



## 2026 MHSAA WRESTLING TOURNAMENT

### Tournament Plan – Key Points of Review

- The MHSAA Wrestling Tournament is conducted in four equal divisions by enrollment for team competitions, and four equal divisions by enrollment, plus a fifth division for girls-only individual competitions.
- Tournament dates for INDIVIDUAL competition are:
  - **February 14** for the Individual District
  - **February 15** for the Girls Individual District
  - **February 21** for the Individual Regional
  - **February 22** for the Girls Individual Regional
- Tournament dates for TEAM competition are:
  - **February 11 (D1 & D3) & February 12 (D2 & D4)** for Team Districts
  - **February 18** for Team Regionals.
- On-site weigh-in procedures on the day of competition will be used.
- Wrestlers who fail to make weight for their entered weight may not be moved to another weight class at the Individual Districts, Girls Individual Districts, Individual Regionals, or Girls Individual Regionals.
- For the Individual District tournament, a wrestler MUST have a VARSITY record (win, loss, or forfeit) to be eligible to compete.
- For the Girls Individual District, a wrestler must have a record (win, loss, or forfeit) to be eligible to compete.
- Packets/materials should be provided to participating schools and officials in advance of the tournament.
- Managers hire officials at the District level. The MHSAA selection committee assigns officials for Regional, Girls Individual Regional, and Finals tournaments.
- Trophies and medals are shipped directly to managers from ESCO, Inc.
- Financial reports MUST be filed within **30** days at the end of the tournament.
- It is recommended that a physician (MD, DO, PA, or NP) be on site to assist meet officials with skin inspections.



## **WRESTLING TOURNAMENT MANAGERS MANUAL**

**(Alpha by topic, forms follow topics)**

### **2026 MHSAA Individual District (traditional & Girls), Individual Regional (traditional & Girls), Team District & Team Regional Wrestling**

**ADMISSIONS** – For District and Regional wrestling events (Team and Individual), digital ticketing will be sold via **GoFan**. Team or Individual Districts shall be **\$7.00**, and Team and Individual Regionals shall be **\$9.00** for all persons.

Free admission is allowed to all wrestlers who weigh-in on the day of the tournament, two coaches, and one manager for teams of six wrestlers or more at each MHSAA District, Regional, or Girls Regional.

The policies of the local host site shall prevail with respect to pets/animals. In the absence of local host policy, animals or pets shall not be permitted to enter MHSAA tournament venues, including spectator and team areas. However, properly marked or documented service animals leashed or harnessed at all times may accompany spectators paying admission or attending with other approved teams or school personnel. Individuals who bring service animals are asked to bring their own waste disposal bags and request special seating before the event if needed.

**APPLIANCES** - The MHSAA discourages spectators from using electrical appliances at MHSAA tournaments. Local management shall include a statement in the host packet that outlines the local policies regarding the use of appliances.

#### **CHECKLIST - Equipment**

- One match time clock per mat
- One visual time display per mat
- One injury time clock per mat
- One timer's signaling device per mat
- Two sets of red and green leg bands for each mat
- National Anthem reproduction equipment
  - It is required that the National Anthem be played prior to the start of each tournament.
- Disposable towels, disinfectant, disposable gloves, trash bags at each mat
- A minimum of three regulation-size mats (28' circle is the minimum size required).
  - Team Tournament requires one or two mats
- A sufficient quantity of mat tape
- One "Head Table" for announcer and tournament clerical workers
- One table per mat
- One chair for each person to be seated at the tables
- A public address system
- One awards presentation stand or area
- Chairs near mats for coaches of competing contestants
- Computer and knowledgeable operator (Individual Tournament)
- Copy machine

#### **CHECKLIST - Supplies**

- Pens, pencils and note paper
- Wall charts (MHSAA will supply)
- Felt marking pens or typing tape labels for wall charts
- Bracket sheets and/or programs (provide free, one per team)

## CHECKLIST - Personnel

- Digital Ticket scanners (Adults)
- Computer Operator (Individual Tournament)
- Announcer
- One runner per mat - Student (Individual Tournament)
- One match scorer per official (Adult)
- One match timer per official (Adult)
- Doctor available for the duration of the Tournament

**CONCUSSION PROTOCOLS** – “Any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health care professional.” The language above, which appears in all National Federation sports rule books, reflects a strengthening of rules regarding the safety of athletes suspected of having a concussion. This language reflects an increasing focus on safety and acknowledges that the vast majority of concussions do not involve a loss of consciousness. This protocol is intended to provide the mechanics to follow during the course of contests when an athlete sustains an apparent concussion.

1. The officials will have no role in determining concussion other than the obvious one where a player is unconscious or appears to lose consciousness. Officials will merely point out to a coach that a player appears to be injured and advise that the player should be examined by a healthcare professional for an exact determination of the extent of the injury.

2. If it is confirmed by the school's designated healthcare professional that the student did not sustain a concussion, the head coach may advise the officials during an appropriate stoppage of play, and the athlete may reenter the competition pursuant to the contest rules.

3. Otherwise, if competition continues while the athlete is withheld for an apparent concussion, that athlete may not be returned to competition that day but is subject to the return to play protocol.

