Texas-USA Wrestling
Youth Folkstyle Rules and Regulations
2025-2026 Season

New Additions/Changes for 2025-2026 are highlighted orange

Dropped/Deleted rules for 2025-2026 are ~~struck through~~

Annual Changes/Updates, such as age group years, are in red text

Rule changes for 2025-26 voted on and approved during the Membership Meeting on March 8th, 2025:

~~Both Rookie and Novice tournaments are considered "Qualifiers" for participation in the Regional Tournament and Open State. They are NOT considered "Qualifiers" for any State Award points.~~

At the Rookie State and the Novice State Tournaments, wrestlers may only enter the age division they fall in according to the "Age Divisions and Weights" Chart.

Rookie wrestlers may register for the Novice State Tournament. Novice wrestlers may not register for the Rookie State Tournament.

All wrestlers from the state of Texas that place top six (6) in any Ironman Open division qualify for the Open State Championship.

All wrestlers from the state of Texas that place top six (6) at any Ironman Girls division qualify for the Girls State Championship.

Each region hosts a Regional Qualifier that qualifies two (2) spots per weight per division for the Open State Championship. Participation in a Regional Qualifier is only open to wrestlers that did not already qualify for the Open State Championship.

Each region hosts a Regional Qualifier that qualifies two (2) spots per weight per division for the Girls State Championship. Participation in a Regional Qualifier is only open to wrestlers that did not already qualify for the Girls State Championship. Athletes may only attend the Regional Qualifier in their home region as determined by their home address.

Entrants must have qualified at a weight class equal to or lower than the weight to be entered for the Open State Championship.

State entry forms documenting qualifiers must be submitted to the appropriate Region Director no later than 1 week before the tournament. State entry form shall include qualifier(s) placement ~~wrestled~~, weight wrestled, and division wrestled. Falsification of documents will result in not wrestling in the State tournament and could result in further sanctions.

~~Open, Novice, and Rookie State will all be held on the same weekend~~.

Rule changes for 2025-26 voted on and approved during the Board of Directors meeting on August 27th, 2025 following public comment:

The following rule for Open State Championship Participation was ELIMINATED in its entirety: ~~Entrants must have wrestled in at least three TX-USAW-qualifying tournaments. Entrants must have wrestled at a weight class equal to or lower than the weight to be entered for the State Championship for at least three qualifying tournaments (Clarification – a D4 wrestler could wrestle once at D4-115lbs and twice at D4-120lbs to qualify for D4-120lbs at State. This would give him/her 3 qualifiers at or below 120lbs). There are no medical exemptions to the qualifier requirement.~~

General Wrestling Rules

Wrestling will be conducted congruent with the rules established by the National High School Federation in conjunction with the following rules. Where the following rules differ from NFHS then these written rules take precedence.

