



PARTICIPATING SCHOOL TOURNAMENT INFORMATION **2011-12 MHSAA WRESTLING**

1. TOURNAMENT FORMAT

The MHSAA wrestling tournament will be conducted in four equal divisions based on school enrollment for both the Individual and Team tournament series. In the Team tournament series, schools will be assigned to one of 32 District tournaments in each division. Four District champions will advance to one of eight Regional tournaments in each division. Regional champions advance to the MHSAA Team Finals which consists of Quarterfinal, Semifinal and Final matches at the Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek. All Team tournament matches will be single elimination, team dual formats. An open draw will determine pairings at the initial District tournament. The pre-determined pairings for the Team Regional tournament are as follows:

2012 Team Wrestling Regional pairings:

Highest District Number vs. 2nd Lowest District Number
2nd Highest District Number vs. Lowest District Number

Pairings for the Team Final Quarterfinal round will be determined by a seeding and draw process. Seeding criteria (similar to the individual district seed criteria) will determine the top teams (minimum of four). A random draw will be conducted with the remaining teams to determine opponents for the top seeded teams.

In the Individual tournament series, school teams are assigned to one of 8 Districts in each division where wrestlers compete as individuals in bracketed, seeded competition. Individual matches will take place in 14 weight classes with the top four wrestlers advancing to one of 4 Regionals in each division with two Districts feeding each Regional. The top four wrestlers in each weight class at the Regional tournament qualify for the MHSAA Individual Finals at the Palace of Auburn Hills. A school may enter a maximum of 14 wrestlers at the initial District Tournament with no more than 2 wrestlers in any one weight class. Pairings formula for the Individual Finals will be announced on the MHSAA website after the Regional tournaments conclude.

Host sites and school assignments for Team Districts & Regionals and the Individual Districts and Regionals are determined by the MHSAA.

Tournament Dates – 2012

Team Tournament

Districts – February 8 (Divisions 2 & 4) February 9 (Divisions 1 & 3)
Regionals – February 15
Finals – February 24-25

Individual Tournament

Districts – February 11
Regionals – February 18
Finals – March 1-3

2. TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES

All contestants must be accompanied by a school representative throughout tournament involvement.

The MHSAA Weight Monitoring program rules & regulations cover all wrestlers participating in the MHSAA tournament. Details of the Weight Monitoring program are published on the MHSAA website.

Team District/Regional General Procedures

For all THREE (3) TEAM DISTRICT SITES:

One mat shall be used for both the semifinal and final matches.

One official shall be contracted.

Host school may draw the bye.

For all FOUR (4) TEAM DISTRICT SITES & REGIONAL SITES:

Two mats shall be used for the semifinals.

One mat shall be used for the finals.

Two officials shall be contracted and each will work a semifinal match. For the finals, the officials will use the two official system (referee and assistant referee) for all final matches.

The NFHS Tiebreaker shall be used in the event that two teams tie in team tournament competition.

There is no requirement that a participant in the Team District or Team Regional Tournament must have wrestled a match during the regular season. The only requirement of a Team District/Regional participant is that their name appears on the Master Eligibility and Alpha Master rosters of the school, as well as being eligible under the Weight Monitoring Program. Each school is allowed to weigh-in a maximum of twenty eight (28) wrestlers.

Weigh-in & Inspection - An official (referee), and when possible a physician (MD or DO), shall inspect contestants before they are allowed to weigh-in. If a meet physician (MD or DO) has been designated, that person will have final authority in determining whether or not a competitor may weigh-in. If there is no meet physician, final authority then falls to the official. If a physician is secured, it is recommended where possible that the physician has experience in skin conditions (dermatologist, for example). Shoulder-to-shoulder weigh-ins are to be conducted on-site **60 MINUTES** before the meet is scheduled to begin. Weigh-in shall be conducted as stated in the MHSAA Weigh-In Procedures. After entering, wrestlers are to remain in the weigh-in area until they have completed the weigh-in. One scale shall be used in the Team District weigh-in and shall begin with the 103 pound weight class for the Team Tournament. The Tournament Manager will declare the order of wrestlers to be weighed-in at each weight class. The weigh-in concludes after the 285 pound weight class. The weigh-in shall be up to one hour in length, and the exact weight of each contestant shall be recorded on the Team Weigh-In form.

