INTRODUCTION

The New York State Wrestling Interpretation Handbook was developed in 1977 when many NYSWOA members saw a need to put in writing the periodic National Federation interpretations and clarifications that were not specifically written in the annual editions of the Wrestling Rules Book. Some of this information came from the installments published by the National Federation and others came as responses from the National Federation to questions submitted by the NYSWOA interpreter. Having a written record of interpretations was especially important because for many years, the NYSWOA President served as the N.Y.S. Wrestling Rules interpreter and a new person was in that position every two years.

In 1982, the NYSWOA decided that a State Wrestling Rules interpreter would handle that task instead of the NYSWOA President and the state interpreter would continue to serve through successive administrations. Prior to that, NYSWOA Presidents Pat Phillips, Bob Jacobson, Bob Hartman, Leo Bernabi, Lou Pettinelli, Bill Tschirhart, Jim Scandura, Bob Ames, Frank Marotta, Bob Bagnall and Dan Johnson had the responsibility to attend the annual National Federation meeting and to serve as the State interpreter during their terms of office. During several of those administrations, the idea of printing a New York State Wrestling Handbook was developed and Don Wishart (Section 6) was chairman of the committee which put together the first edition in 1977 using the records and notes from those previous interpreters. The NYSWOA Executive Committee appointed Lon Coven (Section 8) as the N.Y. State interpreter and he also was given the responsibility of editing the N. Y.S. Wrestling interpretation Handbook (referred to as the "green book" by most people).

The present N. Y.S. Wrestling Rules interpreter, Steve Dalberth (Section 5) was appointed in 1993 and he now has the responsibility for editing the "green book". In order to help officials and coaches, the book has been expanded to include rules and regulations from the NYSPHSAA (such as the weight control program, sportsmanship rules, modified program) that are unique to New York State as well as information from the Wrestling Program Booklet which has been provided by the NYSPHSAA as an addendum to their handbook. Most officials and many coaches do not read the NYSPHAA Handbook or the minutes of the State Wrestling Committee meetings so the inclusion in the “green book” of important information from those sources provides a valuable service. The "Green book" also includes many examples of situations as well as guidelines for officials so that consistent calls will be made throughout the state. The book has become an important reference for coaches and officials because its contents cannot be found in writing in any single publication.
In summary, it should be noted that the content of the "green book" is not a set of separate N. Y. State rules unilaterally decided by any state interpreter. Instead, it is a compilation of NYSPHSAA rules and regulations, National Federation interpretations and guidelines for making calls, which came from the National Federation and from the combined expertise of the state interpreter and state interpretation committee.

This Handbook attempts to bring together all currently standing New York State interpretations and deviations from National Federation Rules. In some instances it cross-references to lesser known Federation interpretations. In all instances it supersedes existing and past interpretations from any sources that are in conflict with its text, until such time that revisions are necessary. It should be used in conjunction with the National Federation Rules Book and Manual. Repetition has been diligently avoided. It is the responsibility of every New York State Wrestling Official to familiarize themselves with all three texts and also be aware of the information in the current Wrestling Program Booklet and the sections of the NYSPHSAA Handbook relating to the sport of wrestling.

All references to illustrations are referring to the illustrations in the 2018–2019 National Federation Rules Book.

**NYSPHSAA WAIERS OF NFHS WRESTLING RULES**

1. A wavier to rule 4-1-5 to allow tape on the chin straps and straps on the top of he head gear. (Jan 2012)

2. A wavier of the uniform rule during the month of February to permit pink ribbon(s) on the uniform in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness initiatives. (Jan 2012)

3. A wavier of the NFHS weigh-in procedures for dual meets and tournaments. (Oct 2009)

4. A wavier of the NFHS 1.5% weight loss rule (May 2007)
RULE 1
COMPETITION

1-2-2 Following the random draw, the first weight class to be contested would be the odd match. No matter what order is used, the choice is not altered in case of fall, default, forfeit or disqualification. Note that a double forfeit of a weight class does not alter the odd-even numbering of matches.

CLARIFICATION OF MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CONTESTS AND POINTS:

NYSPHSAA: A wrestler may participate in up to 4 full-length bouts per day in dual meet competition (series of matches in which 1 point is assessed). A wrestler may participate in 5 bouts per day in any type of tournament competition (where 2 points are allowed toward a maximum of 20 points). The maximum number of points a wrestler will be permitted is established by the NYSPHSAA. Currently, the maximum points permitted shall be 20 points. A contestant may not exceed the maximum number of points during the regular season.

Participation as a contestant or in any exhibition match in any meet shall count as a contest and only six tournaments shall be permitted within the 20 point limitation. Of the six permitted tournaments, a maximum of 2 two-day dual meet tournaments will be allowed during the season. (Wrestling Program Booklet and NYSPHAA Handbook)

The following examples will assist in understanding how points are assessed in a variety of circumstances.

NOTE: Wrestling Twice in a Dual Meet: A wrestler may compete two times in a regular two-team dual meet in the following situations. There must be a 45 minute rest between matches (with the exception of a wrestler who has earned a forfeit) and the wrestler may only wrestle one weight class higher than the weight class qualified for at the weigh-in. If both wrestlers received a forfeit, no rest is required. Only one match can count for team scoring the other could only be an exhibition.

