

NYSPHSAA

SECTION IV



WRESTLING

2026-2027

HANDBOOK

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FOREWORD

This handbook is intended for the use by all Athletic Directors & Coaches. We have tried to include all of the necessary forms and information for the Sectional and State Tournaments.

Section IV Basketball will comply with the regulations set forth by National Federation of High School Sports, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association and Section IV of the NYSPHSAA.

The current rulebook issued by NCAA will be the standard unless noted otherwise within this handbook.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2025-2026 SECTIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONS

DIVISION 1 DUAL MEET CHAMPIONS – Maine Endwell

DIVISION 2 DUAL MEET CHAMPIONS – Tioga

DIVISION 1 CHAMPIONS – Maine Endwell

DIVISION 2 CHAMPIONS – Tioga

SECTION IV OFFICERS

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Section IV Coordinators:

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Rick Armstrong (assistant) – 607-217-5492 – rickarmstrong@gmail.com

IMPORTANT DATES

Section IV 2026-2027 Rules Interpretation Meetings:

Section IV Preseason Meeting: Wednesday October 14th 7:00pm, Via Microsoft Teams

East Rules Interpretation Meeting: Wednesday, October 21th 6:00pm @ Windsor High School Wrestling Room

West Rules Interpretation Meeting: Monday, October 26th 6:00pm @ Waverly High School

EARLY CERTIFICATION

SATURDAY OCTOBER 25TH @ WINDSOR 1:00PM

MONDAY OCTOBER 27TH @ SECTION IV **APPEALS ONLY** 4:00PM

FIRST DAY OF PRACTICE

MONDAY NOVEMBER 16TH

REGULAR CERTIFICATION

NOVEMBER 21st @ SIDNEY & ELMIRA 9:00AM

NOVEMBER 23rd @ WINDSOR 4:00PM (APPEALS ONLY)

(FAILED HYDRO OR MISSED EARLIER DATE)

NOVEMBER 24TH @ SECTION IV @ 4:00PM

(APPEALS/FAILED HYDRO ONLY)

FIRST SCRIMMAGE DAY

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH (NEED 10 PRACTICES)

FIRST MEET

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH (NEED 10 PRACTICES)

LAST CHANCE CERTIFICATIONS

DECEMBER 14TH @ SECTION IV 4:00PM

DECEMBER 21st @ SECTION IV 4:00PM

SEEDING MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 18TH @ SECTION IV OFFICE 7:00PM

TOURNAMENT DATES

JANUARY 23rd LEAGUE TOURNAMENTS

JANUARY 19TH / 20th SECTION IV DUALS (DI/DII)

JANUARY 30th NYSPHSAA DUAL MEET CHAMPIONSHIP @ SRC ARENA)

FEBRUARY 6TH SECTION IV DII QUALIFIER TOURNAMENTS

FEBRUARY 13TH SECTION IV FINALS @ VISIONS ARENA

FEBRUARY 26TH – 27th STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS (TIMES – UNION CENTER)

TOURNAMENT SITES

JANUARY 19th SECTION IV DUALS DI @ Ithaca HS

JANUARY 20th SECTION IV DUALS DII @ Sidney HS

FEBRUARY 6TH QUALIFIER A @ Tioga HS

FEBRUARY 6TH QUALIFIER B @ Windsor HS

FEBRUARY 13TH FINALS @ VISIONS VETERANS' MEMORIAL ARENA

Section IV

Classification Enrollments for 2025-2026 as of 12/2024

BOYS WRESTLING

DIVISION ONE

ELMIRA
CORNING
ITHACA
BINGHAMTON/SETON
HORSEHEADS
UNION – ENDICOTT
VESTAL
JOHNSON CITY
CHENANGO FORKS

DIVISION TWO

TIOGA	MAINE ENDWELL
WINDSOR	SPENCER VEN ETTEN/CANDOR
UNATEGO-UV	OWEGO
ONEONTA	CHENANGO VALLEY
WAVERLY	OXFORD/GREENE
DEPOSIT HANCOCK	SIDNEY
WALTON/DOWNSVILLE	DELHI
NEWARK VALLEY	MARATHON
NORWICH	LANSING
MORAVIA	DRYDEN
THOMAS EDISON	TRUMANSBURG
WHITNEY POINT	GROTON
SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY	
BAINBRIDGE/AFTON/HARPURSVILLE	
ODESSA MONTGOMERY/WALKINS GLEN	

WEIGHT CERTIFICATIONS

All teams will be certified at regional sites on the same day. See **Handout** from Carl Koenig.