- a. The clearance may not be on the same date the athlete was removed from play.
- b. Only an M.D., D.O., Physician's Assistant, or Nurse Practitioner may clear the individual to return to activity.
- c. The clearance must be in writing and must be unconditional. It is not sufficient that the M.D., D.O., Physician's Assistant, or Nurse Practitioner has approved the student to begin a return-to-play progression. The medical examiner must approve the student's return to unrestricted activity.
- d. Individual schools, districts, and leagues may have more stringent requirements and protocols, including but not limited to mandatory periods of inactivity, screening, and post-concussion testing prior to the written clearance for return to activity.

4. Following the contest, an Officials Report shall be filed with a removed player's school and the MHSAA if the situation was brought to the officials' attention.

5. Member schools are required to complete and submit the forms designated by the MHSAA to record and track head injury events in all levels of all sports.

6. In cases where an assigned MHSAA tournament physician (MD/DO/PA/NP) is present, his or her decision to not allow an athlete to return to activity may not be overruled.

**Return to Activity & Post-Concussion Form** - [LINK HERE](#)

**CONTESTANT SEATING** - Contestants may be seated near the mat, either in the bleachers or parallel to the mat, but in either case, no closer than ten feet. Please give special attention to this issue.

**FORFEITURE POLICIES** - Individuals or teams that are defeated by an ineligible opponent or teams that allow one or more ineligible students to participate do NOT advance in MHSAA tournaments. If placements in MHSAA tournaments are vacated as a result of an individual being ineligible or a team allowing one or more ineligible students to participate, other individuals or teams neither advance to those placements nor receive awards for those places.

**FINANCIAL REPORT** - Please refer to the updated Tournament Managers Financial form for details.

**GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE** - This committee of three consists of:

1. Meet Manager or Designee
2. Head Official (OIC at Final Tournament)
3. Coaches Representative (one of three identified)

This committee may be convened to hear grievances based on tournament administration, MHSAA, and National Federation Wrestling rules application (not an official's judgment).

- Wrestling matches will not be interrupted to convene the Grievance Committee for grievances based on rule application. A coach must follow Rule 6-6-6.
- Decisions rendered by the Grievance Committee, based on rule application, will not change the outcome of matches already wrestled. The committee's decisions will apply to all future matches.
- The procedure for filing grievances must include a coach reporting the grievance in writing to the Tournament Manager. The Manager will then render a decision on the grievance, dismiss the grievance, or convene the Grievance Committee.
- If the committee is convened, the referees and coaches involved in the grievance will be excused from serving on the committee. The committee will then be secluded from the tournament; they will collect the necessary information and then render a decision.
- The Tournament Manager, or designee, will state the decision of the committee.

**THIS DECISION IS FINAL AND MAY NOT BE REVERSED OR APPEALED!**

**HANDOUTS** - Only information about MHSAA activities and competition may be distributed to the general public. Camp/Clinic or other materials may NOT be distributed without MHSAA approval.

**HOST PACKET (COMPETING TEAMS AND OFFICIALS)** - Managers shall supply each competing school and official with the following information (Regional, Girls Individual Regional, and Final Managers must supply managers of qualifying tournaments with enough copies of this material to give to each qualifying team). Be brief and concise.

- Location of host school (provide map)
- Location of dressing facilities
- Locations of public restaurants
- Locations and telephone numbers of hotels and motels
- Host school building rules
- List of tournament referees and their ID numbers
- Team seating arrangement, if any
- Parking arrangements for competing schools and referees
- Email a copy to [jamie@mhsaa.com](mailto:jamie@mhsaa.com)

**INCLEMENT WEATHER / POSTPONEMENT** - When teams are delayed in arriving at tournament sites because of inclement weather:

1. If fewer than 60% of the scheduled teams/individuals have not arrived after a reasonable delay, the tournament must be rescheduled.
2. If 60% or more of the scheduled teams/individuals are present, the tournament will be conducted on the scheduled day.

**INJUNCTION/RESTRAINING ORDER** - Managers are reminded of the following statement adopted by the Representative Council and which is in effect for all MHSAA tournaments: "In the interest of fairness to all participants 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 or game has begun, it shall be completed."

**INSPECTION FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASE** - The MHSAA is keenly aware of the increase of various infections caused in part by impetigo or one of the many herpes virus strains that seem to thrive in the wrestling room or are carried by wrestlers.

To control and reduce the chances of wrestlers' exposure to these infections, the MHSAA has adopted a procedure that shall be followed at all MHSAA Team and Individual Wrestling Tournaments. Prior to the weighing-in for each MHSAA

tournament competition, each wrestler shall be inspected to evaluate whether there is evidence that a communicable disease or a condition that is suspiciously similar to a communicable disease is present or visible on any wrestler.

The person who inspects the wrestlers should be a meet appointed/approved physician (MD, DO, PA or NP) with experience in skin conditions (dermatology, for example) if at all possible. If no meet-appointed physician is available, the inspection of contestants is performed by the officials with assistance from athletic trainers, if needed and requested by the officials.

- No wrestler may weigh-in (step on the scales) until they have passed the communicable disease inspection and met the requirements of National Federation Rule 4-2-3.
- Coaches must be aware of their wrestlers' health conditions and are expected to advise the tournament manager, as outlined in the MHSAA Wrestling *PSTI*, of any conditions that are suspicious.
- Physicians will be encouraged to participate in the inspection of wrestlers under the conditions of the 1988 State of Michigan Public Act 30, which provides immunity for physicians who volunteer their services to schools.
- All skin inspections, whether done by a physician or official, must be done in the same manner for all wrestlers at a tournament site.

