

MISSOURI USA WRESTLING

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

I. STATE FOLK-STYLE TOURNAMENT TEAM AFFILIATION AND POINTS

- A. All USA WRESTLING competitor membership cards, USA WRESTLING Coach's cards, and USA WRESTLING club charter applications must be purchased in Missouri, from MISSOURI USA WRESTLING, by February 15th, in determination of team points at the State Folk-Style Championships.
 - 1. For a wrestler to be considered eligible for club affiliation, competitor registration must be received in the state office prior to February 15th. The wrestler may still qualify for the state tournament, however they must enter as unaffiliated (UNA) and any team points earned are considered void.
 - 2. All club charter applications must be received in the state office prior to February 15th. Applications received after this date will still be processed, however the club will not be recognized as a chartered club and will not be eligible to receive any team points or awards.

II. TERMINATION OF WRESTLING/COACHING/CLUB MEMBERSHIP

- A. In the event that a club is found to be in violation of any by-law or rule of MISSOURI USA WRESTLING, the state chairperson will notify the club in writing, within thirty days of the violation, to notify them of the infraction. Depending on the severity of the violation, the penalty could result in a reprimand, suspension of club charter until the violation is rectified or immediate expulsion of that club for the remainder of the year. The Executive Council has final authority of any penalty. The penalized club will have the right to appeal any penalty, as outlined in Article II, Section II-D of the By-Laws.
- B. In the event that a coach is charged with misconduct, or ejected, from any sanctioned tournament, the tournament host is required to file a written report with the State Chairperson. Upon receipt, the State Chairperson will notify the coach and club in writing. The State Chairperson will also forward the report to the Coaches Council for discipline. The discipline could include a reprimand, suspension of all coaching privileges, or expulsion from MISSOURI USA WRESTLING, depending on the severity of the offense. Any coach ejected from a tournament will automatically receive at least a one-week suspension. Further penalties will be based on the severity of the incident. The penalized coach does have the right of appeal as outlined in Article II, Section II-D of the By-Laws.
- C. In the event that a wrestler is charged with misconduct, or ejected, from a sanctioned tournament, the tournament host is required to file a written report with the State Chairperson. Upon receipt, the State Chairperson will notify the wrestler and their club in writing. The State Chairperson will then forward the report to the Board of Directors for discipline. The discipline

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could include a reprimand, suspension of the competitor's card, or expulsion from MISSOURI USA WRESTLING, depending on the severity of the violation. The penalized wrestler has the right of appeal as outlined in Article II, Section II-D of the By-Laws.

- D. Members of Missouri USA Wrestling may report violations and misconduct in writing to the Missouri USA Wrestling office. Such reports must first be reviewed by the Board of Directors. If the reported violation appears to be supported by sufficiently credible information, the Board of Directors will authorize an official investigation of the reported violation. The complaint must be submitted in writing (i.e. fax, email, or letter) with the individual or club's name sufficiently identified so that it may be verified by the Missouri USA Wrestling office. Any reports that are anonymous will only be forwarded to the individual or club administrator of the club in question with no further action to be taken. The penalized party does have the right of appeal as outlined in Article II, Section II-D of the By-Laws.

III. AGE AND OUT-OF-STATE WRESTLERS POLICY

Wrestlers will compete in the age division that they are in as of December 31st. A wrestler, who is 12 years old on December 31st, will wrestle at the district tournament in the 12 and under age bracket, etc. Absolutely no 6 and under wrestlers shall compete in the state tournament series. No high school students, regardless of age, may wrestle in the folk style season. Fifteen year olds may participate only if they have not reached 15 on, or before, December 31st of that tournament series year and if they are not in high school. Furthermore, only wrestlers who reside in the State of Missouri are eligible to enter into the state tournament series. No out-of-state wrestlers may compete in the district tournament, no exceptions. Wrestlers may be required to verify their in-state residence.

IV. COACHES CERTIFICATION AND COACHES CARD

All coaches shall be required to be certified at least at the copper level in order to purchase a coaches card at \$40.00. This certification will be required annually, at seminars conducted by MISSOURI USA WRESTLING throughout the state. Only coaches who have purchased cards from MISSOURI USA WRESTLING, and have attended a MISSOURI USA WRESTLING sponsored and/or endorsed coaching education certification clinic will be allowed access to the floor at the State Folk-Style Championships.

V. WEIGH-INS FOR THE STATE FOLK-STYLE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

Wrestlers will be allowed to weigh-in one time only on Friday night. If a wrestler is over-weight on Friday, than they will be allowed to weigh-in one time only on Saturday morning. Scales will be opened 30 minutes prior to the weigh-in times on both days to allow wrestlers to check their weight; after the weigh-ins begin, there will be no checking of weight. Wrestlers must be allowed to use any of the certified scales being used for the competition weigh-ins. Wrestlers who are over weight after their one time weigh-in on Saturday morning will not be allowed to wrestle.