1. [Parent Awareness Form](#): AD must keep on file for the entire season. (If not returned, it does not absolve them of any penalties.) "Cheaters" are ineligible for the season.
2. Coaches must go online to update rosters and print off weight assessment forms prior to weight certifications. The name you enter for your wrestler must be the same they use for matches/tournaments for the season. Rosters should be entered into Trackwrestling at least 2 days prior to weight assessments to allow assessors to download rosters ahead of time. If a wrestler, or team, shows up with no individual forms, the wrestler/team will have to wait until the end of the session, or return on another day.
3. When requesting a [waiver*](#), **the wrestler may not practice until the waiver is approved.** The approval date of the waiver starts the 14-day clock for certification. Please make every effort to not use a waiver. These are mostly for injured athletes and the rare fall postseason athlete.
4. Fall athletes involved in state championships play-offs may choose to start wrestling after their fall sport season is completed. If so and their season carries beyond the first 14 days of the season, they must apply for a waiver and cannot practice wrestling until the waiver is approved. They will still be granted the 4 fall sport practices to carry over into the winter season.
5. Seventh and 8th graders wanting to be moved up via the Athletic Placement Process must be identified early and assessed with their HS teams. Exception – if it can be proven the student is new to the district & coach is unaware until the Modified team begins practice.
6. Modified wrestlers that are potentially selective classifications must be certified with your Varsity/JV teams – no waivers. If you're considering a "try out scenario" get your athlete certified and cleared via the APP process.

***Forms and designated documents are available on-line at nysphsaa.org, in your [Section 4 Coaches Resource Folder](#), and are linked within this document.**

SCORING

20 point system **for individuals*** -

20 point total

1 point for dual meet

2 points for tournaments

6 tournaments maximum*

Sectional and state tournaments (including Section IV Duals, Class Qualifiers NYS Dual Meet Championships, the Section IV Championships, and the NYS Individual Championships) do not count for points or toward the maximum number of tournaments. League tournaments **do** count as one of the 6 allowable tournaments. *You may only attend **a maximum of two 2-day tournaments** if the format of the 2-day tournament **is not an individual bracketed tournament**. (2 Day Dual Meet Events or Round Robin Events) *Use the [Points Tracking Form](#)

The 2025-2026 Program of Wrestling* booklet

This is an additional reference guide for coaches and Athletic Directors. It addresses many things you need to know, including:

Eligibility: Eligibility for post-season competition is different for individuals as compared to the dual meet championship.

A. For the individual post-season a wrestler must represent his school in at least 6 contests, on 6 *different dates* (*Weighed in, WLP accounted for, and Wrestle/Receive a Forfeit*).

B. For the dual meet championships, a wrestler must be an eligible participant (*Weighed in, clear on the WLP*) on the team for a minimum of at least 6 contests, on 6 *different dates*.

(A 2-day tournament = 1 contest; multiple dual-meets on the same day = 1 date/contest.)

- “In individual sports the use of an ineligible player would result in the contest being forfeited, however, the performances and outcomes of the other individuals would stand.”
- Once a wrestler has reached their 20-point limit they may no longer continue to weigh-in at any contests. If a wrestler’s name (with 20 points) appears on a weigh-in sheet, then an ineligible wrestler has been entered.
- When a referee determines that a wrestler is ineligible to participate due to a skin issue, the official and the coach will notify the opposing coach prior to the start of the dual meet and the name of the wrestler shall be crossed off the team’s weigh-in sheet. The ineligible wrestler shall not participate in the warm ups or introductions.

Some of the most common mistakes that could cause a wrestler/team to become ineligible:

- 1) An individual wrestler is caught cheating on their weight certification.