1. Match durations
    a. Bouts for Tot and Division 1 will consist of 3 periods with the duration of 1 minute each.
    b. Bouts for Divisions 2 thru 5 will consist of 3 periods with the duration of 1 minute 30 seconds each.
    c. Bouts on the Consolation side of all brackets, all Divisions, will consist of 3 periods with the duration of 1 minute each.
    d. Bouts for all ROOKIE divisions will consist of 3 periods with the duration of 1 minute each.
2. When 15 points ahead, the match is terminated. This is the maximum score differential.
3. a. Headgear is optional in all divisions. Headgear modifications are allowed to improve fit. This may include crossing straps, taping straps together, or adjustments to the chin strap. The number and/or size of manufacturer logos on a headgear is not restricted.
   b. Mouthpieces are strongly encouraged for wrestlers with any type of braces. However, a mouthpiece is NOT mandatory for any wrestler.
   c. Hair covers are NOT required for girls or boys with hair length that exceeds the NFHS guidelines.
4. a. Wrestling shoes are not required in the Tot division or in Divisions 1 and 2. Wrestlers in Divisions 3, 4, 5, and 6 are required to wear wrestling shoes.
   b. Wrestling "doublets" are acceptable uniforms for TX-USA sanctioned tournaments. The uniform must be tight-fitting and not bear objectionable printing.
5. All Coaches, aides, and photographers should wear tennis-type or wrestling shoes.
6. USA Copper Certification is required to be mat side with a competitor. All coaches must check in at local/national/state events in Texas with a copy of their USAW card. This can be a physical or digital copy. A photo must be uploaded to the USA Wrestling Membership site and will be verified by personnel doing coaches' check-in. A coach's band will be issued by the tournament host and must be worn by the coach in order to coach mat-side.
7. Maximum of 2 Coaches in each corner.
8. ONLY contestants and referees shall be on the wrestling surface except during injury time out.
9. A bout may not start without each wrestler being represented by a coach.
    a. Bout may start without a coach if the referee has verbal permission from a coach or club representative.
    b. Time waiting for a coach shall not count against the competitor.
10. A competitor is given a maximum of **5 minutes from the time the match number is posted at the table** to appear **for their first bout**. Failure to check in at the mat within this time limit will constitute a forfeit. Each match, **after the first match of the day, the contestant will have a maximum of 2 minutes to report** for their bout before forfeiture of the match. It is not necessary to run the time to report on the mat clock. The table may go to the next match. The time to conduct the following bout(s) counts toward the time to report limit.
11. a. A wrestler must have 15 minutes between matches unless waived by both wrestlers. **The 15-minute rest time does not apply to matches in different divisions for double-entered wrestlers**. These wrestlers should be given time to report, but cannot demand the 15-minute rest.
    b. There are no restrictions on the number of bouts a wrestler may participate in per day. A wrestler's parents and coach are responsible for determining the number of matches he can safely wrestle.
12. It is the responsibility of the Tournament Director and Table Workers to direct the flow of the tournament. It is their responsibility to move, skip, postpone or otherwise adjust matches to keep the tournament moving in order to comply with the above rules.
13. Officials/Referees are responsible for making calls concerning the wrestling competition. All other matters are the responsibility of the Tournament Director.
14. Bracketing mistakes during tournaments do occur. All mistakes must be turned into the head table at least 30 minutes before the affected session is scheduled to start. If it is practical, such mistakes will be nullified and the correct bout will take place at the Tournament Director's discretion. If two wrestlers meet for a

bout due to a bracketing mistake their bout is nullified, but if they meet again later in the tournament, the nullified bout will count and they do not wrestle again.

15. Judgment protests cannot occur. The Official's decision is final.
16. In case of emergency withdrawal, contact the Tournament Director.
17. Flagrant misconduct can occur **before, during, or after** a match. Flagrant misconduct is any act considered by the official to be serious enough to disqualify a contestant from the match and any additional wrestling in the tournament. It would include, but is not limited to, intentional biting, striking, butting, elbowing, or kicking an opponent. Cursing officials/referees by contestants at any state association tournament will not be tolerated and will be treated as flagrant misconduct. Flagrant misconduct shall be penalized without warning.
18. Questions regarding a wrestler participating with a communicable disease shall be handled in conformity with the Rule of the National High School Federation.
    a. Follow UIL guideline outlining requirement of **Physician Note** designating affected area.
    b. Adhere to USA recommendation by **covering affected areas** that have been cleared by physicians as non-infectious.
19. No consuming (or under the influence) of alcoholic beverages at state association events.
20. No smoking at any time on the wrestling floor or around the mats and tables.
21. Youth sized mats (22' diameter or larger circular inbounds) are acceptable for tournaments. Mats shall not be cut up or divided into squares, rectangles, or smaller surfaces. All possible efforts should be made to provide safety mats bordering the competition mats. When this is not possible, the Tournament Director should emphasize to the officials and coaches that "out-of-bounds" will be called as needed to protect the wrestlers.
22. Due to the large number of wrestlers and coaches on many teams, coach misconduct and unsportsmanlike penalties will apply to the individual coach and not the head coach.
23. The double chicken-wing with sit-through is an illegal move in TX-USAW Folkstyle competition. This is consistent with the USA Wrestling youth modifications.
24. Weight Loss - at anytime the use of sweat boxes; hot showers; whirlpools; rubber, vinyl and plastic type suits; or similar artificial heating devices; diuretics; or other methods for quick weight reduction purposes during practice or pre-tournament is prohibited and shall disqualify an individual from competition.