Individual District General Procedures - A minimum of three mats must be used, and four mats are recommended for conducting the Individual District. If three mats are used, four officials shall be contracted; if four mats are used, five officials shall be contracted.

For a wrestler to be eligible as one of the 14 school entries at the Individual District Tournament, a wrestler must have a varsity record (win, loss, forfeit). If a wrestler competes at a weight class for the first time at the Individual District, the wrestler would be required to make scratch weight.

Each school is allowed to enter fourteen (14) wrestlers into the Individual District tournament with no more than two (2) wrestlers being entered in any one weight class.

For the Individual District tournament, the list of entries and the Individual Season Summary forms must be in the hands of the Individual District manager by the start of the entry and seeding meeting on Friday, February 10. Coaches may hand deliver these forms or send them in advance of the Friday meeting.

Weigh-In - A referee, and when possible a physician (MD or DO) with experience in skin conditions (dermatologist, for example), shall inspect contestants before they are allowed to weigh-in. After once

entering, wrestlers are to remain in the weigh-in area until they have completed the weigh-in. A minimum of two scales shall be used in the Individual District weigh-in. The weigh-in shall be up to one hour in length, and the actual weight of each contestant shall be recorded on the weigh-in card. The order of weight classes at weigh-in shall follow the order of weight classes to be wrestled at that tournament. Each contestant must declare his or her weight class before leaving the scales at weigh-in. All wrestlers weighing-in at the same weight class must use the same scale.

Seeding - All schools are to be assigned to a seeding group. A school may be represented in only one seeding group and by one coach. Two groups will seed three (3) weight classes; two groups will seed four (4) weight classes.

The following criteria shall be followed for seeding. Twenty minutes is provided to seed each weight class. It may be necessary to adjust the bracket (seeded wrestlers only) if a seeded contestant fails to make weight or fails to compete for any reason after his or her bracket has been completed, but before wrestling begins. A forfeit will be awarded to the opponent of any contestant who fails to compete for any reason after drawing for his or her bracket has taken place.

These criteria shall be applied in the order listed:

1. Head-to-head competition; if tied, the most recent winner prevails.
2. Record against common opponents.
3. A wrestler with an exceptional record vs. acknowledged strong opposition.
4. Majority decision of the seeding committee group.
5. If agreement for seeding in each weight class cannot be reached within 20 minutes, the contestants not yet agreed upon shall be drawn in.

The number one and two seeds shall receive a bye if there are 14 or 15 entrants, respectively. A wrestler does not necessarily have to have a winning record to receive seeding consideration.

A maximum number of 10 wrestlers can be seeded in each weight class. Note that a wrestler need not have a winning record to receive seeding consideration.

The decision of the subgroup is final except when the Tournament Manager is convinced that a wrestler with credentials may have been overlooked. In this case, the Tournament Manager will reconvene the subgroup and direct it to reconsider the seeded wrestlers and the wrestler(s) considered to have been overlooked. If changes are made, they will stand. At no point does a weight class require the approval of the head coaches after the subgroup has determined the seeding.

INDIVIDUAL DISTRICT ENTRY & WEIGH-IN PROCEDURE:

After the entry and seeding meeting on Friday night, if a wrestler fails to make weight, that wrestler is out of the tournament. That wrestler may not be substituted for, and the bracket will be edited in the following manner:

If the wrestler not making weight was a seeded wrestler, the other seeded wrestlers will be advanced. If the #5 seed does not make weight, the #6 seed becomes the #5 seed (and so on). The non-seeded wrestlers will then be redrawn into the weight class after the existing seeds have been advanced.

If the wrestler not making weight was an unseeded wrestler, the unseeded wrestlers will simply be advanced the appropriate number of bracket lines.