**LOCKER ROOM PRIVACY POLICY** - Using devices of any kind to capture or transmit images is strictly prohibited in locker rooms, dressing areas, training rooms, weigh-in rooms, showers, restrooms, or other areas where there is an expectation of privacy during MHSAA tournament events. Tournament managers or athletic directors who discover such use should move immediately to have the device removed and inform the head coach or athletic director of the identity and nature of the activity of the person involved.

**MEDIA** - Adequate arrangements should be made to take care of working press representatives at the tournaments.

**MEDICAL EMERGENCY POLICY** - Host school Tournament Managers should follow all local school District policies regarding medical emergencies for participating athletes, coaches, students, and adult spectators for competitions conducted in school facilities. It is advised that AED devices be readily available during tournament competitions. In addition:

- Trainers are an allowed expense for the tournament host and are encouraged but not required.
- If your school requires immediate and continuous attention, you are encouraged to bring your own certified athletic trainer (at your school's expense) to cover your team's needs and to also assist in the event if called upon. Your school's certified medical professional may not overrule certified medical professionals provided by tournament management.
- All MHSAA concussion protocols will be followed.
- MHSAA tornado watches and warnings shall be followed.
- MHSAA policy on managing heat and humidity shall be followed.

**When MHSAA tournament contests are conducted at non-school facilities, plans should be developed for the following needs and/or circumstances:**

- Student, coach, and spectator shelter for outdoor events
- Host facility emergency equipment such as AEDs, fire escapes, etc.
- Emergency communications, i.e., phone numbers and school administration contact.
- Coordination with facility management regarding evacuation, first aid, and on-site responsibilities.
- Medical transport or first responder contact procedures.
- Proximity/directions of nearest medical facility.
- If your school requires immediate and continuous attention at post season TEAM competitions, you are encouraged to bring your own certified athletic trainer (at your school's expense) to cover your team's needs and to also assist in the event if called upon. Your school's certified medical professional may not overrule certified medical professionals provided by tournament management.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: For all MHSAA tournaments conducted at either school or non-school facilities, an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is required to be within visible distance of the event.**

**MATSIDE RESTRICTIONS** - National Federation wrestling rules restrict team members, other team personnel, and spectators from being at the mat side closer than ten (10) feet. Two coaches or non-participating contestants (rule: 2-2-2) may occupy chairs at one corner of a mat where a team member competes. By rule, these individuals must have completed the wrestling rules meeting for the current year. Tournament Managers shall enforce this rule to ensure compliance with it.

## MEDIA/MULTIMEDIA - [LINK HERE](#)

### OFFICIALS ACCOMMODATIONS - Managers should provide tournament officials with the following accommodations:

- Host – An assigned person who will meet the official(s), escort the official to the dressing area, and assist the official as necessary.
- Security – A person or persons identified to the officials who will assist in safe passage from the contest site to the dressing area. The security person will be able to unlock and lock the dressing area when necessary. A security person can be assigned to the dressing area to ensure that officials are not interrupted by the media, the fans, the players, or the coaches.
- Officials' room – The room for officials should be private and separate from the dressing area of any contestants and provide security for valuables belonging to officials. An adjacent office within a locker room is not desirable. The area should be absent of distractions to enable a proper pregame meeting. Separate facilities are expected for male and female officials. At no time is it reasonable to expect an official to use an area accessible to the public.
- Showers/restrooms – If possible, showers and restroom facilities should be available to officials for private use. It is unacceptable to place officials in a position that requires them to share public facilities. In the event facilities must be shared with contestants, it is best that that use be separate and uninterrupted.

**OFFICIALS ASSIGNMENTS**—The District manager hires all District officials from the approved list of officials who complete a current rules meeting. The MHSAA assigns all Regional and Final officials.

**OFFICIALS FEES** - Tournament managers pay officials at the District, Regional, and Girls Individual Regional Tournaments according to the following schedule:

#### Individual Tournament

- District ..... **\$250.00**
- Regional ..... **\$250.00**

The one assigned head official shall receive an additional **\$15** for conducting inspections, observing the weigh-in, and serving on the Grievance Committee.

#### Team Tournament

- District ..... **\$130.00**
- Regional ..... **\$145.00**

Mileage will be paid to officials at **\$.40** per mile beginning with the 51st mile (50-mile deductible). Minimum mileage is no longer paid. Tournament Managers will prepare a check for each official, including the fee and total round-trip mileage, and present that check to the official before the competition begins. Figure mileage from home city to tournament city using a Michigan highway map. Schools choosing to secure additional officials beyond what is indicated may do so, but this is a cost the host school chooses to cover.

**OPT-OUT DUE DATE** - The deadline for opting-out and delivering materials to the District Tournament Manager is **January 29 by 4:00 p.m.** The school's Master Eligibility List and Alpha Master Roster are due to the Team and Individual District managers by **January 29**.

**Late Materials** – For a school that fails to submit its materials by **January 29**, a **\$50** fee must be paid before the contestant or team will be allowed to participate. Weigh-in is the first act of participation for Team tournaments and the entry and seeding meeting is the first act of participation in the Individual District and Girls Individual Regional tournament. The \$50 fee is to be retained by the host manager. There are to be no late entries after the entry and seeding meeting (Individual District and Girls Individual Regional) and the weigh-in period ends (Team tournaments).

**PARTICIPATING TEAM/SPECTATOR INTERNET STREAMING** - The broadcast and streaming rights of MHSAA post-season tournament events belong exclusively to the N-F-H-S Network, FanDuel Sports Network (formerly Bally Sports Detroit), the M-H-S-A-A and those media outlets that have pre-arranged to secure those rights. Managers: Please post the sign (found at the end of these materials).