WEIGH-IN PROCEDURES

1. a). All local tournaments are required to have Friday night and/or Saturday weigh-ins at designated sites with an official present. All wrestlers must weigh-in at one of the designated sites and times to participate in the tournament.
   b). No TX-USAW tournament may provide restricted early weigh-ins or charge a fee to allow wrestlers to weigh-in early.
   c). Regions may set additional weigh-in policies provided the policies are documented on the corporate website and do not violate the requirements in this section.
2. Competition gear shall be worn at all weigh-ins. No weight allowance shall be given for the singlet. Tots may weigh in shorts only.
3. Weigh-in sites can be added throughout the season with Executive Committee approval.
4. Officials and referees will pay special attention to contagious skin disorders. Athletes with questionable skin conditions, disorders, or lesions must have the NFHS Skins Lesion Form, available for download on the TX-USAW website, filled out and signed by a licensed physician. The form is valid for 14 days from the date that it was signed.
5. Host must supply certified scales at the tournament weigh-in site.
6. It shall be the responsibility at weigh-in to examine and clip fingernails.
7. Those residing more than 50 miles from a weigh-in site can call in entries to the Regional office or to the tournament director, in accordance with the Tournament entry guidelines, and weigh in Saturday up to 1 hour prior to the start of their session. Except for State and National Tournaments.
8. One representative per team is allowed to accompany wrestlers into the weigh-in area. This representative serves in no "Official Capacity" and is there "ONLY" to support the kids they represent.
9. Weight-cutting activities are prohibited at all on-site tournament weigh-ins.

10. At National tournaments with open weigh-in procedures, all wrestlers who are overweight shall immediately step on all scales in use at the tournament to get their finalized weight. Wrestlers will not be allowed to leave the weigh-in room and come back later nor will they be allowed to sit in the room and wait until the end of weigh-ins to check.

Age Divisions and Weights

Age Division is determined by date of birth as presented in the chart.

Tots	09/01/2019 - 12/31/2021	35, 38, 41, 44, 48, 52, 56, 60, HWT (15 lbs max difference**)
Division 1	09/01/2017 - 08/31/2019	38, 42, 46, 50, 55, 60, 65, 72, 80, HWT (15 lbs max difference**)
Division 2	09/01/2015 - 08/31/2017	49, 52, 55, 58, 61, 65, 70, 75, 83, 92, 100, 115, HWT (25 lbs max difference**)
Division 3	09/01/2013 - 08/31/2015	56, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 110, 120, 135, HWT (25 lbs max weight difference**)
Division 4* (Middle School)**	09/01/2010 - 08/31/2013 (8th grade or lower only, no 9th grade wrestlers allowed)	75, 80, 86, 92, 98, 106, 113, 120, 126, 132, 140, 150, 162, 175, 200, 285
Division 5* (High School)**	09/01/2006 - 08/31/2011 (cannot have already graduated from high school)	100, 106, 113, 120, 126, 132, 138, 144, 150, 157, 165, 175, 190, 215, 285
Girls G1	09/01/2017 - 08/31/2019	35, 38, 42, 46, 50, 55, 60, 65, 72, HWT (15 lbs max difference**)
Girls G2	09/01/2015 - 08/31/2017	46, 49, 52, 55, 58, 61, 65, 70, 75, 83, 92, HWT (15 lbs max weight difference**)
Girls G3	09/01/2013 - 08/31/2015	55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 102, 110, 118, HWT (25 lbs max weight difference**)
Girls G4* (Middle School)**	09/01/2010 - 08/31/2013 (8th grade or lower only, no 9th grade wrestlers allowed)	67, 72, 79, 85, 92, 98, 105, 110, 119, 127, 136, 145, 185
Girls G5*(High School)**	09/01/2006 - 08/31/2011 (cannot have already graduated from high school)	94, 100, 107, 114, 120, 126, 132, 138, 145, 152, 165, 185, 235