Individual Regional General Procedures – All weigh-in, inspection and mat configuration procedures from the District tournament apply. The eight wrestlers in each weight class that advance from the two Districts feeding each Regional will be paired on a 1 vs. 4, 2 vs. 3 formula. Three mats will be used at all Individual Regional sites.

Scrimmages - In wrestling, after MHSAA Individual District Tournament competition, qualifiers to Individual Regional tournaments may practice with / scrimmage qualifiers from other schools.

Medical Removal from Competition - If the physician (MD or DO only) assigned to a tournament decides that a contestant may not start, compete, or continue to wrestle in that tournament, he / she shall inform the Tournament Manager who will make the final decision. Arrangements should be made to have a physician on call if it is impractical to have one available at the competition. Tournament Managers will have the final decision as to whether a contestant may continue to compete. Athletes withdrawn without the knowledge and written permission of the Tournament Manager will be disqualified from the tournament and may not advance.

Notification of Communicable Disease - The head coach shall notify the Tournament Manager not later than 4 pm of the day immediately preceding a tournament in which the coach has entered a wrestler who is known to have a communicable disease or skin condition which is suspiciously similar to a communicable disease. The Tournament Manger will make arrangements to have a physician present or available who will evaluate the medical condition of the wrestler prior to weigh-in and will advise the Tournament Manager of the diagnosis.

Procedure for Inspection of Communicable Disease - This procedure shall be adhered to for all MHSAA Tournament events. The procedure is contained in the MHSAA Wrestling Tournament Managers Manual and the rule is contained in the NFHS Wrestling Rules Book. Only the MHSAA Communicable Disease Form is accepted as evidence that the wrestler's condition is acceptable within the rules.

Finals Weigh-in Procedures – All wrestlers will weigh in on site on Thursday, March 1. Multiple scales will be used with all National Federation procedures followed. Wrestlers who win matches in rounds one and/or two will be required to weigh-in on Friday, March 2 between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m.

3. OPT OUT POLICIES, ELIGIBILITY LISTS, ROSTERS

All schools sponsoring wrestling have been assigned to an Individual and Team Tournament site. Schools not participating in an MHSAA tournament must notify the Tournament Manager by 4:00 PM on January 25. All schools must submit their Master Eligibility List and a copy of the Alpha Master Roster to the **TEAM and INDIVIDUAL DISTRICT MANAGER / HOST SCHOOL** by January 25. For the Individual District tournament, the Individual Season Summary forms must be in the hands of the Individual District manager by the start of the entry and seeding meeting on Friday, February 10. Coaches may hand deliver these forms or send them in advance of the entry and seeding meeting on Friday, February 10.

For schools not submitting their Master Eligibility List and copy of the Alpha Master Roster to the **TEAM and INDIVIDUAL DISTRICT MANAGER / HOST SCHOOL** by January 25, a late fee of \$50 shall be charged. This fee will be retained by the District Tournament host school. Entries may not be accepted after the entry and seeding meeting has begun.

Additions or updates to the Master Eligibility List (except transfer students who enroll after the dates in Regulation I, Section 9 [F]) may be accepted by the Tournament Manager if submitted and received prior to the start of competition for any team in the first level of that tournament to which the school is assigned. All players on the Master Eligibility List submitted are eligible for tournament play even if the individual names are not on the roster.

Ineligible Players - Teams which are defeated by teams which have allowed an ineligible student to participate do not advance in MHSAA tournaments. Placement in MHSAA tournaments is vacated as a result of a team allowing one or more ineligible students to participate. The same policy

applies to individuals who are defeated by ineligible. The advancing place is vacated.

Withdrawals - Tournament management is to contact the MHSAA office if a school withdraws or fails to show for scheduled competition after the Opt Out Due Date for team sports or the pairings, heat assignments or flights are determined for individual sports of the first level of the MHSAA tournament in that sport.

The MHSAA staff person responsible for the sport will request from the school principal a written explanation for the no-show/withdrawal. If the reason is determined to be unacceptable by MHSAA Staff, the MHSAA Executive Director will place the school on probation for the next two school years. A second offense within the two-year probationary period will cause the school to be prohibited from tournament play in that sport for the two years following the second offense.