Forfeits: A wrestler from Team A accepts a forfeit from Team B. The Team A wrestler may wrestle an exhibition match with a Team B member.

Points: Individual Wrestler Team A: One point for the forfeit and one point for the exhibition match.

Points: Individual Wrestler Team B: One point for the exhibition match.
Extra wrestlers:

A wrestler from Team A wrestles a match vs. Team B. Team B has a second wrestler weighed in at this weight (or one weight class higher). The Team A wrestler may wrestle an exhibition match with the other Team B wrestler.

Points: Individual Wrestler Team A: One point for the first match and one point for the exhibition match.

Points: Individual Wrestler Team B: One point for the exhibition match.

In the event the first match is a forfeit the 45 minute rest period is waived.

Two Exhibition Matches:

Points: Individual Wrestler Team A: Two points for the exhibition matches.

Points: Individual Wrestler Team B: Two points for the exhibition matches.

Wrestling Forfeitures

The NYSPHSAA Wrestling Program Booklet, explains situations regarding forfeits and the recording of wins and losses in New York State. Coaches and administrators should refer to that publication.

Note: Forfeits are not considered as matches wrestled, as it applies to the 5 matches in one day limit in tournaments or four match limit in dual meets.

National Federation: When wrestler (A) has wrestled in 5 matches in a given day, that wrestler cannot wrestle any additional matches. (Forfeits do not count toward the five point limit.) If their next opponent (B) has wrestled only 4 matches, (B) would be declared the winner by forfeit.

(A) would not appear on the mat, nor would (A) be given a “loss” on their record. There was no match. When scoring the tournament, (B) would receive the placement points for that match and 2 points for the forfeit. If it was the match for third place and both wrestlers had been in five matches, then they would both receive points for fourth place. There could be no one for third. Same procedure would apply for other places.

A wrestler may not wrestle JV and Varsity against the same team on any one day. The wrestler may wrestle Varsity against one team and JV against another in a double-dual meet.
RULE 2
EQUIPMENT

2-1-1  **Lighting the Mat:** The wrestling mat should be uniformly and adequately lighted so that the referee can see the wrestlers on the mat as well as in the standing position. A single spotlight that is not designed for overhead mat lighting may cause problems. The referee should have this corrected if unable to see adequately.

(National Federation Interpretation)

2-1-2  The Safety Area of the mat surrounding the wrestling area (approximately 5 feet wide) shall be present where facilities will permit. Safety mats shall be adequately secured to prevent any injury hazard.

RULE 3
OFFICIALS AND THEIR DUTIES

3-1-1  The red and green armbands may be worn on either wrist. Black socks are optional.

For safety reasons, no visible jewelry shall be worn except a wedding band, medical ID or timing device. The authorized NYSWOA, Inc. officials patch shall be worn on the shirt on the left sleeve with the top 1” from the shoulder seam. A local wrestling association patch may be worn. An American flag patch, approximately 2 1/2" by 3 1/2" in size shall be worn on the center back of the shirt, with the top of the patch 1" to 2" from the collar seam. No other emblems, patches, numbers, etc. are permitted as part of or on the officiating uniform unless specifically authorized by the NYSWOA, Inc. Executive Committee. (NYSWOA Constitution March 2008)

**NOTE:** New Officials should be strongly encouraged to wear their green arm band on their right wrist to be consistent with the National Federation.

3-1-4  Officials pre-match techniques:

**Locker Room**

1. Obtain Official weigh-in sheets.
2. Obtain current NYSPHSAA Wrestling Communicable Skin Disease forms from coaches.

3. Count number of wrestlers and double check weigh-in sheet to see that all are present.

4. Check hair length, facial hair, nails, jewelry, special equipment and skin condition. This should not be done at mat side. Referees should inspect wrestlers outside the view of spectators. Wrestlers will be inspected in the uniform in which they will compete. Warm ups and head gear must be removed; however, it is not necessary to lower shoulder straps unless the referee has specific concerns.

5. Get coaches verification that all wrestlers will be in proper uniform, properly groomed, properly equipped (including shoes that are adequately secured so they do not come off or come untied during competition) and ready to wrestle.

6. Remind wrestlers of starting positions.

7. Ask wrestlers and coaches if they have any questions on the new rule changes or signals.

8. Ask wrestlers and coaches if there is a move that they use that you should know about or be aware of (so they know how you will call it).

9. Tell wrestlers to watch you for referee’s position adjustments.

10. Tell wrestlers to listen to you carefully for hints regarding chicken wings, stay in center of the mat etc.

11. Tell wrestlers they start and stop on your whistle.

12. Tell wrestlers to return to center of mat right away after going out of bounds.

13. Give your rating cards to coaches at this time (if used in your section).

14. Read NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Card to wrestlers and coaches.

15. Indicate on the weigh-in sheet any wrestlers that have a valid skin form.
16. 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 weigh-in will not count toward the 50% rule. The ineligible wrestler shall not participate in the warm ups or introductions.