** Heavyweight brackets in Tots to Division 3 with more than 15lbs/25lbs difference between entries will be split into multiple brackets – HWT, HWT+, HWT++, with no more than 15lbs/25lbs difference in each bracket. The tournament director shall decide whether "middle" wrestlers get grouped up or down.

***D4 and G4 are only for wrestlers still in 8th grade or lower. There is an overlap in one year with D4/G4 and D5/G5. That is to allow for those 8th graders who miss the previous age cutoff to still compete with middle school students. All 9th graders and higher must compete in D5/G5.

Updated 08/27/25

WEIGHT ALLOWANCE POLICY

1. There are no weight allowances during the youth season. All events are scratch/published weight.

MEMBERSHIP RULES

1. All Texas wrestlers in all sanctioned tournaments must be full members of USA Wrestling prior to weigh-in. Forms and birth certifications must be on file and fees paid.
2. The Board of Directors shall determine fees for all members annually.
3. Requirements for State Association Membership
   a. Must be a Resident of the State of Texas.
   b. School-aged wrestlers must attend school in Texas or be home schooled at a Texas address.
   c. Must be a member of a sanctioned Texas USA team if residing **less than 200 miles** from the defined center of any geographical region.
4. Due to the fact that this state is so large and that there are at present 5 established regions, there could be individuals who find themselves located far from a sanctioned club. It is for these cases that the term "Independent Wrestler" is to be considered. An "Independent Wrestler" is defined as "an individual who is a Resident of the State of Texas and resides **MORE THAN 200 miles** from the defined center of **any** geographical region".
   Centers of Geographical Regions
   a. North Region - DFW Airport
   b. South Region - Houston City Hall
   c. Central Region – State Capitol Building, Austin
   d. West – City Hall, Amarillo
   e. Far West – City Hall, El Paso
5. Membership to the State Association is required to be eligible to participate in the Regional or State Tournaments and/or to qualify for State Awards. Membership is defined as having a current USA athlete card and meeting the requirements in #3 above.
6. Membership entitles wrestlers to enter any State Association sanctioned tournament for which they qualify. Entry fee for each tournament must be paid by weigh-in. Returned checks not cleared by the State Association by the beginning date of next season may cause wrestler suspension for at least one year.
7. All wrestlers must have a completed "Age and Experience Verification" form signed by a parent and the club coach and kept on file with the club. This form verifies the proper age division and classification (Rookie, Novice, or Open) for each wrestler. Falsification of documents or credentials can result in suspension for at least one year.

INSURANCE

All State Association members are insured for all State association sanctioned tournaments and all State association practices with sanctioned State association teams through USA Wrestling. This insurance is supplemental to each person's primary insurance. All claims shall be handled through the Regional Director

TOURNAMENT SANCTIONING RULES

General Rules for All Tournaments

1. All sanctioned tournaments must conform to the approved State Association rules and procedures for that particular tournament. All tournaments will be sanctioned by USA Wrestling.
2. No member team may host a sanctioned tournament and a non-sanctioned tournament during the same season, except with two-thirds approval of the Board of Directors.