4. DRAW PROCEDURES

Each Team District Manager will hold an open draw for the assigned schools. The manager will inform each school of the exact date, time and place for the draw. The earliest draw date is January 17 (or earlier by MHSAA permission). Host schools may draw a bye.

5. TIME SCHEDULES

Team District/Regional - Wrestling may not begin before 3:30 p.m. but must begin by 6:00 p.m. There is to be a ten (10) minute break between the semifinal and final rounds of wrestling.

Individual District Time Schedule

Friday - Entry and seeding meeting at a time and location set by the Individual District manager. After all entries have been received from all schools, the seeding meeting shall begin. The starting weight class for competition and weigh-in will be announced by the MHSAA the previous Monday.

Saturday (District & Regional)

7:30 a.m. - Optional Inspection of Wrestlers

8:00 a.m. - Inspection / Weigh-In

8:30 a.m. - Coaches Meeting

9:30 a.m. - Wrestling Begins

TBA - Consolation & Championship Finals (to start within 20 minutes after the last semifinal match)

Team Finals Time Schedule

Friday, February 24

1:00 p.m. – Division 4 Quarterfinals

3:15 p.m. – Division 3 Quarterfinals

5:30 p.m. – Division 1 Quarterfinals

7:45 p.m. – Division 2 Quarterfinals

Saturday, February 25

9:30 a.m. – Divisions 3 & 4 Semifinals

11:45 a.m. – Divisions 1 & 2 Semifinals

4:00 p.m. – Finals in all Divisions

Individual Finals Time Schedule

Thursday, March 1

9:30 a.m. – Inspection & weigh-in - all Divisions

2:00 p.m. – Grand March

2:30 p.m. – Round one wrestling begins

Friday, March 2

8:30 a.m. – Rounds 2-4

7:00 p.m. – Semifinal matches

Saturday, March 3

8:30 a.m. – Rounds 6-8

4:45 p.m. – Final matches in all Divisions

6. AWARDS

Each Team District and Team Regional champion will receive a trophy and 28 medals. Finals Champions and Finalists will receive a trophy and 28 medals. Schools may order additional medals at their own expense.

At the Individual Finals, medals are given to the top 8 finishers in each weight class.

7. LIMITS OF COMPETITION

Teams and individuals may have a maximum of 14 dates of competition during the regular season. MHSAA tournament dates do not count against season maximums. Exceeding contest maximums will result in disqualification from the MHSAA tournament for teams and /or individuals.

8. FINANCES

Team Tournament - Beginning with the 101st mile, one way, a competing school at the TEAM Final Wrestling Tournament will be reimbursed at the following rate per mile from the home city to the tournament city, one way, for each trip:

101 to 150 miles	\$1.50
151 to 250 miles	\$2.00
251 to 350 miles	\$2.50
351 miles and over	\$3.00

The maximum allowance for meals is \$5.00 per person for up to 18 persons (wrestlers and managers) for the Quarterfinal, Semifinal and Final days of the Team Wrestling Final Tournament until elimination. Any UP school that qualifies for the Team Final Tournament in Battle Creek may be afforded meal and lodging allowance for an additional day to accommodate travel.

The maximum allowance for lodging is the room rate per person for up to 18 persons (wrestlers and managers) for the Quarterfinal, Semifinal and Final days of the Team Wrestling Final Tournament until elimination. For a team to receive reimbursement, it MUST follow all parts of the MHSAA Team Wrestling Finals Housing guidelines and processes. Coaches must fax the Team Final Housing form to the MHSAA by noon on Thursday, February 16. This form is on the Web at mhsaa.com.

There is no reimbursement for meals and / or lodging for the Team District or Team Regional Tournaments.

Individual Tournament - There is no reimbursement or allowance for travel, meals, or lodging for participants in the Individual Wrestling Tournament (District, Regional, and Final).