WEIGHT CERTIFICATIONS Item D: A wrestler is found to have cheated on the hydration test: The wrestler would still need to certify within 3 days of the day they were caught cheating. The wrestler can’t compete until Jan 1 and will be ineligible for post-season events (sectional and NYS dual meet tournaments)

- 2) An individual wrestler exceeds the 20-point limit.

- 3) An individual wrestler exceeds 6 tournaments.

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF POINTS If an individual exceeds the maximum points they are an ineligible wrestler. If the points were exceeded in a dual meet competition, the team will forfeit the match, the individual will lose by forfeit, but the individual performances of all the other matches would stand. If the individual exceeds the maximum points in a tournament competition, the team will earn zero team points, the individual will lose all matches competed in by forfeit, but the individual performances of all the other matches would stand. Penalty: Either the Wrestler is ineligible for the rest of the year, or the school can allow the wrestler to continue with the rest of the season, but the coach must be suspended from all future participation with the team for the rest of the year. If the section allows the wrestler to participate, they will still be allowed to earn power points if they become the Sectional champ and place at the NYS tournament.

Only six tournaments are permitted If a wrestler exceeds the maximum points or tournaments permitted at any time during the season they become an ineligible wrestler and all matches that were over the limit become forfeits: Penalty: Either the Wrestler is ineligible for the rest of the year, or the school can allow the wrestler to continue with rest of the season, but the coach must be suspended from all future participation with the team for the rest of the year. If the section allows the wrestler to participate, they will still be allowed to earn power points if they become the Sectional champ and place at the NYS tournament.

- 4) An individual wrestler exceeds the maximum of 2 two-day non-individual bracketed tournaments. (See *Individual Points: Tournaments: Same as above.*)
- 5) An individual wrestler competes in back to back tournaments while the first tournament they were entered

in has not yet ended (See *Individual Points: Tournaments* pg. 8).

- 6) A wrestler illegally competes in a 7th bout in a one-day tournament (pg. 30).
- 7) Granting unauthorized additional pounds for a Post-season or Sectional Dual Meet. (pg. 20.)
- 8) The coach of a team grants unauthorized additional pounds. (pgs. 18-20.)
- 9) A coach weighs in a wrestler for an event (who has already reached the 20-point limit). (See pg. 8, #2)
- 10) A coach lists an ineligible wrestler on their weigh-in sheet (wrestlers listed must be academically eligible, cleared of injuries requiring school/doctor release, and not currently restricted by a doctor by a skin disease).
- 11) An individual wrestler wrestles at an ineligible weight class.
 1. A 7th/8th grader not meeting their minimum weight requirement at the shoulder to shoulder weigh-in, but still wrestles in a dual meet/tournament.
- 12) A coach shows up to a matside weigh-in without a Trackwrestling weigh-in sheet (p. 14).
- 13) When a weight class shows up in red on the wrestler's WLP (Weight Loss Plan) it means they are not eligible to compete at that weight. They weighed in below their plan....

Weigh-In Procedures: See [The 2026-2027 Program of Wrestling* booklet](#), starting on p. 13, Weigh-in Procedures. All contestants* must meet the minimum requirements for their weight class each time they weigh-in (*103 and 110 pounders in grades 9-12 have no minimum weight). Must use Track-wrestling weigh-in forms. Keep all weigh-in sheets to verify any questions that may arise.

Weigh-in procedures for 2-day tournaments: All wrestlers must weigh-in on the 2nd day (scratch weight + 1 pound). *Note: in a 2-day dual meet tournament, a wrestler must make weight on day 2 at the same weight class as on day 1 or he is out of the tournament. Only Day 1 weigh in goes into the WLP.*

Rules Interpretation:

[The Green Book*](#) and yearly [Edits](#) are a guideline for referees, and tries to identify the differences between NYS rules/interpretations and Federation rules/interpretations. (Interpretation meetings were previously scheduled for coaches.)

Skin Conditions*: Form must [state skin infection form](#) **"For use during 2026-27 Season."** Must use athlete's original form (both sides) -- **no photocopies or faxes**. Be aware of procedures concerning your school nurse (2015).

Interstate Competition: New York wrestlers wrestling out of state must compete at weights used by the state they are visiting, but not below their certified weight. Check with NYSPHSAA for proper sanctioning. If you host out of state teams, your event needs to be sanctioned through your athletic director's office via the NYSPHSAA Website.