3. State Association retains the exclusive right to sell any State Association logo-bearing merchandise at any State association function. The host team may not sell merchandise at the State Tournament.
4. All tournaments must use electronic scoring boards/clocks.
5. Food concession is the right and responsibility of the host.
6. Each host team shall be responsible for the collection of all entry fees (checks payable to the Region), as well as the preparation of all entries, brackets and bout numbers. Disbursement of revenue back to the host club shall be made through the Regional Director of the State Association. Tournament results must be posted on the state website or on Trackwrestling within 8 days of the completion of the tournament. Host clubs will not receive payment for tournaments that are not posted within that time.
7. a). All TX-USA tournaments are required to use the Trackwrestling registration system.
   b). All entry challenges shall be decided by the Tournament Director for any "open" tournament and a majority vote of the Board of Directors for any "National" tournament
8. The amount of money to be received by the State association per entry from each entry for all tournaments of all kinds shall be determined by the Board of Directors in evaluating the annual budget. The State Association in conjunction shall operate the State Tournament with the host club. The host club of the State Tournament shall receive all concession revenue.
9. The host club is responsible for hiring and compensating all referees. Compensation will be based on entries divided by the number of referees and adjusted for sessions worked, but not to be less the $100 for working the complete tournament
10. $2.00 per entry for local tournaments will be included in the tournament entry fee, collected by the region, and paid to the state association to support Folkstyle National Duals teams.
11. National Tournaments are the right and privilege of the Regions hosting the tournament. These tournaments shall be run Pursuant of TX-USA rules. These tournaments shall be run by the clubs in the region with a full accounting of income and expenses. Profits from the tournaments shall go 75% to the region account and 25% to the State Association. If losses are accrued they are the responsibility of the Regions.

OPEN TOURNAMENT RULES

1. The hosting club shall determine entry fees. The range of fees for an "open" tournament shall be no more than $25. "Open" tournaments shall be all tournaments that are not designated as "National". Entry fee must be paid before wrestling occurs. "No-shows" are responsible for entry fee payment.
2. One weight per division, two divisions OK. Note: this is to prevent wrestlers from cutting weight and "hedging their bets" against not making the lower registered weight.
3. No College wrestlers may participate.
4. Tournaments shall be run pursuant to Double Elimination or Round-Robin brackets at the discretion of the tournament director.

IRONMAN SERIES TOURNAMENT RULES

1. a. "Ironman Series" Tournaments, one per Region, shall be designated as such and determined annually by the State Association. Fees for "Ironman Series" tournaments shall be determined in the same manner. Entry fee must be paid before wrestling occurs. "No-Shows" are responsible for entry fee payment.
   b. Ironman Series Tournaments are strongly encouraged to use split sessions to reduce the time for wrestlers between matches and the time to complete their full bracket.
2. Age division is determined by the birthdate spreads that are reflected in the chart. Birthdate spreads are listed for the Divisions and will be updated each year.
3. Bracketing:
   a. Ironman Series Tournaments <u>may</u> use round-robin brackets for weight classes with 5 entries or less (but the use of round-robins is not required).
   b. Ironman Series Tournaments <u>may</u> combine weights when the individual weight class results can be determined separately (but they are not required to combine weights).
   c. Wrestlers may only enter and earn awards at one weight. Clarification - At their discretion, the event may allow wrestlers to enter multiple Open divisions.
4. Coaches Passes:

a. Two (2) coaches passes for 1-8 team wrestlers.
c. One (1) additional coaches pass for every 1-4 team wrestlers over eight (8).
d. For multiple tournaments at an event, the host can calculate and issue passes per tournament. For example, at a multi-day Ironman Series or State Tournament, the host may issue separate sets of Open and Rookie tournament coaches passes passed on a teams' entries in each tournament.
e. All coaches must have proof of USA Card and Copper Certification. Coaches for out of state teams must show their coaching credentials for their club's organization.
e. With proof of certification and current USA Leadership card, teams may receive additional passes for a fee set by the tournament.