9. OFFICIALS SELECTION/ASSIGNMENTS

All tournament officials at the Finals and Regionals are assigned by the MHSAA Officials selection committee. Tournament managers hire officials at the Team District and Individual Districts from a list of approved officials supplied by the MHSAA.

10. PLAYING RULES/ADAPTATIONS

All National Federation wrestling playing rules will be used throughout the MHSAA tournament. All policies and procedures of the MHSAA Weight Monitoring program will apply.

11. MEDIA

Media credential requests for Regional meets are processed by local managers. Credential requests for Semifinal and Final games will be handled by the MHSAA.

Videotaping- Competing schools may videotape games in which that school competes. The tape is not to be used to second-guess decisions made by game/meet officials. Schools wishing to videotape games at other sites may do so without securing advanced permission, but must tape from the stands unless press box space is available. Spectators may tape games from their normal seating area but are not to interfere with the view of other spectators or news media personnel covering the activity. A manager is not required to provide electrical hook-ups or tripod space and may arrange spectator videotaping from a designated location(s). Video shot by schools and spectators may not be distributed on the Internet; nor may it be otherwise distributed, sold, rented or loaned for commercial purposes.

Souvenir Program Policies

Teams winning Regional titles in selected sports must fill out and email program information and a team photograph to the MHSAA office to be used in the souvenir program for the Semifinals and the Finals in the event the team qualifies for Final round play. Program information kits are available on the respective sports pages of the MHSAA Web Site. Those sports are as follows: Baseball, boys and girls basketball, girls competitive cheer, football, ice hockey, boys and girls soccer, softball, girls volleyball, team dual wrestling. Complete directions for filling out and submitting information and photographs is included with each kit. All program information and photographs must be submitted by email.

Information For District/Regional/Quarterfinal Tournaments - Teams competing in MHSAA District, Regional and Quarterfinal tournaments shall provide, upon request, team rosters, photographs and other information as necessary, to local tournament managers so that a souvenir program may be assembled for the event.

Merchandising/Promotion Policies

Use of MHSAA Logo – The MHSAA logo and acronym are registered trademarks. MHSAA tournament trophy designs are also copyrighted. Use of these legally protected marks requires written permission of the MHSAA. Contact the MHSAA Communications Director for additional information.

Multimedia Policies

Audio/Video/Still Photography Rights – The MHSAA owns the rights to all multimedia (audio-video-still images-Internet) at all levels of its tournaments. Still and video photography is allowed by individual spectators from the seating area of the venue unless the host school district or facility has a previously-existing policy which is more restrictive. The MHSAA has exclusive multimedia arrangements for its Final events.

MHSAA Handbook Regulation II, Section 14(A) reads as follows: “No school may sell or rent videos (DVD, tape or film) or sell still images of contests which are part of an MHSAA tournament without the permission of the MHSAA.”

If a school wishes to authorize an individual(s) to create multimedia content, the principal or athletic administrator must contact the tournament manager for passes and access. Refer to the publication, MHSAA Multimedia Regulations, for more information.

Post-Game Interviews -- Coaches should also be readily available to meet with the media shortly after the conclusion of a contest. It is recommended that approximately five minutes after the game, managers provide a location other than the team locker rooms for post game interviews with coaches and/or players the coach may wish to designate for interviews. Locker room access should never be allowed to media. Inasmuch as many media outlets are often on deadline following contests, interviews should be granted before any lengthy team meetings occur.

12. SPORTSMANSHIP

When a student is disqualified during a contest for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct, that student shall be withheld by his/her school for the remainder of that day of competition and for at least the next day of competition for that team.

When a coach is disqualified during a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct, that coach shall be prohibited by his/her school from coaching for the remainder of that day of competition and from coaching at or attending at least the next day of competition for that coach's team.

Failure of the school for any reason to enforce this regulation will prohibit the school from entry in the next MHSAA tournament for that sport, or from the remainder of the current tournament if the disqualification occurs during an MHSAA tournament or during the last regular-season contest.