NFHS rule:

A wrestler may compete in a maximum of 6 bouts/day. All wrestlers are eligible to wrestle-back for 3rd/5th place. In the event that a consolation match would be the 7th match of the day for both contestants, no match will be wrestled and both wrestlers will be awarded 4th/6th place. There will be no 3rd/5th place awarded and no points for 3rd/5th place will be awarded. If only one wrestler has wrestled 6 bouts, his opponent will receive a forfeit. A forfeit does not count toward the 6-match/day limit. Forfeits don't count towards the 6 bouts.

TRACKWRESTLING:

- (1) Log-in IDs and passwords have been emailed (SAVE THIS EMAIL) on 10/5 to coaches by Trackwrestling. Trackwrestling must be used to record all bouts, including JV and exhibition bouts. Postseason Individual Record Forms must be signed by the wrestler(s) and

- coach prior to class/section tournaments. Get results/weights entered asap following a competition. **Don't wait! 2 Open Weigh Ins will not allow an athlete to compete.**
- (2) **Absolutely no wrestling without a printed weigh-in form. Athletes should only be written on the form in extreme cases. If that athlete has OPEN/Unentered Weigh Ins, you could be risking his eligibility. Hosts should make every effort to help visiting coaches that need forms printed/adjusted**
 - (3) Use the [DATA Entry Document](#) to Help
 - (4) Get your rosters in ASAP
 - (5) Event/Dual Meet/Tournament Hosts: Get your events in there early. If you're not the Event/Tournament Host, do not create a new event
 - (6) Hosting events on Track is now free to individual school programs
 - (7) Get familiar with the WLP System. Your kids can access theirs if their profile is linked, [Instructions](#)
 - (8) Use test weights to plan out long term descents
 - (9) **WLP ends on 2/6/27 for everyone (D1 and D2)**

Good of the Order:

The additional Entry Rules for Postseason:

Allowed up to 3 additional entries if they all meet Quality Criteria:

**has beaten or is a returning top 3 section place winner

*If your team is only entering 1 additional wrestler, they need to meet no criteria

Girls:

Any girl that wrestles any type of competition on the boys side:

-Needs to be cleared for mixed competition

-Is ineligible for Girl's postseason (includes forfeits, girl v girl, or any folkstyle exhibitions)

-May practice with the Boys throughout the season, if cleared by mixed competition, and still be eligible for the Girl's Postseason if they never compete in Boy's competition.

-Are Certified in the Girl's Portal First, then pulled into the Boy's Side at Coach's request

State Tournament Gear Packages moving forward:

Everything now directly through the Section IV Office

Quarter-zip/Singlet

Universal Yearly Designed, In Theory a kid that qualifies for states multiple years would only need to purchase one package

Rent/Buy at Cost

Individuals that want to purchase, need a check prior to getting package

Individuals Renting: School/Club should issue a check to hold/deposit,

Uniform needs to be returned at the end of the NYS Tournament, if not check is kept

Procedures Approved for Section IV Duals Selections/Tiebreakers & Division II Qualifier Placement

Teams will be ranked by a system that will look at their returning wrestlers from the previous season as long as they have returned to their team and have gone through the certification process. Coaches will enter their best 13 Wrestlers to be considered for selection/seeding. Wrestlers injured (Out for Season) or deemed not eligible (for the entirety of the season) shouldn't be considered.

For Section IV Duals: Used as a tiebreaker procedure when Head to Head/Common Opponent results can't separate teams for selection or seeding purposes.

For Division II Qualifying: The Points will be used to snake teams to Qualifier A and Qualifier B. January 12th, 2025 is the cutoff date for entering and updating your team's roster and point allocations

Scoring process:

Division I:

- 1 pt: Returning 20 match winner
- 1 pt: Current Season 20 match winner
- 3 Pts: Returning 5-6 place finisher
- 4 pts: Returning 3-4 place finisher
- 6 pts: Returning 1-2 place finisher
- 8 Pts: Returning State Place finisher
- .5 Pts: Returning Sectional Participant

Division II:

- 1 pt: Returning 20 match winner
- 1pt: Current Season 20 match winner
- 2 Pts: Returning sectional qualifier
- 4 Pts: Returning 5-6 place finisher
- 5 pts: Returning 3-4 place finisher
- 6 pts: Returning 1-2 place finisher
- 8 Pts: Returning State Place finisher

To be determined January 15th

Roster submission and final update due that Friday 1/16 or sooner

[Division I Sheet](#)

[Division II Sheet](#)

NEW YORK STATE RULES CLARIFICATIONS

2026-27

New York State Weight Classes:

103 lbs. (minimum weight* > 95 lbs.)	150 lbs.
110 lbs. (minimum weight* > 100 lbs.)	157 lbs.
118 lbs.	165 lbs.
126 lbs.	175 lbs.
132 lbs.	190 lbs.
138 lbs.	215 lbs. (minimum weight* >180 lbs.)
144 lbs.	285 lbs. (minimum weight *>210 lbs.)

*Minimum weights above are for APP athletes only. All minimum weights for wrestlers in grades 9-12 are determined by the wrestler's actual weight and the rules allowing them to move up one weight class.

There is a 2-pound growth allowance in New York State as of December 25th.

All weight classes are mandatory in all NYS non-league events.

Coaches are responsible for submitting both weigh-in sheets to the scorer's table prior to the start of the meet. This is a rule, and will also avoid problems when questions arise. The Host Coach should handle copies, officials should have access to the sheets as well.

The wrestler's actual weight determines at which weight class(es) the wrestler is eligible to compete. Generally speaking he/she may move up one weight class. Keep in mind all weight classes (with the exception of 101 and 108 for grades 9-12) have minimum weight requirements.

A team cannot weigh in until their Trackwrestling Weigh In Form has been printed and updated to reflect the actual team competing in that event. If a team cannot produce one, they forfeit the dual/aren't entered into the tournament. Every effort will be made by the home team to help accommodate the visiting Coach.

Absolutely no exceptions

*Actual weight now refers to the wrestler's weight while wearing a legal uniform and a suitable undergarment.

Tournament Hosts: Should have a check scale on site.

The rule is that if a wrestler attempts to make weight but misses, their weight is supposed to be entered into his WLP, regardless of him not participating in the tournament.

SCORING-New York STATE:

Dual meet scoring and tournament scoring in NYS is the same as Federation scoring.

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

(1) **NFHS rule:**

A wrestler may compete in a maximum of 6 bouts/day. All wrestlers are eligible to wrestle-back for 3rd/5th place. In the event that a consolation match would be the 7th match of the day for both contestants, no match will be wrestled and both wrestlers will be awarded 4th/6th place. There will be no 3rd/5th place awarded and no points for 3rd/5th place will be awarded. If only one wrestler has wrestled 6 bouts, his opponent will receive a forfeit. A forfeit does not count toward the 6-match/day limit. Forfeits don't count towards the 6 bouts.

(2) In reference to an “appropriate health-care professional”, in NYS that includes only the following when dealing with skin conditions: a licensed physician, physician’s assistant, or nurse practitioner. [A dermatologist (DO) is a licensed physician.] When dealing with extended injury time for head/neck injuries, the “appropriate health-care professional” in NYS includes: a licensed physician, physician’s assistant, registered nurse, nurse practitioner, certified athletic trainer, or EMT.

(3) Other than individually bracketed tournaments, an individual is limited to a maximum of two 2-day tournaments of any other format.

(4) NYSPHSAA has a precise definition of a scrimmage in their handbook (refer to Sports Standards for Wrestling, 25.09, p. 109).

(5) Forfeits must be recorded accurately and consistently across the state. See the Wrestling Program booklet for various situations (starting on p. 28). If a forfeit was received in a dual meet tournament and an exhibition bout is set up as the 7th bout of the day, then no additional points will be charged to wrestlers who compete in exhibition matches. The “no additional points will be charged” as listed above refers to wrestlers already competing in the tournament. (If an “extra wrestler” is weighed in on a dual meet roster and they participate in just one exhibition match they will be charged 2 points and a tournament, so it is best to get them at least 2 bouts.)

Recording results: The wins by forfeit are the matches that should be recorded in Track and the total matches should not exceed 6. The additional matches (which could have been at one weight above the weigh-in weight class) should not be recorded in Track as Varsity matches for either participant. They should be entered as Exhibition matches and they cannot appear on the Varsity record.