5. The head official may not coach at the tournament.

ROOKIE AND NOVICE TOURNAMENT RULES

Same rules apply to Rookie and Novice as Open Tournament Rules, with the exception to the following:

1. **ROOKIE -** 1st year wrestlers only; no wrestling match any style, anywhere, prior to March 15, 2025. See #7 under "Membership Rules" for verification requirements.
2. **NOVICE** -
    a. All 1st and 2nd year wrestlers with no wrestling match any style, anywhere, prior to March 15, 2024. All 2nd year wrestlers are considered Novice regardless of any previous placements at Rookie, Novice, and/or Open State Tournaments.
    b. All 3rd year wrestlers are considered Open regardless of any previous placements at Rookie, Novice, and/or Open State Tournaments. There are no appeals to remain in the Novice division after a 2nd year of competition.
3. All Tot and Division 5 wrestlers are considered "Open" during the Regular Season. These divisions are not included in the official Rookie and Novice designations. However, the divisions can be added to a tournament per the discretion of the Regional Director. Both divisions (Tot and Division 5) will be included in the Rookie State and the Open State Tournaments.
4. ~~Both Rookie and Novice tournaments are considered "Qualifiers" for participation in the Regional Tournament and Open State. They are NOT considered "Qualifiers" for any State Award points.~~
5. Any TX-USAW member meeting the Rookie experience requirements may enter Rookie State. There are no tournament qualifiers required. To enter Rookie State, wrestlers must submit a completed Age and Experience Certification form to their Region Director before the Rookie State entry deadline listed on the tournament flier.
6. Any TX-USAW member meeting the Novice experience requirements may enter Novice State. There are no tournament qualifiers required. To enter Novice State, wrestlers must submit a completed Age and Experience Certification form to their Region Director before the Novice State entry deadline listed on the tournament flier.
7. At the Rookie State and the Novice State Tournaments, wrestlers may only enter the age division they fall in according to the "Age Divisions and Weights" Chart.
8. Rookie wrestlers may register for the Novice State Tournament. Novice wrestlers may not register for the Rookie State Tournament.
9. At the Rookie State and the Novice State Tournaments, the seeding mechanism will be by the USA Wrestling PIN (Performance Index Number) System with regional separation. Regional separation is to be considered only for the first round.

OPEN STATE CHAMPIONSHIP and GIRLS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT RULES

1. **Participation**:
    a. ~~Entrants must have wrestled in at least three TX-USAW qualifying tournaments. Entrants must have wrestled at a weight class equal to or lower than the weight to be entered for the State~~

~~Championship for at least three qualifying tournaments (Clarification – a D4 wrestler could wrestle once at D4 115lbs and twice at D4 120lbs to qualify for D4 120lbs at State. This would give him/her 3 qualifiers at or below 120lbs). There are no medical exemptions to the qualifier requirement.~~

b. Independent wrestlers (defined as residing more than 200 miles from the center of any of the 5 regions) are required to wrestle only 2 qualifiers.
c. Wrestlers may only enter the age division they fall in according to the "Age Divisions and Weights" Chart.
d. All wrestlers from the state of Texas that place top six (6) in any Ironman Open division qualify for the Open State Championship.
e. All wrestlers from the state of Texas that place top six (6) at any Ironman Girls division qualify for the Girls State Championship.
f. Each region hosts a Regional Qualifier that qualifies two (2) spots per weight per division for the Open State Championship. Participation in a Regional Qualifier is only open to wrestlers that did not already qualify for the Open State Championship.
g. Each region hosts a Regional Qualifier that qualifies two (2) spots per weight per division for the Girls State Championship. Participation in a Regional Qualifier is only open to wrestlers that did not already qualify for the Girls State Championship. Athletes may only attend the Regional Qualifier in their home region as determined by their home address.
h. Entrants must have qualified at a weight class equal to or lower than the weight to be entered for the Open State Championship.
i. Participation stipulations apply to Tot through D4 Divisions. There are no qualifier restrictions for D5. Wrestlers in D5 must only meet membership requirements.
j. Girls entries into any TX-USAW regular season event count as their qualifiers, whether registering and competing in a Boys Division or a Girls Division event. Girls do not have to compete in Girls Divisions at local events to qualify for the Girls State Championship.