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All wrestlers will be required to weigh-in wearing only a singlet with the straps pulled down; females will be required to wear their singlet with a sports bra, or other suitable undergarment. Each wrestler will be visually checked and if a participant is suspected of having a communicable skin disease, or any other condition that may make participation inadvisable, the wrestler must provide written documentation (which must be on the form supplied by MISSOURI USA WRESTLING and obtained by the participants club), dated and signed by a physician, within 14 days of the tournament, stating that the suspected disease or condition is not communicable and that the athlete's participation would not be harmful to their opponent. This document must be furnished at weigh-ins. Covering a communicable condition shall not be considered acceptable and does not make the wrestler eligible to participate. All suspected skin conditions must be covered at all times while the competitor is on the mat. Further, that in the event said skin condition is not covered, becomes uncovered or is not coverable, then the competitor may be required to forfeit, at the discretion of the tournament director or host official. If a wrestler shows up to wrestle without the condition covered, the wrestler will be put on one of their injury time-outs to correct the situation. If a wrestler has a permanent skin condition that is not contagious, a skin condition report from a physician noting this would suffice for the entire wrestling season. They would not need to get a new report every 14 days if the condition is permanent.

VI. TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Once a wrestler has signed-up with a chartered club of MISSOURI USA WRESTLING they must wrestle with that club, or wrestle as unaffiliated (UNA). They may practice with another club if they wish; however, they must enter the state tournament series as an unaffiliated wrestler and can receive no team points. They will not count as part of the active roster of any chartered club. The only exception to this rule is if a wrestler has physically moved their residence into the area of another chartered club. The wrestler than would be required to show proof of the new residence before the card would be transferred to the new club. Unaffiliated wrestlers must compete in the district and region in which the club they purchased their card with is assigned; or individuals not wrestling with a chartered club will be assigned a district by the state chairperson, even if they are practicing or competing with a MISSOURI USA WRESTLING chartered club in another district or region.

VII. NATIONAL TEAMS

Our summer Freestyle and Greco sponsored Missouri USA National Teams have been fundamental in our growth as a nationally recognized State and Organization. Our basic philosophy is to involve our wrestlers of all ages in our state Freestyle and Greco programs across the state and then reward those individuals that participate in our state tournament with the opportunity to represent Missouri on our National Dual Teams. Our grass root efforts begin with our kids/schoolboy age wrestlers participating in our Southern Plains camp and culminating in the regional tournament. This has proven to be successful in

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developing our wrestlers through the years as they go on to compete at Cadet and Junior Nationals as Team Missouri. Our goal is to slowly acclimate our wrestlers to learn from our National Team coaching staffs through the years, as well as, beginning the process to travel together as a team.

A. Schoolboy Freestyle and Greco Dual Team

The State Freestyle Champion will be given the opportunity to represent Team Missouri at the National Dual competition. The team member will be required to participate in both the Freestyle and Greco Tournaments of the competition. The State Champion will participate in a minimum of 50% of all duals wrestled. If the State Champion chooses to not represent the State of Missouri his spot will be filled by the National Team Director with input from the Team Leader and Head Coach. Each Team will be allowed to pick 2 alternates that did not participate in the State tournament. All other members must have participated in the State Freestyle and/or Greco tournament. Tournament volunteers, parents, or club coaches will not be allowed to interfere with the wrestlers or coaching staff during the event. If they are found to be in violation they will be asked to forfeit their volunteer credentials for the remainder of the tournament and face possible further sanctions by Missouri USA wrestling such as loss of membership and/or coaching privileges.

Cost is \$150 per member.

B. Cadet and Junior Dual Teams

Missouri USA wrestling will be sending a Freestyle and Greco Dual Team to compete at the Cadet and Junior levels. The State Champion in each style will be given the opportunity to represent Team Missouri at the National Dual competition. The State Champion will participate in a minimum of 50% of all duals wrestled. If the State Champion chooses to not represent the State of Missouri his spot will be filled by the National Team Director with input from the Team Leader and Head Coach. Each Team will be allowed to pick 2 alternates that did not participate in the State tournament. All other members must have participated in the State Freestyle and/or Greco tournament. Tournament volunteers, parents, or club coaches will not be allowed to interfere with the wrestlers or coaching staff during the event. If they are found to be in violation they will be asked to forfeit their volunteer credentials for the remainder of the tournament and face possible further sanctions by Missouri USA wrestling such as loss of membership and/or coaching privileges.

Cost is \$300 per member for cadets and \$150 per member for juniors.

C. Cadet and Junior National Team

Missouri USA wrestling is allowed to the four wrestlers at each qualifying weight classification. The state champion at that weight and style is guaranteed one of those positions. All other spots will be filled by a qualification process if we have more wrestlers wishing to participate than available spots. Regional qualifiers do not count against our allotted

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numbers. All members will be required to attend mandatory National Team camps, meet registration deadlines, and pay a non-refundable deposit for consideration for the Missouri National Team. All members must be in good standing. All members are expected to train accordingly for a National competition. All members are required to travel with Team Missouri, stay in the provided lodging with the team, and attend all team camps, training sessions, and meetings. Any member that does not follow the instructed protocol or violates any Team rule will be dismissed from the Team and not allowed to participate in the competition. If this happens while at the event the wrestler will be sent home at their own expense. All participants will remain with the Team at all times unless they have been signed out to a parent or legal guardian. Tournament volunteers will not be allowed to interfere with the participants or coaching staff during the event. If they are found to be in violation they will be asked to forfeit their volunteer credentials for the remainder of the tournament and face possible further sanctions by Missouri USA wrestling

D. National Team Coaches

All National Team coaches must be a minimum of Bronze certified. They must submit the required application by the set deadline for consideration for any coaching position on a National Team. All coaches must be in Good standing with Missouri USA Wrestling. All applicants must be actively involved with one or more of the following: a sanctioned Freestyle and/or Greco club in the State of Missouri, a senior level competitor, past or present USA wrestling coach, or active collegiate coach or collegiate competitor. All coaching selections and Team leaders will be picked by the National Team Director.