personnel (doctor, certified athletic trainer, PA, etc.) must be present at all post season weigh ins to conduct the skin check.

I. Late Arrivals for Weigh-ins

Contestants who arrive late (after the close of official weigh-ins) for a Region or State Tournaments due to an "Act of God" (including inclement weather), may be weighed in and declared eligible to participate provided the reason for the late arrival is approved by the Tournament Committee and the following stipulations are met.

1. A late wrestler must be weighed in, dressed in wrestling uniform and appear at the designated mat, ready to wrestle, within five minutes after his match has been called, in order to compete.
2. A late wrestler who should not only miss weigh-ins but also first round competition would be eligible for the consolation round provided he makes weight prior to his assigned match being called.

J. Tournament Advancement

1. Four from each weight class shall advance from the Region Tournaments (Class "A" and "B") to the State Tournament.

K. Scoring – Updated 2019

1. **(New – 2019) Six** places in each weight class will be scored in Region competition. Scoring will be as follows:
 - First place - 16 points
 - Second place - 12 points
 - Third place – 9 points
 - Fourth place - 7 points
 - Fifth place – 5 points
 - Sixth place – 3 points
2. Eight places in each weight class will be scored at the State Tournament. Scoring will be as follows:
 - First place - 16 points

L. Overtime Matches

Winners of overtime matches shall be determined by procedure listed in the NFHS Rule Book.

M. Awards

1. State Tournament. Team awards will be presented to the top six teams. Trophies will be presented to the champion and runner-up teams with plaques presented to the next four teams. Medals are awarded to the top eight places for each weight class and for each member of the top 6 teams. Board of Directors Members will personally present all individual and team awards.
2. The SDHSAA has an agreement to provide all medals and plaques, and will order all medals and plaques for all region meets. Two Plaques (Champion & Runner-up) will be awarded at each region tournament. Medals will be awarded to the top four individuals in each weight class, and the top two teams. Orders will be sent directly to region chairman by the companies. Region committees will be expected to pay for all awards presented.
3. Any individual winning an award must be dressed in school issued uniform/warm-up, or appropriate civilian attire (participant has completed his event earlier) in order to receive said award during a public awards ceremony. The wearing of "caps" or "hats" during an awards ceremony is not appropriate attire.

N. Officials

1. Only certified officials are eligible to officiate sub-state and state athletic tournaments, including any certified official with an out-of-state address/residency, provided the registration is specific to the SDHSAA.
2. Chairmen of Region Tournaments are requested to forward the names of the officials contracted to work their tournament. The SDHSAA office staff will check to see that each of the officials has fulfilled the necessary requirements.
3. Assistant Referees - The SDHSAA recommends the use of Assistant Referees as much as possible during the sub-state tournaments, especially during the semi-final and final matches.
4. Selection of State Wrestling Tournament officials information will be conducted in accord with the SDHSAA Officials Handbook.

O. Cheerleaders Rules

Cheerleaders, for their protection, are requested to take a position off the mat and at a distance that will not interfere with the wrestlers or the official(s). Because the number of teams and individual athletes in a limited space makes safe stunting difficult to perform, cheerleaders will not be allowed except during the finals matches of the State Tournament.

P. Signs & Banners

The displaying of signs, banners or placards at the State Wrestling Tournament is prohibited. Local managers will be instructed to not permit these items to be brought into the arenas. Exception: Banners and/or signs displayed by the SDHSAA, Radio and Television stations, and management signs are approved.

Q. Videotaping Policy

Please refer to the General Section of the Athletic Handbook.

State BOYS & GIRLS INDIVIDUAL Tournament

A. BOYS Format

1. At the State Tournament a Double Elimination format with multiple mats used as necessary.
2. **UPDATED - 2018:** Beginning with the 2016-17 SDHSAA State Tournament, wrestlers will be seeded for competition by the Wrestling Advisory Committee and their designees. Ten wrestlers in each weight class will be seeded, and each Region Champion is guaranteed to be given one of these top-ten seeds, regardless of any other criteria. Wrestlers will be seeded using the criteria as listed in the "Region Tournament" section of this handbook, with the following exceptions:
 - a. Region Champions are guaranteed a top-ten seed
 - b. After "Head-to-Head" and "common opponents" are evaluated, "Current Year, Region Place" shall be considered prior to other criteria.Additionally, once the ten seeded wrestlers have been established, a draw will be conducted to place the remaining six qualifying wrestlers. Two wrestlers from the same region will be allowed to match up with one another during the first round of competition.
3. **NEW, 2017, UPDATED 2019:** The committee reserves the right to reseed/redraw a bracket if a forfeit occurs within the top eight seeds prior to the start of State Tournament competition. Should a wrestler, for any reason (weight, injury or illness) become unable to compete at the first day of competition prior to the conclusion of weigh-ins, an alternate wrestler will be selected from the pool of fifth-place region finishers. This alternate will be determined by comparing the four fifth-place region wrestlers using the SDHSAA State Seeding criteria.