2. **Entry**:
   a. Wrestlers must enter online no later than 1 week before the tournament. Each club is responsible for paying entry fees in full for every entry submitted. All entries will be posted online.
   b. State entry forms documenting qualifiers must be submitted to the appropriate Region Director no later than 1 week before the tournament. State entry form shall include qualifier(s) placement ~~wrestled~~, weight wrestled, and division wrestled. Falsification of documents will result in not wrestling in the State tournament and could result in further sanctions.
   c. Wrestlers can only wrestle in one division and one weight.
3. The Region Director must decide all challenges to any entry 1 week before the State Tournament. Any appeals to the same will be decided by majority vote of the Region Directors, Youth Director, and State Chairman.
4. All divisions must pre-register weight. Failure to make pre-registered weight, wrestler **may** be eliminated from tournament. **The tournament host may allow move-ups at weigh-ins for a predetermined fee. The tournament must post the policy in advance.**
5. The State Championship Tournament shall be run pursuant of Double Elimination Brackets for 6 or more entries and Round Robin Brackets for 5 or fewer entries.
6. Through 2026, the State Tournament will be held in Bryan, TX at the Legends Event Center. ~~Open, Novice, and Rookie State will all be held on the same weekend~~. Starting in 2021, all Regions are required to participate equally in staffing the tournament to insure a smooth and timely run tournament. Each Region will staff a set number of tables plus additional assigned areas for the entire tournament(s). The tournament profits will be split 10% to the state and 90% to the regions. Each region will receive an equal share ONLY if they have staffed their assigned areas during the event.

   The state board of directors will appoint/approve a tournament organizing committee (TOC) from around the state to run the tournament. The state treasurer will be responsible for approving the accounting reports. The intent of the TOC is to bring consistency and constant improvement to the operation of the tournament to provide the best tournament experience for the wrestlers and parents while managing costs and profits. The expectation is that most TOC members will volunteer/serve for multiple years.

7. **Seeding System:**
   a. Seeding mechanism for the Open and Girls State Tournaments will be by the USA Wrestling PIN (Performance Index Number) System with regional separation.
   b. The remaining wrestlers are placed in the brackets with attempts to separate by club first and then region.
   c. Byes are assigned first to the highest seeded wrestlers. This will help reduce situations where a high seed gets paired with a "top" wrestler who did not participate in many tournaments.
8. Officials for the state tournament may not coach or wrestle in the tournament.
9. Officials for the state tournament will be selected from all 5 regions. Each region will submit its list of 4 top officials and 2 alternates based on performance during the season. If any of the 4 top officials cannot officiate the tournament, the 2 alternates from that region will be offered the position. If a region does not have 4 officials who can officiate out of the 6, the tournament director will fill the open positions as necessary and shall get at least 3 approvals from the Youth Director and Region Directors for any official selected in this manner. Travel and lodging costs for the tournament for all selected officials shall be paid for by the state

TEAM COMPETITION

Team competition in the state tournaments will include scoring of bonus and advancement points per NFHS rule book. Overall team awards will be presented for the Champion and Runner-Up Teams for teams in Open, Rookie, Novice, and Girls experience groups. The top 15 scorers per team in divisions Tot-D4 will automatically be counted toward the team total – the names do not need to be submitted in advance. Small team awards will be presented for the Champion and Runner-Up teams for teams in Open, Rookie, and Novice experience groups for teams with no more than 10 entries in their respective experience group. This could include multiple wrestlers in the same weight class. Division 5 is not included in team scoring. Points are scored as follows:

- Top 6 placers per weight class: 1st – 16, 2nd – 12, 3rd – 9, 4th –7, 5th – 5, 6th – 3
- Advancement points for wins in the bracket: Championship side – 2 pts, consolation side – 1 pt; no points are earned for BYEs
- Bonus points: Pin or default – 2 pts, technical fall (>15 pts) – 1.5 pts, major decision -1.0 pt