Disqualifications from one season carry over to the next season in that sport for undergraduates and coaches, or the next season in any sport for seniors. If the playing rules for a sport specify an additional penalty or more rapid progression, or use of such a progression for other violations, the playing rules apply.

Any coach who is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct two or more times during a season, any player who is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct three or more times during a season, and any coach or player who is ejected for spitting at, hitting, slapping, kicking, pushing or intentionally and aggressively physically contacting an official at any time during that season, is not eligible to participate in the MHSAA tournament for that sport that season. If the tournament disqualifying ejection for that individual occurs during the MHSAA tournament, that player or coach is ineligible for the remainder of that tournament.

If a team is removed from competition in protest, the contest is forfeited to the opponent and the coach and principal of the removed team must appear before the Executive Committee to indicate why additional action should not be taken. The Executive Committee may also require the appearance of personnel from other schools and game officials.

If the coach is ejected from the contest and an assistant coach, or an assigned school representative is not available to continue as the coach the event is terminated and forfeited to the opponent.

When a contest is interrupted or it ends prematurely because of breakdown of proper sportsmanship and whether or not the on-site officials forfeit the contest to one team, one or both schools may be subjected to any or all, but not limited to, the following: censure, probation with competition, probation without competition, forfeiture, loss of privilege of revenue sharing, expulsion. In addition, it may be required of one or both schools that their coaches and administrators appear before the Executive Committee to indicate why additional action should not be taken.

13. WEATHER POLICIES, SUSPENSIONS, POSTPONEMENTS

When teams are delayed in arriving at tournament sites because of inclement weather management is encouraged to consider delaying competition for a few hours and/or playing games/matches in brackets of teams/individuals that are present and prepared to participate. If, after a reasonable delay, fewer than 60% of the scheduled teams/individuals have not arrived, the tournament must be rescheduled. If 60% or more of the scheduled teams/individuals are present, the tournament is to be conducted on the day scheduled.

14. INJUNCTION, RESTRAINING ORDER, PROTESTS

If an injunction or restraining order is served or presented at an MHSAA tournament site and such purports to require the eligibility of or participation by a student or team which a school and/or the MHSAA has ruled to be ineligible under MHSAA regulations, the on-site tournament manager is to suspend the entire competition (team competition) or events in which that student is intending to participate (individual competition). If the meet has begun, it shall be completed.

Protests will not be reviewed by the MHSAA. All disputes must be decided at the site before the game proceeds. The umpires will make the final decision regarding game events. The Tournament Manager will resolve all next game concerns.

15. TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL POLICY

For coaches and officials at all MHSAA tournaments, use of tobacco products of any kind within sight of players and spectators and use of alcohol during a contest or at any time before it on the day of the contest is prohibited.

Tobacco: It is not intended that a violation of the tobacco policy should lead to immediate ejection of a coach. He or she should be reminded of the policy and reported to his or her school administration after the contest. Only if the coach is unwilling to comply promptly shall he or she be disqualified from coaching at the event. Officials should be reminded of the tobacco policy and reported in writing by the tournament manager to the MHSAA.

Alcohol: Historically, officials promptly disqualified coaches, and tournament managers immediately replaced officials who were under the influence of alcohol; and no change in such procedures is intended by these policies.

16. SPECTATOR POLICIES

The following general policies apply to spectators at MHSAA Tournament events. Tournament managers may also have additional school, facility or institutional restrictions and/or policies.

- Banners are allowed with Meet Manager approval.
- Noisemakers are not allowed at MHSAA indoor tournaments.
- Body paint and bare chests are not allowed.
- Smoking is not allowed at the tournament site.
- Signs on sticks are not allowed.
- Helium filled balloons are not allowed.
- Spectator Videotaping – Spectators may tape games from their normal seating area but are not to interfere with the view of other spectators or news media personnel covering the activity. A manager is not required to provide electrical hook-ups; or tripod space and may arrange spectator videotaping from a designated location(s). Video shot by schools and spectators may not be distributed on the Internet; nor may it be otherwise distributed, sold, rented or loaned for commercial purposes.