If a wrestler who has been disqualified due to a skin issue does participate in the warm ups or introductions the penalty would be unsportsmanlike conduct against the head coach.

Before Match - At Mat

1. Check starting lines on mats.

2. Go over with scorers what you expect from them regarding choices in the second and third periods. Also remind the official score keeper to circle the first points scored.

3. Go over with scorers and the timekeeper how you wish to handle a technical fall.

4. Make sure the supervised weigh-in sheet for the contest for each team is at the head table before you start the match.

5. If there is a mistake regarding signaling red or green, tell scorers not to panic, or stop match right away. Check it during time-out or a lull in the match.

6. Explain how to get your attention by use of the clock horn.

7. Remind the timekeeper that when a visual clock is not available, the minutes must be called to the referee, contestants and spectators and visual cards must be displayed with the number of seconds remaining in the last minute of the period at 15 second intervals.

8. Check for adequate equipment to maintain proper sanitary conditions after illness or injury, e.g. paper towels, spray disinfectant, plastic disposal bags, rubber gloves.

9. Meet with head coaches and captains and explain to them that they are to make certain everyone exhibits good sportsmanship throughout the contest and then conduct the pre-meet disk toss. Winner of disk toss (red or green) will have choice of odd or even. Anytime the referee conducts a disk toss, the disk must fall unimpeded to the floor. (NYSWOA 2018)
3-1-6 The number and duration of time-outs required to correct equipment is at the discretion of the referee. Repeated time-outs may require use of the injury clock. Use good judgment i.e. 2 or 3 time-outs of short duration or 1 or 2 time-outs of longer duration should represent the limit prior to starting the clock.

8-2-1 Time required to recover or replace a contact lens, may be charged against a contestant’s injury time and count as an injury time-out only if the referee determines that this disrupts the flow of the match, using the above paragraph as a guideline, it would be unlikely that a wrestler would be charged a time out the first time a contact lens needs to be replaced. If a wrestler wishes to take a time-out to search for a contact lens, an injury time-out will be charged.

3-2-1i The use of a “tapper” to inform the referee when time has expired has been authorized in New York.

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**RULE 4
WRESTLERS' CLASSIFICATION AND WEIGH-IN**

4-1-3 Wrestling shoes that have been cut back so they do not extend above the ankle have been determined to be illegal by the National Federation.

If during competition a shoe comes off, it is obvious that the shoe was not adequately secured as specified in the rule; therefore, a technical violation will be assessed and an injury timeout will be charged to correct it.

4-1-4 Headgear and other equipment (e.g. tooth and mouth protector to cover braces) required

4-2-6 for competition must also be worn in practice. Effective January 2012, the NYSPHSAA Executive Committee granted a waiver to the Headgear taping rule. Straps and chinstraps may be taped to allow for better fit to the headgear; however no taping is allowed on the ear section of the headgear. (Wrestling Program Booklet)

Only wrestling headgear will be allowed. Boxing, Martial Arts, *Rugby helmets* or any other substitute headgear will be illegal. The Wolverine Vinyl All-Purpose Helmet, Morgan and Tornado headgear are allowed, as well as the Mercado by Bats-Toi. (National Federation 2017)
4-2-2 All articles referring to appearance, health and weight shall be enforced for all competition including exhibitions.

No jewelry (which includes visible body piercing objects) shall be worn in any sport. Any piece of jewelry that is visible at the start of or during a contest is in violation of the NYSPHSAA jewelry rule. Religious medals must be taped to the body and under the uniform. Medical medals must be taped to the body so they are visible. Soft, pliable barrettes are permissible, body gems are not.

4-2-3 **Skin Disease:** NFHS requires current written document to be furnished at the beginning of the weigh-in. If the referees are not conducting or supervising the weigh-in this documentation must be provided to the official **just prior** to conducting the pre-meet inspection of contestants.

NYSPHSAA requires the original copy of the current season NYSPHSAA approved two sided form entitled Wrestling Communicable Skin Disease Form. NYS Health Care Provider Release for Wrestlers to participate with skin lesion(s). This form must be signed by a M.D., Physician’s Assistant or Nurse Practitioner for the wrestler to be eligible to participate. Photocopies are not acceptable. In situations where the section requires that all skin forms are to be filed with the Sectional Chairman or their designee, the Chairman/designee should receive a copy of the form. The original is to stay with the coach.

Cold sores are to be treated as a communicable skin condition. (NFHS Rules Book, points of emphasis)

When a wrester has been diagnosed with Molluscum Contagiosum, the physician must verify on the current skin form that the wrestler has been treated with curettage and hyfrecator and then covered with a bioclusive bandage to be allowed to compete. (Memo NYSPHSAA)

In tournament situations, skin checks are to be performed on each day of wrestling competition.

Current forms can be downloaded from www.nysphsaa.org.