Teams participating in MHSAA Tournaments are prohibited from streaming live video of any portion of an event over the Internet - including using social media platforms like YouTube and Facebook – or any other method.

**PROGRAMS** – District and Regional sites may create local programs for their tournaments. If the host school desires to earn a profit, the MHSAA cannot be charged for any expenses connected with the program. The MHSAA will provide souvenir programs for sale at the Final Tournament site.

**SIGNAGE** - The Tournament Manager should inspect all signs to be posted by competing schools in or near the cheering sections. Any sign that carries questionable implications or is degrading should not be allowed. Managers should restrict schools to one sign each if space is unavailable for multiple signs.

**SPORTSMANSHIP** - MHSAA Regulation V, Section 3 applies in all tournament contests, including the following provisions:

- Unsportsmanlike Conduct in Previous Contest - A player or coach who is ejected during a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be withheld by his/her school for at least the next day of competition for that team and must also complete an approved sportsmanship course before being allowed to return.
- In individual sports, a student or coach disqualified in the first round of a tournament that progresses over more than one day may not participate on any subsequent day in that tournament because the student has not qualified for additional rounds. This includes MHSAA tournaments in tennis and individual wrestling. If a school fails to enforce the subsequent disqualification with respect to one of its students or coaches, the tournament managers or any registered official or representative of a member school who becomes aware of the violation shall report it to the MHSAA, which shall prohibit the school from the remainder of the current tournament.
- Player Suspension - A suspended player is treated as ineligible, meaning that the student shall not participate. It is permissible but not recommended that the player sit with the team, even in uniform. The minimum requirement is that the suspended student not enter the contest as a participant. Coach Suspension - Suspension from coaching requires at least that the coach not be at or near the team bench before, during, or after the contest, not be in or near the locker room before, during, or after the contest, and not give instructions directly or indirectly to coaches or players from any position in or near the gymnasium or field of play.
- Multiple Disqualifications/Abuse of Officials- 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.
- The school of the disqualified coach or player must prohibit that person from being present on the property of the tournament venue for the remainder of the tournament series. If that school fails to enforce this, the tournament manager or any registered official or representative of a member school who becomes aware of the violation shall report it to the MHSAA, which shall prohibit the school from the remainder of the current tournament.
- Post Contest Ejections – When a student or coach commits an ejectable offense against an official following the conclusion of the contest but before the officials have left the facility and/or grounds, an official may disqualify the student or coach as though it had occurred during the contest.
- Taunting - In all sports, officials are to consider taunting a flagrant, unsportsmanlike foul that disqualifies the offending bench personnel or contestant from the contest/day of competition (and the next contest/day of competition). A warning may be given but is not required before ejection. Taunting includes any actions or comments by coaches, players, or spectators intended to bait, anger, embarrass, ridicule, or demean others, whether or not the deeds or words are vulgar or racist. Included is conduct that berates, needles, intimidates, or threatens based on race, gender, ethnic origin, or background and conduct that attacks religious beliefs, size, economic status, speech, family, special needs, or personal matters.
- At all MHSAA tournament venues, tournament management may give spectators one warning for taunting. Thereafter, spectators who taunt others are to be ejected by security.

**TROPHIES AND MEDALS** - All trophies and medals for the MHSAA Individual District, Regional and Girls Regional events, and Team District and Regional events will be sent to tournament host managers by ESCO, Inc. of Wisconsin, supplier for both trophies and medals. Please examine the medals and the trophy for damage and proper engraving, quantities, etc. Tournament Managers should call ESCO directly at 800-852-4266 with problems or questions.

**Individual District (Traditional & Girls Only)**

- Fifty-six (56) medals will be awarded to the first four place winners in each weight class. Those place winners will qualify for the assigned Individual Regional Tournament.
- The four Individual District place winners will be placed in the Regional bracket based on a formula.



### **Individual Regional (Traditional & Girls Only)**

- Fifty-six (56) medals will be awarded to the first four place winners in each weight class.  
The first four place winners at each Individual Regional will advance to the Individual Finals, held **March 6 & 7**.  
The four Individual Regional champions will be seeded, and the rest of the bracket will be completed based on formula.

### **Team District**

- One team trophy will be awarded to the District championship team.
- Twenty-eight (28) medals will be awarded to the District championship team.

### **Team Regional**

- One team trophy will be awarded to the Regional championship team.
- Twenty-eight (28) medals will be awarded to the Regional championship team.

### **Extra/Replacement Medal Order Form - [LINK HERE](#)**

**TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL POLICY** - Alcohol or tobacco, including e-cigarettes or other smoking devices, is prohibited at MHSAA tournament events by players, coaches, and spectators. Managers should stress in coaches' meetings that they are not to use tobacco at the tournament venue.

- **Tobacco** - It is not intended that a tobacco policy violation should lead to a coach's immediate ejection. They should be reminded of the policy and report to their school administration after the contest. If the coach is unwilling to comply promptly, they should 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.

### **TOURNAMENT MEDICAL INCIDENT REPORT - [LINK HERE](#)**

**TOURNAMENT WITHDRAWAL POLICY** - Tournament management is to contact the MHSAA office if a school withdraws or fails to show for scheduled competition after the draw is completed for team sports or the pairings, heat assignments, or flights are determined for individual sports of the first level of the MHSAA tournament in a sport. The MHSAA staff person responsible for the sport will request a written explanation from the school principal for the no-show/withdrawal. If the reason is deemed unacceptable by MHSAA staff, the MHSAA Executive Director will place the school on probation for the next two 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.

**UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE (DRONE) POLICY** - The use of unmanned aerial vehicles ("UAV"), also known as drones, is prohibited for any purpose by any persons at MHSAA tournament venues. Tournament management shall refuse admission or entry to anyone attempting to use a UAV, and if necessary, tournament management shall remove anyone attempting to use a UAV and/or confiscate the UAV until the event has been completed. For this policy, a UAV is any aircraft without a human pilot aboard the device. An exception to this policy may be made in specific cases for MHSAA broadcast partners, provided the management of the tournament facility permits the presence of UAVs for broadcast purposes under the control of the MHSAA.

**YOUTH PROTECTION POLICY** - During the MHSAA Tournament events, the MHSAA expects all designated managers, volunteer or paid staff assisting in the event, officials, or any other personnel to follow local school District policy and state statute regarding the mandatory reporting of child abuse, bullying, hazing, and sexual harassment. A report of such activity shall be made to legal authorities and to the MHSAA Executive Director or his designee.

### **TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES – INDIVIDUAL DISTRICT & GIRLS ONLY INDIVIDUAL DISTRICT**

1. The Individual District Tournament will be held on **Saturday, February 14**.  
The Girls Individual District Tournament will be held on **Sunday, February 15**.
2. The MHSAA will post the starting weight class for all Individual District sites on **Monday, February 9**.  
The weigh-in for the District tournament shall start with this same weight class.
3. Three mats must be used, with four mats recommended, for all Individual District tournaments.
4. The tournament MUST be run using **TrackWrestling**.  
Please email [trackwrhelp@mhsaa.com](mailto:trackwrhelp@mhsaa.com) with questions.



5. Entries:
  - a. 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 14 entries with no more than two (2) wrestlers in any one weight class.
  - b. For a female wrestler to be eligible as one of the 14 school entries at the **Girls Individual District Tournament**, a wrestler must have a record (win, loss, forfeit). If a wrestler competes at a weight class for the first time at the Girls Individual District, the wrestler would be required to make scratch weight. Each school is allowed 14 entries with no more than two (2) wrestlers in any one weight class.
    - i. **Coaches and girls must CHOOSE between participating in the traditional Individual District OR the Girls Individual District. Girls may NOT participate in BOTH the Individual District and the Girls Individual District.**
6. District Managers will hire officials for all District competitions from the MHSAA-approved list; the MHSAA will assign all officials for Regional competitions.
7. Wrestlers do NOT have to have a winning record for seeding consideration.

#### **Friday, February 13:**

- **YOU HAVE UNTIL NOON ON FRIDAY, 02/13/2026, TO ENTER YOUR TEAMS' LINEUP (BOYS & GIRLS).**
  - At this time, coaches and girls must CHOOSE between participating in the traditional Individual District OR the Girls Individual District. Girls may NOT participate in BOTH the Individual District and the Girls Individual District. Girls that choose the Girls Individual District will have their coach submit their information to a different TrackWrestling event designated for the Girls Individual District.
- On **Friday, 02/13/2026, at 12:01 p.m.** the MHSAA will review each Individual District Tournament. **Once ALL teams in each Division have submitted their lineups, that Division will be "opened."**
- Once your District is opened, you will have until **Friday, 02/13/2026, at 05:59 p.m.** to enter seeding criteria (head-to-head) information for each of your wrestlers. If you miss this window of time, head-to-head information for your wrestlers may not be able to be factored in at the seeding meeting.
  - **NOTE: Make sure you answer 'every' question on the seeding criteria form correctly. Don't assume the answer to one question carries over to the others.**
- Individual District Seed Meeting: **7:00 p.m. FRIDAY** OR may occur SATURDAY morning before the tournament. **Girls Individual District Seed Meeting: 7:00 p.m. SATURDAY** OR may occur SUNDAY morning before the tournament.
- Review pre-seeds from TrackWrestling. Adjust where needed. **Seed meetings held virtually are acceptable.**
- Once a lineup is submitted, it may ONLY be changed by the tournament management (site host/event administration) and ONLY in the event of WITHDRAWAL (injury, illness, failed weight, failed inspection, discipline). **WRESTLERS MAY NOT BE ADDED, OR WEIGHT CLASSES CHANGED.**

<b>Saturday, February 14:</b>	<b>Sunday, February 15: Girls Individual District</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8:30 a.m. - Optional Inspection of Wrestlers</li> <li>• 9:00 a.m. - Inspection / Weigh-In</li> <li>• 9:30 a.m. - Coaches Meeting (unless held Friday)</li> <li>• 10:00 a.m. - TrackWrestling released to the public</li> <li>• 10:30 a.m. - Wrestling Begins</li> <li>• TBA - Consolation &amp; Championship Finals (to start within 20 minutes after the last Semifinal match)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:30 a.m. - Optional Inspection of Wrestlers</li> <li>• 10:00 a.m. - Inspection / Weigh-In</li> <li>• 10:30 a.m. - Coaches Meeting (unless held prior)</li> <li>• 11:00 a.m. - TrackWrestling released to the public</li> <li>• 11:30 a.m. - Wrestling Begins</li> <li>• TBA - Consolation &amp; Championship Finals (to start within 20 minutes after the last Semifinal match)</li> </ul>

**Note: All matches shall be wrestled before any awards are presented.**

#### **Inspection / Weigh-In**

A referee and, when possible, a physician (MD, DO, PA, or NP) with experience in skin conditions (dermatologist, for example) shall inspect contestants before they are allowed to weigh-in. After entering the weigh-in area, wrestlers remain in the weigh-in area until they have completed the weigh-in. A minimum of two scales shall be used to conduct the weigh-in. The weigh-in shall be up to one hour in length. The actual weight of each contestant shall be recorded on the weigh-in form. The weight classes at weigh-in shall follow the order of weight classes to be wrestled at that tournament. All wrestlers weighing in at the same weight class must use the same scale.