ROUND ROBIN TIE BREAKERS

2-Way Tie

1. Tie is decided by head to head result.

3-Way Tie

1. Win-loss among those tied.
2. Most pins in the least amount of time among those tied.
3. Most technical falls (win by 15 or more) among those tied.
4. Most major decisions (win by 8-14) among those tied.
5. Net points (15 maximum) among those tied. Net points is the difference in score in a match. A wrestler who wins 7-2 and loses 3-5 will have 3 net points.
6. Most pins in the tournament.
7. Most technical falls in the tournament.
8. Most major decisions in the tournament.
9. Net points in tournament (15 maximum).
10. 3-Way tie for first will be settled by a 3-way sudden victory playoff according to Overtime rules.

Note: In using tiebreakers, the first one used may settle all three places. For example: one wrestler may have 1 pin, the second may have a major decision, and the third may have won all his matches by decision. This situation completely determines first, second, and third places. Sometimes the effective tiebreaker places one wrestler first or

third, but leaves the other two tied. The winner of their bout determines any two-way tie. For example: “net points” may tally 5-4-4 placing one man first. Don’t look for any more tiebreakers; the tie for second is settled by the head-to-head result of the two wrestlers with 4 net points.

DOUBLE ELIMINATION BRACKETS

These brackets are the typical bracket used in all “National” tournaments, the State Tournament, and “Open” tournaments with over 400 entrants.

1. 1 and 2 man automatic move-up to next weight unless heavyweight.
2. Move up exhibition only … no point or record.
3. **Challenge** Third place can challenge 2nd if they have not previously met in the tournament.
4. Brackets receive byes in the highest order of seed.
5. 2 man brackets move up and wrestle in the 1st round to determine the original bracket. Winner places 1st and receives a maximum of 1 award. Loser placed 2nd and receives no award. In the lower bracket, if move-up is not possible, the bracket is treated in a regular manner.

STATE AWARDS

Regional Tournaments do not count for State Awards

Honor Roll

This award is given to all Texas wrestlers who meet the criteria. This award has a maximum of (11) eleven points and requires at least (9) nine points to qualify. A wrestler can acquire a maximum of (6) six points from "Open" tournaments.

1. One point for winning a "open" state-qualifying tournament…maximum (6) six points.
2. One point **and only one point** for being the top Texas finisher while placing 1-6 place in any "Texas National Tournament".
3. If a tournament in No.2 is not held, maximum is reduced to 10 with 8 to qualify.
4. All points must be earned in lowest eligible division.

Texas National Wrestler of the Year

This award is given to the overall point's leader (National Points only) from all divisions. In the case of a tie each will receive the award.

Divisional National Wrestler of the Year

This award will be given to the point leaders (National Points only) in each division. One per division unless ties. The Texas National Wrestler of the Year winner does not receive a Division National Wrestler of the Year award as well. Instead the wrestler with the second most points in that division will receive the Divisional National Wrestler of the Year.

National Points – all points are based on actual placement regardless of the number of wrestlers in bracket

Tournament	1st	2nd	3rd
Panhandle Nationals	30	10	5
Edge of Texas Nationals	30	10	5
Lonestar Nationals	30	10	5
Houston National	30	10	5
Heart of Texas	30	10	5
Tulsa Nationals	no points awarded		

Honorable Mention

In order to qualify for this Certificate a wrestler must place 1st thru 6th in **ALL** scheduled Texas "National" tournaments

Ironman Award

All wrestlers that enter and WRESTLE in all Texas Ironman Series tournaments will be awarded the Ironman Award. In most years an award may also be earned for wrestling in 4 of the 5 tournaments. Check with the Youth Director for exact details for the current season. **Wrestlers competing in any "class" – Rookie, Novice, Open, or Girls - at the tournament receive credit for that Ironman event.**

Participants for State awards must complete the respective award forms and submit it to the Regional director no later than 1 week before the Regional tournament.
These award forms available on this web site or through your Region Director