4-1-1a The only items of uniform apparel affected by the Federation rule limiting the number
4-1-1b and size of manufacturers’ logo/trademark/reference/promotional reference are the singlet, compression shorts, compression shirt, full length tights
with stirrups and the legal hair cover. (hair covers are considered special equipment by rule 4-3-1a but still must comply with the rule limiting manufacturer’s logos Rule 4-1-2.) (National Federation Rules Book)

4-1-1c The legal uniform, headgear and wrestling shoes are required equipment. Anything else worn by a wrestler such as hair covers, kneepads, socks, face mask, mouth guards, leg sleeves, etc. will be considered special equipment. (National Federation Rules Book)

The rule book no longer requires special equipment to be unadorned. However; adornments such as flames on a face mask, skull and cross bones or anything that would be offensive to most people or might tend to taunt or intimidate your opponent are considered unsportsmanlike conduct. Any wrestler reporting to the mat with this type of equipment will be charged with an injury time out to correct and will be penalized in accordance with the penalty chart for a technical violation, 7-3-5 (National Federation and NYSPHSAA).

The NYSPHSAA has granted a waiver of the uniform rule during the month of February to permit pink ribbon(s) on the uniform in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness initiative. (Jan. 2012) NYSPHSAA

4-3-3 Taping of fingers to treat an existing injury is permissible. Taping of individual fingers to improve one’s grip is not permissible. (National Federation Letter)

Artificial Limbs: Coach must have a letter of authorization from proper State Authorities (NYSPHSAA) to be presented to the referee. It is suggested that an authorized photograph of the wrestler wearing the approved limb be available.

4-4-3 Weight Reduction: At any time, the use of sweat boxes; hot showers; whirlpools; rubber, vinyl and plastic-type suits; or similar artificial heating devices; diuretics; or other methods for quick weight reduction purposes is prohibited and shall disqualify an individual from competition. Violation of this article must be witnessed by the official. If prior to competition (tournament or dual meet), the wrestler is declared ineligible and can be replaced with no deduction of points. If after competition has started, the penalty will be Flagrant Misconduct assessed against the contestant. PENALTY CHART.
Weigh-In: NYS has adopted an Honor Weigh-In System that is described in the NYSPHSAA Handbook and Wrestling Program Booklet available at www.nysphsaa.org.

The Honor weigh-in is for dual meets scheduled on school days only. It is not to be used for tournaments.

Qualifications for weight classes and weight also apply to exhibition matches.

NYSPHSAA WRESTLING COMMITTEE GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF THE HONORWEIGH-IN SYSTEM FOR DUAL MEETS

1-3 Weight Control Plan: The program adopted by NYSPHSAA can be found on the NYSPHSAA.org website under Resources Tab, Handbook, High School Sports Standards, Wrestling Weight Control Plan.

WEIGH – IN PROCEDURES

Wrestling Program Booklet

WEIGH-IN ATTIRE: Competitors will be required at weigh-ins to wear a suitable undergarment that completely covers the buttocks and the groin area. Boxers, briefs, compression shorts or swimsuits are acceptable. Singlets, cut off shorts, or basketball shorts will not be allowed. In addition, for female competitors the suitable undergarment must also cover the breasts and T-shirts are acceptable. One piece swimsuits or singlets will not be acceptable for female contestants.

FEMALES: When a school has a female competitor, there is an obligation for the school with the female wrestler to communicate with their opponent prior to their arrival. The NFHS procedures for female weigh-ins shall be followed. The rule states “the Referee, or other authorized person of the same gender shall supervise the weigh-ins”. With the increase in female participants, the NHFS Rules Committee has clarified that a like-gender official or authorized person(s) shall weigh-in contestants which includes the weight check, hair rule conformity and communicable disease checks.

The following procedure is suggested: It is the responsibility of a school having a female squad member to notify opponents that a situation will arise whereby special accommodations and an authorized female shall be needed to verify the weight of a female participant(s) in private. If the host school cannot or does not wish to provide someone to monitor the weigh-in, it is the responsibility of the female’s school to bring a person with the team to handle that responsibility. (National Federation).
HONOR WEIGH-INS

Dual meets scheduled on a school day shall use the honor weigh-in procedure. A certified list of recorded weights signed by the Principal or Athletic Director shall be submitted at the official weigh-in before the meet. In the event that one team has school on a school day and the opponent does not, Honor Weigh-ins are allowed. Honor Weigh-ins for non-school day, dual meet wrestling matches are not allowed. Honor Weigh-ins are not allowed for any Tournament. Each wrestler who makes the scratch weight at the weigh-in to be conducted prior to the school's first scheduled academic instruction period on the day of the match is permitted an allowance of 3 pounds at the mat side weigh-in. A wrestler not making the scratch weight at the early weigh-in will not be permitted the 3 pounds allowable and must make scratch weight at mat side in order to compete. The weight written down on the morning honor weigh-in sheet locks the wrestler into a weight class for that day. (Therefore the wrestler can only move up one weight class from the locked in weight class). Weigh-in administrators should not write down a weight on the honor weigh-in sheet if the wrestler does not make weight. That wrestler, and any wrestlers, who were not present for the honor weigh-in, must make scratch weight if they weigh-in at matside. In the event that a competition is postponed or cancelled, the honor weigh-in is not an official weigh-in, and therefore does not count towards the 50% rule.