(6) Reminder to all, injury time should not be taken unless there is an injury. *Coaching chairs must stay in designated areas and cannot be moved onto the mats.*

(7) Coaches must use the Trackwrestling Weigh-in form for all dual meets and most tournaments. Some events use their own weigh in sheets, but you should always get a copy and enter the weights into your Trackwrestling Profiles as per any contest.

(8) A tournament ends the day its finals are contested (not the day a wrestler is eliminated).

NYSPHSAA Dual Meet Championship Information:

- There will be a maximum number of participants allowed per team.
- I will provide hotel information/assignments to coaches.
- A team gate list will be provided for admission for school administrators (8 maximum).
- Coaches of qualifying teams must submit a Team Picture and roster using a link on the Wrestling page of NYSPHSAA. Team rosters must include First and Last Name, Grade, and Certified Wt. The date for submission will be announced.
- Coaches of qualifying will also need to fill out their 15 man roster for seeding and at-large purposes.

Trackwrestling Reporting Updates:

- [Trackwrestling Data Entry document](#) is available in the [Section IV Coach's Resource Folder](#).
- Coaches that host any event, tournament or dual are required to enter the exact name of their tournament/dual meet into Trackwrestling. **If you are not a host: YOU SHOULD NOT ENTER THE NAME OF THE EVENT, ESPECIALLY A TOURNAMENT.** You should wait until the host school enters the event. Once done, non-host schools will be able to select it from a drop-down menu.
- The same is true for sectional/state postseason events (duals, classes, sectionals, states). They will be entered in Track wrestling by a NYSPHSAA Officer– do not enter them in your schedule until they show up on the site.

Multi-Team Meet:

- At Least 3 teams must be represented and at least 20 wrestlers must participate in the event.
- Wrestlers are matched by their weigh-in weights and are allowed to wrestle up to 3 times.
- No team scoring is kept.
- No awards are given out.
- An individual is charged 1 point if they wrestle one match; 2 points if he/she wrestles 2 or 3 matches.
- *In a multi meet format, athletes from the same school cannot wrestle each other. (If they wanted to wrestle an exhibition match, they could but the result would not count as a match, would not count on the W/L record and could not be entered as a result into Track Wrestling).*
- There is no limit to the number of Multi-Team Meets for an individual, as long as he/she does not exceed the 20 point maximum.
- Teams may not cancel dual meets scheduled by their league and change them to a Multi-Team meet without consent of the Athletic Directors of both schools.
- Multi-Team meets are a form of a dual meet.

If the above definition is violated and the meet is deemed to not be a Multi-Team Meet, the Chairman shall report the teams involved to their Sectional Athletic council to determine what penalties may apply.

ADMISSION TO SECTIONALS

All teams participating in the tournament shall submit a pass list to the site chairperson on the night of the game. This pass list shall include a maximum of 20 people (coaches, players, managers, statisticians, etc.). The Varsity Cheerleaders and their Advisor only may be added to this list. Bus drivers and spectator bus chaperones will also be admitted free.

At the Arena - All players, coaches, scorekeepers, managers, etc. must enter by the back door only. Officials must also enter by the back door.

NO LEAGUE or SCHOOL PASSES will be accepted for free admission. Only those on the pass list will be admitted free. (Section IV courtesy passes and Section IV Lifetime passes will also admit two people free.)

No bands or noisemakers including (cowbells, horns, drums, etc.) will be allowed.

GoFan Digital Ticketing will be used at Semi-final and Final sectional contests. (Any member school who refuses to use the GoFan Digital Ticketing platform for a Sectional Semi-Finals & Final Basketball Contest, will play that contest at the opposing school Gymnasium)

1. Sectional Matches at Broome County Arena, charge is \$8.35 **(NO CASH ACCPECTED)**

*Card Readers available at ticket locations for credit card purchases

*General Admission – Student, Adults & Senior Citizens **(NO CASH ACCPECTED)**

*Children 10 and under are free

Section IV Athletic Courtesy Passes, Section IV LifeTime Passes and all NYSPHSAA Passes Accepted