3. **NEW, 2016** – The SDHSAA and South Dakota Public Broadcasting will conduct a “fan vote” via social media to determine the order of the Individual Championship matches. Fans, coaches, athletes and the general public will have the ability to cast their vote for which match will be featured as the final match of the night for each Class ‘A’ and Class ‘B.’ For example, if the 145-pound match is selected as the final match of the night, wrestling for that class will begin at 152-pounds.

B. GIRLS Format

1. A double-elimination format with multiple mats used as necessary will be utilized to conduct the tournament.
2. 16 Female competitors will be selected based upon coaches’ entries into the SDHSAA seeding formula as listed in above boys’ format section. Based on that seeding information, up to 16 competitors will be selected, no more than one per school/team, to each of the 10 weight classes.
 - a. Should More than 16 competitors be entered into a weight class for consideration/selection, only the top 16 will be selected, seeded, and placed into a 16-man bracket. There will be *no* alternates.
 - b. Should between 9 and 15 (inclusive) wrestlers be entered into a weight class for consideration/selection, all will be selected for the State Tournament, and placed into a 16-man bracket, half of the wrestlers will be seeded, and byes drawn in.
 - c. Should 6, 7, or 8 wrestlers be entered into a weight class for consideration/selection, all will be selected for the State Tournament and placed into an eight-man bracket. Half of the bracket will be seeded, with the rest, and byes, drawn in.
 - d. Should 5 or fewer wrestlers be entered into a weight class for consideration/selection, all will be selected for the State Tournament and placed into a Round-Robin tournament.
3. A re-seed/re-draw will take place if a forfeit occurs within the seeded wrestlers prior to the start of competition.

C. Passes and Complimentary Tickets at State Tournament

Passes will be distributed in accord with current SDHSAA Board of Directors policy, as found in the General Section of the Athletic Handbook. Additionally, floor-passes will only be provided to those coaches who have completed the Coaching Education Requirements and are listed on the SDHSAA website for that team’s official roster.

D. State Tournament Reserved Seat Ticket Information – Combined Tournament, Sioux Falls-Rapid City

1. Member School Pre-Sale Ticket Orders
 - a. Only all-tournament tickets will be sold in advance.
 - b. Tickets for the Combined Tournament will be sold only by the host venue. Ticket Order forms will be sent to Member Schools in the first two weeks of January. There is no limit on the number of adult or student all-tournament tickets a school can purchase.
 - c. Each school order must be accompanied by a check or money order made payable to the host venue for the exact amount of the order.
 - d. The deadline for School Orders to be received by the host venue is February 1. Any orders received after that point will be filled in the order they are received and potentially mixed in with general public sales.
 - e. There are NO REFUNDS on ticket orders
2. General Public Pre-Sale Orders
 - a. The general public is encouraged to make their orders through their local school district to ensure they receive priority seating for the Tournament.
 - b. Members of the general public not ordering tickets through their school may contact the host site directly or purchase tickets online beginning on or around February 1.
 - c. As with the school orders, there are NO REFUNDS on any tickets purchased.
3. Ticket Prices will reflect the current prices approved by the SDHSAA Board of Directors.
4. Ticket Specifications:
 - a. All adults will be required to purchase a reserved seat ticket good for seating as assigned to gain entry.
 - b. Students wishing to sit with their school/parent groups must purchase a reserved seat ticket.
 - c. Discounted student tickets will be for seating in specified sections separate from team personnel.
 - d. Student Tickets are good for those in Grades 1-12. Kindergarten or younger are admitted free, but not necessarily provided a seat in the reserved section without a ticket. College students are considered adults and must purchase an adult ticket to gain entry.
 - e. Tickets may be purchased on the day of the event. Doors will open 90 minutes prior to the first session on Friday and 60 minutes prior to each of the remaining sessions.

E. Team Expenses

Each school shall pay the entire expenses of its contestants at the State Meet. Schools will receive partial reimbursement by the SDHSAA. Please refer to the General Section of the Athletic Handbook for an explanation of the amount to be reimbursed.

F. Coaches Conduct and Dress

Coaches are asked to dress appropriately (comfortable, but not sloppy; no hats, t-shirts, denim jeans, or sweat pants). Coaches are in the spotlight, not a fan in the stands. (BOD’s action: April, 2008)