Weigh-ins will occur on-site and follow NFHS procedures: Wrestlers shall weigh-in wearing legal uniforms with suitable undergarments. Socks may be worn but may not be taken off as a means of making weight.

**“Scratch” Weight** - A wrestler could achieve “scratch” weight by the following:

- Make “scratch” weight for an event that takes place, and their school participates in the event.
  - A wrestler is not required to compete at the weight for which they have made “scratch.”
    - i.e., a wrestler makes “scratch” at the 215-pound weight class but is bumped to the Heavyweight class for the dual meet. This wrestler has still made “scratch” at the 215-pound weight class.
- **IN ALL CASES, RECORD EXACT WEIGHTS AT ALL WEIGH-INS.**

**“Scratch” Weight (GIRLS)** - A girl could achieve “scratch” weight at an NFHS girls’ weight by the following:

- Makes “scratch” weight and competes at an event that takes place and that uses NFHS girls weight classes, and their school participates in the event.
- Makes “scratch” weight and competes at an event that takes place and uses “traditional” weight classes that are the same or below an NFHS girls weight class.
  - A wrestler is not required to compete at the weight for which they have made “scratch.”
    - Example: A girl weighs in at 106.0. This qualifies as making 106 “scratch” for the traditional weight class and 110 for the girls NFHS weight class.
    - Example: A girl weighs-in at 100.0 pounds to wrestle 106 for a dual meet. This would qualify as making “scratch” at 100 pounds for the NFHS girls weight class. If this same girl weighs-in at 101.2 for 106, they have made “scratch” for 106, and even the 105 girls weight, but not the 100-pound girls weight class.
- **In all cases, recording EXACT weights at ALL weigh-ins is important.**

## Seeding

Each school will submit entries and wrestler record data for each of their 14 wrestlers through TrackWrestling.

Coaches are encouraged to submit season summaries and seed materials. **For the Girls Only District, coaches will submit records that are GIRLS vs GIRLS ONLY.** Coaches may add their wrestler’s records against boys in the **“NOTABLE”** area on TrackWrestling. The TrackWrestling system will “pre-seed” participants based on the data submitted and the MHSAA seeding criteria. The following criteria are as follows:

TrackWrestling will “pre-seed” the Individual District based on the following criteria:

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 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 TrackWrestling system will “pre-seed” each bracket. Each District will hold a seed meeting Friday evening (or Saturday morning) prior to the Individual District. Seed meetings held virtually are acceptable. Coaches are encouraged to have season summaries and seed material for this meeting. Following the weigh-in on Saturday morning, there will be a coach meeting where the group (tournament manager plus ONE coach from each school) will approve each bracket after removing any wrestlers that failed to make weight or pass inspection.

**Note:** Seeding meetings are not debates! The decision of the group 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 group and direct it to reconsider the seeded wrestlers and the wrestler(s) considered to have been overlooked. If changes are made, they will stand.

If the wrestler not making weight was unseeded, the unseeded wrestler’s opponent will simply be advanced the appropriate number of bracket lines.

## Brackets & “Second Wrestlers”

- TrackWrestling Bracket: **32 Man Cons. Format 1 Place 6 bracket or 16-man Pigtail WB-3 Place 4**
- Brackets may not exceed 32 competitors. It is necessary that District places be determined by competition.
- Each school is limited to 14 wrestlers, with no more than two in any weight class.

- Coaches are urged to enter only “second wrestlers” who are legitimate contenders.
- When the number of entrants exceeds 32, the total number must be reduced to 32 or fewer.
- Initially, call for volunteers to withdraw “second wrestlers.”
- If the bracket continues to exceed 32, withdraw those second wrestlers with the most total varsity losses.
- If necessary, withdraw those second wrestlers with the fewest varsity wins to break the tie.
- If necessary, place the names of all second wrestlers who remained tied in a container. Withdraw those wrestlers whose names are drawn from the container until the number of contestants is reduced to the allowable 32.

#### **Draw Format - Use only when competitors exceed 16**

- Determine the number of wrestlers in the bracket.
- Remove unnecessary letters beginning with "V", in reverse alphabetical order, until the number of wrestlers in the weight class equals the available lines.  
(22 = A - V; 21 = A - U; 20 = A - T; 19 = A - S; 18 = A - R; 17 = A - Q; 16 = A - P).  
Less than 16 wrestlers – see District Bracket Examples.
- The "Rattails" are placed and shall not be altered.
- As few as one wrestler may be seeded; however, no more than ten may be seeded.  
(#1 - #10 indicate the seed placement)
- All unseeded wrestlers shall be placed in the open lines by computer program or blind draw.
- Double elimination begins at the Quarterfinal bracket in the Individual District.
- When less than 16 wrestlers are entered, the BYES shall be **drawn** as prescribed by Rule 10-3-2.