If a wrestler makes weight at the morning weigh-in but does not make weight at the 3 lb. check at the matside weigh-in, the weigh-in will count (in regards to the 50% Rule) for the higher weight class, unless the coach scratches the wrestler from the weigh-in sheet at the mat-side weigh-in. If the wrestler is scratched from the weigh-in sheet, the weigh-in will not count towards the 50% Rule. If the wrestler is not scratched from the weigh-in sheet, the weigh-in will count towards the 50% Rule at the higher weight.

Example: Wrestler makes scratch at 113 at morning weigh-in but does not make weight at the 3 lb. check (weighing in at 116.2). They are eligible for 120 only (as they were locked in at the morning weigh-in at 113). They cannot wrestle at 126.

WEIGH-INS: DUAL MEETS

NFHS Rule 4-5-Articles 1,2,3 are replaced by the following in NYS: Contestants of the same gender shall have the opportunity to weigh-in, shoulder-to-shoulder, wearing a suitable undergarment a maximum of 1 hour and a minimum of half hour before the time a dual meet is scheduled to begin. When a preliminary meet is followed by a varsity meet, the 30 minute weigh-in period for the second meet may, by mutual consent, precede the preliminary meet. The weigh-in period shall extend no longer than 30 minutes and shall be conducted at the dual meet site. The referee or other authorized person of the same gender as the contestant shall supervise the weigh-ins.
WEIGH-INS: TOURNAMENTS

NFHS Rule 4-5-Articles 1,2,3 are replaced by the following in NYS: Contestants of the same gender shall weigh-in at the tournament site wearing a suitable undergarment a maximum of two hours and a minimum of half hour before the first session. The tournament manager shall establish the weigh-in time within the maximum and minimum time period. The referee or other person of the same gender as the contestant shall supervise the weigh-ins. Weigh-ins for the second day of a tournament must be conducted on the second day, following the same time limits as the first day. Weigh-ins at the conclusion of the first day are not allowed. When a dual meet tournament lasts 2 days, the weigh-in will be treated the same as a regular tournament. The weigh-in on day one locks a wrestler into a weight class. A wrestler who does not make weight on day two, may not move up to the next weight class, and is scratched from the tournament.

Note: A wrestler cannot be pulled from a 2-day contest to enter a separate contest on the second day (even if the wrestler was eliminated on the first day of the 2-day contest). Example: If a team has a 2-day tournament and a dual meet scheduled on the same day as the second day of the 2-day tournament, a wrestler cannot be pulled from Day 2 of the 2-day tournament to wrestle in the dual meet on the second day as they will not have a day of rest between the two contests. (Wrestling Program Booklet)

MINIMUM WEIGHTS

Minimum weights are only required for selectively classified wrestlers. A wrestler must weigh-in excess of 91 for the 99 lb. weight class, 96 for 106, 185 for 220, and 210 for 285. These minimum weights do not increase when the 12/25 Growth Allowances take place. Minimum Weights MUST be met and RECORDED at the matside weigh-in. If the wrestler does not make the minimum weight at the morning honor weigh-in, the morning weight should not be recorded. The minimum weight must be exceeded at the matside weigh-in for the match to count toward the 50% rule. A wrestler who exceeds the minimum weight at the honor weigh-in, is not eligible if they don’t exceed it again at the matside weigh-in. Students in grades 9th thru 12th do not have to make minimum weights in the weights classes in which NYSPHSAA has specified minimum weights.

In a situation where a 7th/8th grader is 15 years old as of July 1st then they meet eligibility for high school and therefore do not have to make the minimum weights listed above. To avoid confusion at weigh-ins, as they will be listed as a 7th/8th grader on the weigh-in sheet but do not have to make minimum weights in the weights classes in which NYSPHSAA has specified minimum weights, the coach should present the NYSPHSAA Wrestling Minimum Weight Waiver Form as proof. (Wrestling Program Booklet)
**ADDITIONAL POUNDS**

Under no circumstances may coaches agree to grant an extra pound(s) with the following exceptions:

**a.** A 1 lb. allowance is granted when schools have back to back competitions. (In tournament situations: if just one team in the tournament has back to back competitions, then all teams in the tournament get the extra pound. 48 hours notice is required to get the extra pound. NFHS-Rule 4-5-5.

**b.** A 1 lb. allowance is granted when a competition is postponed for one calendar day for reasons beyond the control of the participating school(s) or if one teams practice (the day before a competition) is cancelled due to school policy (Example: Superintendent cancels after school activities due to weather). In these situations the other school should be made aware of the extra pound as soon as the first school learns of the cancellation, 48 hours notice is not required.

**Note:** A school being closed for budget concerns does not give the teams an additional pound. The following examples do not allow for extra pounds: Most schools do not wrestle Monday dual meets as most schools are not allowed access to their buildings to practice on Sundays. No additional pounds are allowed for Monday dual meets. The same holds for a school not being able to practice on a Holiday Monday for a Tuesday dual meet. No additional pound is allowed.

Suggestion: The day prior to a dual meet, all coaches should check the status of “After school activities” for their next day opponent’s school (on the radio or internet) to keep this situation from occurring. If they learn their opponent is leaving school they should contact their opponent to confirm the extra pound(s) and not necessarily wait for their opponent to contact them.