State DUAL Tournament

A. Format & Qualifying Procedures (New 2019)

1. The State Dual Tournament will be run in conjunction with the State Individual Tournament annually over a three-day period as illustrated in the below tournament time schedule.
2. On an annual basis, all teams will be considered for participation in the Dual Championships. There is no longer an opportunity to “opt out” of the event other than by way of competing in less than the required number of duals.
 - a. Teams will need to have the entirety of their DUAL schedule posted to the SDHSAA.com website by no later than December 1st. No further events can be added to the schedule after that date, and only SDHSAA-office approved changes may be made to the schedule without a win/loss/forfeit being awarded.
 - b. Teams must compete in a minimum of eight regular-season varsity duals to be considered as eligible for the SDHSAA State Dual Championships.
3. To determine the eight qualifying dual teams for each classification, the SDHSAA Seed Point Formula will be utilized for all regular season duals.
 - a. All SDHSAA teams will report all regular season DUAL results against teams from either South Dakota or a state contiguous to South Dakota to the SDHSAA website to establish accurate team records. Result reporting will simply be an indication of “Win” or “Loss” of any/all direct team dual competition, both those that are singularly scheduled, as well as those as part of a team-bracket tournament.
 - b. Seed points will be awarded according to the following criteria based upon records of schools involved in dual competition: Seed points will be awarded based upon opponent’s win percentage as shown in the chart below.

*Win percentage = number of varsity dual wins divided by the number of varsity dual matches contested.

Opponent’s DUAL Winning Percentage	Points for Win	Points for Loss
.750 and above	50	39
.500 - .749	47	36
.250 - .499	44	33
.249 and below	41	30

1. No points are deducted for wrestling teams which are classified below your classification.
 2. No additional points are awarded for wrestling teams which are classified above your classification.
 3. No duals against non-varsity opponents will count toward seed points
 4. A team’s seed point average will be determined by dividing the total number of seed points earned by the total number of duals wrestled against varsity opponents, regardless of the opponent’s classification.
4. **Updated, 2020:** To determine the eight teams in the State Dual, the top ten teams by seed point will be evaluated for qualification. Evaluation will be done by criteria in order, such as individuals are determined. Qualifications will be, in order: Head-to-Head, Common Opponents, Power Point Average, Last year’s place @ State Duals, Last year’s place @ State Individual, Coin Flip.
 5. Should a tie exist for the tenth qualifying spots for a top-eight seeding, the following criteria shall be applied to break the tie (if multiple teams are tied, items a through e shall be used in consecutive order to break the tie either positively or negatively, and the remaining teams will then be re-evaluated beginning with “a”):
 - a. If teams have identical point averages and are tied for one of the qualifying seeds, direct head-to-head competition in duals would be used to separate the tie. If teams have met multiple times, the higher winning percentage will determine the head-to-head winner.
 - b. Total Opponent’s Dual Winning Percentages (All opponents team dual wins divided by all opponents team dual matches)
 - c. Team with the lowest average number of forfeits per dual (The team with the fewest forfeits on average in regular season duals shall get the seed)
 - d. Team with the highest average team points in all regular season varsity duals
 - e. Coin flip
 6. In order to qualify for, medal and place at the State Dual Team Championships, teams must be able to fill:
 - a. Ten of the fourteen weight classes in Class A in all State Championship Dual Matches
 - b. Eight of the fourteen weight classes in Class B in all State Championship Dual Matches
 7. Eight teams will qualify for the quarterfinal round of team dual competition. Four teams will qualify for the semifinals and consolations semifinals. A State Championship, Third Place and Fifth Place match will be held for each classification, with awards being presented to all four teams who advance to those matches.

State Wrestling Tournament Time Schedule – Updated for 2021-22

Thursday - First Session		
6:30 AM	Weigh Ins	
9:00 AM	First Round Matches	All Ten Mats
Thursday - Second Session		
3:00 PM	1 st Round Consolation & Quarterfinal Matches	Bouts scheduled to “next available mat” as possible
to follow	2 nd Round Consolation	All Ten Mats
Friday - First Session		
6:30 AM	Weigh Ins	
9:00 AM	Semifinals & 3 rd Rd Consolation	Consolation on “outside” mats, Semi's on Inside 3 Mats
to follow	4 th Round Consolation Matches	All Ten Mats
Friday - Second Session		
3:00 PM	Place Matches (no face-offs/intros)	All Ten Mats
to follow	Championship Matches	Three Mats - Match order determined by fan vote
Saturday - Single Session		
8:30 AM	Weigh Ins	
11:00 AM	Quarterfinal Duals	Eight Mats
15 min after	Semifinal Duals	Four Mats
15 min after	Championship/3rd Place Duals	Four Mats

GIRLS WRESTLING:

SDHSAA Wrestling began a Girls’ Division in 2020-21. The above-mentioned handbook information applies to our female competitors in whole, save for the following exceptions and notices.

1. Girls are allowed to compete through the regular season as their local school sees fit. It is recommended by the SDHSAA that schools look to develop weight classes and pairings for events by actual competitors entered and their individual weights (much as exhibition/sub-varsity matches are conducted currently) as opposed to a formalization of classes, for both Individual and Team events.
2. During the postseason, girls are no longer able to compete in the boys’ division of the individual tournament by SDHSAA By-Law. Girls can continue to compete in the Team Dual portion of competition, however, through the duration of the postseason, as there is not a Girls’ Dual Championship sponsored by the SDHSAA.