**Officiating System - Individual District** - Four officials will work on three mats, and five will work on four mats. The head official assigned by the Tournament Manager, as the MHSAA prescribes, shall inspect the wrestlers and observe the weigh-in. In addition, the head official shall serve on the tournament Grievance Committee. Final matches in the championship and consolation round shall employ the two-official system of officiating. (Compensation: \$175 plus mileage where applicable). The one assigned head official shall receive an additional \$15 for conducting inspection, observing the weigh-in, and serving on the Grievance Committee. Schools choosing to secure additional officials beyond what is indicated may do so, but this is a cost the host school chooses to cover.

**MANAGERS REPORTS** – District Managers must forward weigh-in sheets, Alpha Master, and Master Eligibility forms of advancing wrestlers to the Regional Manager.

- Individual District Managers will transmit District results to the Individual Regional Manager prior to **4 p.m. Monday, February 16.**

### **TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES – INDIVIDUAL REGIONAL & GIRLS ONLY INDIVIDUAL REGIONAL**

#### **General Information**

The Individual Regional Tournaments will be held on **Saturday, February 21.**

The Girls Only Individual Regional Tournaments will be held on **Sunday, February 22.**

The MHSAA will post the starting weight class for all Individual Regional sites on **Monday, February 16.**

The weigh-in for the Regional tournament shall start with this same weight class.

The MHSAA will assign all officials for Regional competition.

The tournament must be run using “TrackWrestling.” Please email [trackwrhelp@mhsaa.com](mailto:trackwrhelp@mhsaa.com) with questions.

<b>Saturday, February 21:</b>	<b>Sunday, February 22: Girls Individual Regional</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8:30 a.m. - Optional Inspection of Wrestlers</li> <li>• 9:00 a.m. - Inspection / Weigh-In</li> <li>• 9:30 a.m. - Coaches Meeting (unless held Friday)</li> <li>• 10:00 a.m. - TrackWrestling released to the public</li> <li>• 10:30 a.m. - Wrestling Begins</li> <li>• TBA - Consolation &amp; Championship Finals (to start within 20 minutes after the last Semifinal match)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:30 a.m. - Optional Inspection of Wrestlers</li> <li>• 10:00 a.m. - Inspection / Weigh-In</li> <li>• 10:30 a.m. - Coaches Meeting (unless held prior)</li> <li>• 11:00 a.m. - TrackWrestling released to the public</li> <li>• 11:30 a.m. - Wrestling Begins</li> <li>• TBA - Consolation &amp; Championship Finals (to start within 20 minutes after the last Semifinal match)</li> </ul>

## Weigh-In

A referee and, when possible, a physician (MD, DO, PA, or NP) with experience in skin conditions (dermatologist, for example) shall inspect contestants before they are allowed to weigh in. After entering the weigh-in area, wrestlers remain in the weigh-in area until they have completed the weigh-in. A minimum of two scales shall be used and begin with the announced weight class.

Weigh-ins will occur on-site and follow NFHS procedures: Wrestlers shall weigh-in wearing a legal uniform with suitable undergarments. Socks may be worn but may not be taken off as a means of making weight.

The weigh-in shall be up to one hour in length, and the EXACT weight of each contestant shall be recorded on the weigh-in form generated by TrackWrestling. The weight classes at weigh-in shall follow the order of weight classes to be wrestled at that tournament. All wrestlers weighing in at the same weight class must be weighed on the same scale. A Regional contestant shall compete in the weight class for which they qualified at the Individual District Tournament.

**Conducting the Individual Regional Tournament** - Individual Regional Tournaments will all be eight wrestler brackets. The pairings are as follows:

- District A 1<sup>st</sup> Place vs. District B 4<sup>th</sup> Place
- District A 3<sup>rd</sup> Place vs. District B 2<sup>nd</sup> Place
- District A 2<sup>nd</sup> Place vs. District B 3<sup>rd</sup> Place
- District A 4<sup>th</sup> Place vs. District B 1<sup>st</sup> Place
- Individual Regional Tournaments will utilize a **double elimination format**.
- All contestants in the Individual Regional Tournament shall compete until eliminated. Prior to the affected match, illness or injury must be cleared through the Tournament Manager, who may consult with the tournament physician. A forfeit without evidence of injury or illness will cause a wrestler to become disqualified.
- The Consolation and Championship Final matches shall be conducted simultaneously on two mats.
- The two-person officiating system shall be used for all Consolation and Championship Final matches at the Individual Regional Tournament. All matches shall be wrestled before any awards are presented.

**Officiating System - Individual Regional** - Four officials will work on three mats. The head official assigned by the MHSAA shall inspect the wrestlers and observe the weigh-in. In addition, the head official shall serve on the Grievance Committee. The Final matches in the championship and consolation round shall employ the two-official system of officiating. (Compensation: **\$250** fee plus mileage where applicable). The one assigned head official shall receive an additional \$15 for conducting inspection, observing the weigh-in, and serving on the Grievance Committee. Schools choosing to secure additional officials beyond what is indicated may do so, but this is a cost the host school chooses to cover.

**MANAGERS REPORTS** – Regional Managers must forward weigh-in sheets and Master Eligibility forms of advancing wrestlers to the MHSAA – [jamie@mhsaa.com](mailto:jamie@mhsaa.com)

## TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES – TEAM DISTRICT & REGIONAL

**Dates** - For the **2026** Team District Tournament, **Divisions 1 & 3** will compete on **Wednesday, February 11**, and **Divisions 2 & 4** will compete on **Thursday, February 12**. The Team Regional will be held on **Wednesday, February 18**.