In the case of a tournament; a tournament director grants all the teams in the tournament an extra pound because one of the teams entered is wrestling a dual the day before the tournament. The dual the day before the tournament is cancelled (bad weather, etc.). All teams in the tournament still get the extra pound. NFHS-Rule 4-5-5.

**c.** The maximum allowance to be granted is two (2) lbs. A third consecutive day of completion would grant this 2 lb. allowance to the schools involved. A fourth and fifth consecutive day would require the 2 lb. allowance to carryover. The allowance would never go to 3 lbs.
**Example:** After December 25 the 2 lb. growth allowance is in effect.

- Dual Meet Tuesday: $99 + 2 = 101$ lbs.
- Dual Meet Wednesday: $101 + 1 = 102$ lbs.
- Dual Meet Thursday: $102 + 1 = 103$ lbs.

**Tournament Friday:** All teams in the tournament at 103 lbs.

2nd day of Tournament on Saturday: 103 lbs. Since the maximum allowance is +2; that would mean NO EXTRA POUND for a second day of a 2-day tournament (if the tournament began on Friday with +2). The +2 would carry over from the first day. **NFHS-Rule 4-5-5**

Back to back matches (example):

- **Tuesday:** Regularly scheduled Dual Meet Team A vs Team B: +0 for the dual meet.
- **Wednesday:** Regularly scheduled Dual Meet Team A vs Team C: +1 for the dual meet.
- **Thursday:** Regularly scheduled Dual Meet: Team C vs Team D: +2 for the dual meet.

**Post-season wrestling tournaments:** (namely Class and Sectional competitions that are involved in the process of selection of competitors for championship competition) do not allow for the extra pound on the first day (if a team happened to wrestle the day before). If a post season tournament is a two-day event the extra pound will be given for the second day.

Example: First day must be $99 + 2 = 101$ lbs. (can never start at 102 lbs.) Second day would be $101 + 1 = 102$ lbs. (can never be 103 lbs.)

**PROCEDURE FOR WEIGH-INS (Wrestling Program Booklet)**

1. **Entering a 2-day: Dual Meet Tournament:** When a dual meet tournament lasts 2 days, the weigh-in will be treated the same as a regular tournament. The weigh-in on day one locks the wrestler into a weight class. If the wrestler does not make weight on day two, the wrestler may not move up to the next weight class. The wrestler is scratched from the tournament.
With respect to 7th/8th graders who must make a minimum weight:

On Day 1: If they weigh between 91.1 and 96.0 they lock in to the 99 lb. weight class for Day 1 and cannot wrestle at 106 (as they are in excess of 91 but are not in excess of 96).

To be consistent with how the other weight classes are treated: On Day 2: If they now weigh between 96.1 and 100, they must remain at 100 (99+1). Even though they are now in excess of 91 for 99 and also in excess of 96 for 106, they cannot wrestle at either 100 (99+1) or 107 (106+1). The weigh-in on the first day locked them into the weight class for the tournament.

50% Rule: The weigh-in on the first day would count towards the 50% rule even if the wrestler does not participate as the wrestler made weight and was eligible to wrestle.

2. Entering a 2-day: Individual Tournament: When an individual tournament lasts 2 days the weight class the wrestler weighs in at, on the NYS weigh-in form, shall be the weight counted towards the 50% rule. The wrestler may wrestle at that weight or move up one weight class. Should the wrestler opt to go up one weight class, the wrestler would not have to make weight at the lower weight class shown on the weigh-in sheet on the second day because they are not entered at that weight.

50% Rule: As with the 2-day dual meet tournament (above), the weight class weighed in at on the NYS weigh-in form on the first day of a tournament counts towards the 50% rule. You do not have to make weight twice in the same tournament for it to count for 50% of your weigh-ins.

Individual Points

If an individual enters a combined 2-day tournament (where some weight classes are pooled, and some are bracketed), this will count as one of their two 2-day tournaments, even if their individual weight class is bracketed and not pooled.

Back to back tournaments are allowed. A minimum of one night’s rest is required between tournaments. A tournament ends the day it’s finals are contested (not the day a wrestler is eliminated from it).

Example: If a wrestler is entered in a 2-day tournament on Friday and Saturday and is eliminated from it on Friday, they cannot compete in another tournament on Saturday. The original tournament finals were held on Saturday, so one night’s rest (Saturday) is required before the next tournament can be entered.
Wrestling exhibition in a Dual Meet Tournament:

Exhibition: A wrestler from Team A has the ability to wrestle an exhibition match in a dual meet tournament (provided it will not put them over the 5 bout limit or 6 bout limit if one of the 5 bouts was a forfeit.

Points: Once a wrestler wrestles one match in a dual meet tournament they are considered entered in the tournament. Even if they only wrestle one bout (either Varsity or Exhibition) it will cost them 2 points and be counted as one of their 6 tournaments. It would be suggested that if the wrestler gets one bout, they attempt to find a second, so as to not waste the two points assigned.

No additional points will be charged for the extra exhibition bouts.

NOTE: Wrestling exhibition in an Individual tournament:

Exhibition: A wrestler who has been eliminated from an Individual tournament has most likely had at least two matches and has used 2 points for the tournament. They are still technically in the tournament (even though they have been eliminated from it and cannot enter another tournament until this tournament is concluded). They are permitted to wrestle one or more exhibition matches with others who were eliminated from the tournament, however they will be charged one additional point for each additional exhibition match they compete in.

DUAL MEET TOURNAMENTS

Each individual is charged 2 points toward the maximum number of points permitted. Once a wrestler competes in one bout of a dual meet tournament they are charged 2 points, even if they only wrestle once.

In the event that a dual meet tournament ends up with only 3 teams (due to last minute cancellations), the event can be wrestled as a Triangular meet. Each contestant will be charged one point for each match wrestled. The event will no longer count as one of the six allotted tournaments

Withdrawing from a 2-day Dual Meet Tournament:

If a team withdraws from a 2-day Dual Meet Tournament that is not the fault of the wrestlers:
Example: The School administration does not allow a team to enter Day 1 of a Two-day Dual meet tournament but does allow the team to compete the second day.
The tournament will count as one of the two allowed 2-day dual meet tournaments. They will be allowed the 1 lb. weight allowance that the other teams are being granted and the Day 2 weigh-in will count towards the 50% rule.

Teams that do not show up for a dual meet:
For all duals the team was scheduled to wrestle on Day 1, each meet will be treated as a “forfeit” A win and a loss is added to each team’s record. As per NFHS interpretation: Since no matches were contested no individual records would be affected. The dual meet will be recorded as a 1-0 team score (but the TrackWrestling will show the team score to be 90-0 based on 15 weights at 6 points each).

When the team rejoins the tournament on Day 2 they will continue with their original spot on the bracket sheet, pool, or round robin.

Note- The team that could not attend Day 1 has the right to decide not to go on Day 2 (even if allowed) if they do not want it to count as one of their 2-Day contests.

Note: A team cannot join a 2-Day tournament on the second day, if they were not originally scheduled to be a participant in the tournament.

Information on the procedures for weigh-ins and the 50% rule are listed in the Wrestling Program Booklet.

Prior to 12/25, a wrestler may only wrestle at these weight classes 99, 106, 113, 120, 126, 132, 138, 145, 152, 160, 170, 182, 195, 220, 285

After 12/25 Growth Allowance, now a wrestler may only wrestle at these weight classes:

101, 108, 115, 122, 128, 134, 140, 147, 154, 162, 172, 184, 197, 222, 287

Situation 1: Prior to December 25th a wrestler that is certified at 139.0 lbs. cannot wrestle at the 138 lb. weight class and must move up to the 145 lb. weight class, even if additional pound(s) are granted for back to back competition.

Situation 2: A wrestler is certified at 139 lbs. Due to back to back competitions an extra pound is granted for a contest. They still cannot wrestle at the 138+1=139 lb. weight class and must still move up to 145 lb. weight class.
Situation 3: A wrestler is certified at 139 lbs. After the 2 lb. growth allowance on 12/25 they can now wrestle at the 138+2=140 lb. class.

Situation 4: A wrestler is certified at 141 lbs. Due to back to back competitions an extra pound is granted for a contest. The wrestler cannot wrestle at the 138+2+1=141 lb. weight class and must still move up to the 147 lb. weight class.

**Weight allowances could prohibit a wrestler from being able to go up one weight class from the weigh-in weight:**
*When a wrestler’s certified weight is in-between the Growth Allowance Weight and the weight class being contested that day (due to additional pounds), and their actual weight is greater than their certified weight, they are prohibited from going up one weight class from the weigh-in weight.*

**Example:** The wrestler is certified at 148 (they can never wrestle at 147)
- January Dual Meet Wednesday: 145+2=147 lbs.
- January Dual Meet Thursday: 145+2+1=148 lbs.
- Tournament-Day 1-Friday: 145+2+2=149
- Tournament-Day 2 Saturday: 145+2+2=149 (max +4 has been granted)

Wrestler actually weighs 148.5 on Friday.

Even though 148.5 is less than the weight class that day 149), they are actually attempting to weigh-in in at the 147 wt class, (which is a weight they are not certified to wrestle at).

Therefore, they must wrestle at 152+4=159 for this tournament
*They weighed in at the 147 wt class but are not allowed to wrestle there.*
*Yet, they cannot move up to 160+4=164 as that would be going up two weight classes from where they weighed in at*
*If they were to wrestle at either 145+4=149, or if they were to wrestle up two weight classes at 160+4=164, they would be considered ineligible.*

**Ineligible Weight Class Wrestling Program Booklet**

After a dual meet is wrestled, it is found out that a team used a wrestler at a weight lower than their certified weight (or at a weight below the State minimum weight):
*Example: 8th grade 85 pounder wrestles at 99 and does not meet the 91 pound minimum), the team forfeits the dual meet and the wrestler takes a loss on their record.*

The win/loss records of the other wrestlers who wrestled in the dual meet are not affected and the results of their individual bouts stand.