**Draw** - The Team District draw shall be conducted from **January 1 – February 1**. All participating schools must receive prior notice of the draw date, time, and location. Each Team District shall be comprised of three or four teams. A four-team bracket shall be used for all Team District sites. A host school may draw a bye.

**Officials** - District Managers will hire officials for all District competition from the MHSAA-approved list; the MHSAA will assign all officials for Regional competition.

### Procedures for Districts with THREE teams

- One mat shall be used for both the Semifinal and Final matches.
- One official shall be contracted.
- Host school may draw the bye.

### Procedures for Districts with FOUR teams and all 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.

**Entry requirements** - There is no requirement that a participant in the Team Tournament must have wrestled a match during the regular season. The only requirement of a Team participant is that their name appears on the Master Eligibility of the school, as well as being eligible following Alpha / Lowest Minimum Weight (LMW) requirements. Each school is allowed to weigh-in a maximum of twenty-eight (28) wrestlers.

### Time Schedule

- Wrestling may not begin before 3:30 p.m. but must begin by 6:00 p.m.
- 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 (MHSAA.com).
- A referee and, when possible, a physician (MD, DO, PA, or NP) with experience in skin conditions (dermatologist, for example) shall inspect contestants before they are allowed to weigh-in. 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 weigh-in and begin with the drawn weight class.
- The official facilitating the weigh-in shall call up each weight class accordingly. If there is a point where wrestlers choose not to step on the scale (wanting to wait to see who steps on the scale for the other team), the official will call the weight class for a final time and then will move on to the next weight class. The weigh-in concludes after the last 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.
- There is to be a ten (10) minute break between the Semifinal and Final rounds of wrestling.

**Score Reporting** - Upon completion of the competition, please email results to the MHSAA at [results@mhsaa.com](mailto:results@mhsaa.com). Submit results after each dual or at the end of the evening in the following format:

- Rochester Adams 36, Rochester 33
- Lake Orion 25, Rochester Hills Stoney Creek 21
- Lake Orion 33, Rochester Adams 25

**Draw for starting weight class and weigh-in class** - A random draw shall be conducted by the official observing the weigh-in immediately before weigh-ins begin. The weight drawn shall be the starting weight class for the Semifinal match(es) and weigh-in. For the Final match, the starting weight class shall be one above the Semifinal starting weight as prescribed by NFHS Wrestling Rule 1-1-2.

### Team Regional Pairings:

- Lowest District Number vs. 2nd Lowest District Number (*i.e., 101 vs 102*)
- 2nd Highest District Number vs. Highest District Number (*i.e., 103 vs 104*)

**Officials Assignments** - Team District managers will hire officials from the MHSAA-approved list. The MHSAA committee will assign officials for the Team Regionals.

**Officiating System, District & Regional Team Tournament** - The Head Official will determine which official will work the odd matches as the official and the even matches as the assistant in the Final match. The 2nd official shall perform the duties of the assistant referee. The Head Official will determine the team dual(s) to be worked by each official. Schools choosing to secure additional officials beyond what is indicated may do so, but this is a cost the host school chooses to cover.

### Officials Fees-Team District -

3-Team District - One official who will work two matches on one mat.  
Fees - **\$130**, plus mileage where applicable.

4-Team District - Two officials using two mats; each will work one match alone and the Final match as a team.  
Fees - **\$130**, plus mileage where applicable.

**Officials Fees-Team Regional** - The Tournament Manager will assign one of the two assigned officials to a Semifinal match. Both assigned officials will work the Regional Final. Fees - **\$145**, plus mileage where applicable, paid by the MHSAA via Arbiter.

DISTRICT  
NUMBER

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.  
**2025-26 WRESTLING TOURNAMENTS**

**TEAM DISTRICT TOURNAMENT (RESULTS OF DRAW)  
RETURN IMMEDIATELY AFTER DRAWING**

Email: [jamie@mhsaa.com](mailto:jamie@mhsaa.com)

COVER  
SHEET  
**NOT**  
REQUIRED

Drawings to be made **Jan 1, 2026 – Feb 1, 2026**

HOST SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_ DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECTIONS:

1. Enter the date of the Team District Tournament in the blank. **Divisions 1 & 3 will wrestle on Wednesday while Divisions 2 & 4 will wrestle on Thursday in 2025-26.**
2. Enter the competition times in each bracket. (No earlier than 3:30 p.m. - No later than 6:00 p.m.)
3. **Consult bracket samples on the next page to determine the bracket to be followed.**
4. Place names of all participating schools in a container.
5. Host teams may draw byes.
6. Draw names one by one and place them on the designated line according to sample brackets.

**Wednesday****Feb. 11**Div. **1 & 3****1)**

TIME

DATE

**Thursday****Feb. 12**Div. **2 & 4****2)****3)**

TIME

DATE

**4)****FINAL**

The Final match will begin one weight classes beyond the Semifinal draw. (i.e., if the Semifinal began at 215, the Final will begin at 285)  
**minimum recess → 10 minutes**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ (Signed) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Tournament Manager)

School Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: Please complete and EMAIL immediately after completing the draw to [jamie@mhsaa.com](mailto:jamie@mhsaa.com).**

**Your immediate cooperation is appreciated.**

DISTRICT DRAW - SAMPLE BRACKETS