If, while a dual meet is in progress, it is discovered that an ineligible wrestler has competed, the dual meet becomes a forfeit. However, the meet will be wrestled to its
conclusion so that the win/loss records of the other wrestlers who competed in the dual meet are not affected.

RULE 5
DEFINITIONS

5-11-2f  **Injury prior to near fall:** This rule is specifically aimed at the defensive wrestler being injured, giving an indication of injury, or bleeding when a near fall is imminent. It does not apply to potentially dangerous situations stopped by the referee.

5-11-2g  The referee always has the authority to stop the match if they feel there is an injury hazard. No points are awarded in this type of situation. **SEE RULE 7-2-4 IN THIS REGARD.** The rule is intended to remove the judgment of the referee in these instances as to whether there is truly an injury.

Once nearfall points have been earned, if the match is stopped as a result of an injury, indication of an injury or bleeding, the additional points will be awarded as described in rule 5-11-2f, g, h, even if criteria is no longer being met.

Example: A cradles B and has earned a 3 point nearfall. B works out of criteria, but A still maintains the cradle so the referee has not awarded the nearfall points. If B were to bleed, sustain an injury or give an indication of an injury at this point, the match would be stopped and 4 point nearfall would be awarded.

When the referee stops the match to award nearfall points in a “scream rule” situation, the defensive wrestler is not automatically charged with an injury time out if they are prepared to go back to wrestling immediately. If not, an injury time out may have to be taken.

If a wrestler “taps out”, this will be considered as an indication of an injury; therefore if nearfall criteria are imminent or are being met, the “scream rule” will be applied and the wrestler **will** be charged an injury time out. If in the referee’s judgment, the wrestler “tapped out” just to get out of a pinning situation, unsportsmanlike conduct may be called.
National Federation defines imminent nearfall as 90 degrees or less. (NHFS email Jan. 2006)

5-25-1 **Advantage Position:** When a wrestler is off their base and the opponent is hip-to-hip with control of 2 of 3 supports, a reversal or takedown may be awarded, (Illustrations 27 and 28) even when the opponent has locked hands around one of their opponent’s legs on or above the knee. Off their base means on the hip, side of thigh or buttocks (i.e. knees are not support). Two arms are considered one support of the three possible either by direct control or immobilization through position (i.e. one arm tied up and the other unable to be used for support or attack). (National Federation)

The **off their base** criteria may be waived when the wrestler attempting a reversal or takedown is hip to hip and is controlling both legs of their opponent, or applies a cross body or figure-4 to the near leg "trapping" the opponents arm.

5-10 **Individual Scoring Maneuvers:** Understanding control and restraining power as defined by the wrestling rules is paramount to understanding these sections. Control and restraining power intimate the ability to manipulate your opponent i.e. change your method of attack. If control is merely "hanging-on" it is very questionable in a takedown or reversal situation. A brief period of "proper position" only as opposed to true control is another example. Control is not only defined by position. It must also be demonstrated.

**Reference to reaction time:** “Reaction Time” as defined by the Federation is a **maximum** of 2 seconds but can be less, especially in regard to section 7-3-3 (interlocking or overlapping). The amount of reaction time will vary depending on the circumstances. When a wrestler is behind their opponent in a standing position with their hands locked around opponent’s chest, they have reaction time to release locked hands after taking the opponent to the mat. If the defensive wrestler executes a sit-out on the mat and the offensive wrestler locks hands to block the move, even if only momentarily, the offensive wrestler shall be penalized for the technical violation of locking hands. There is no allowable reaction time in this situation.
5-19-2 **Defensive Starting Position:** The kneepad shall be considered as part of the knee in reference to starting position.

**NOTE:** The line of demarcation for the “near-side” is the heel of the defensive wrestler's hand to their knee. This is especially important when the defensive wrestler assumes an exaggerated position with their lower legs.

5-19-4 **Neutral Starting Position:** There shall be no contact between the wrestlers nor shall they make contact with the mat in front of the lead foot. The rules require both contestants to be stationary.

No exaggerated position allowing an unfair advantage to either wrestler is permitted. Assume a vertical plane separating the wrestlers and do not allow exaggerated stances beyond it. (National Federation).

**Visually Impaired Wrestler**

**Rule 1-1-2** Authorizes exceptions to the NFHS playing rules to provide reasonable accommodations to individual participants with disabilities and or special needs, as well as those individuals with unique and extenuating circumstances. The accommodation shall not fundamentally alter the sport, heighten risk to the athlete/others or place others at a disadvantage.

**Rule 6-2-4** States: In matches involving wrestlers with visual impairments, the finger touch method shall be used in the neutral position and initial contact shall be made from the front. Contact is to be maintained though out the match.

In New York the following protocol will be used when using the finger touch start. The wrestler with the visual impairment will establish a legal starting position with one palm facing up and the other palm facing down. Then the opponent will establish their own position. Once the match begins the wrestlers do not have to remain in the finger touch position. When the whistle blows either wrestler can change to any legal tie up that they choose provided that they maintain contact. Every time the contact is broken the match will be stopped and restarted using the finger touch method.

Referees should be aware that each time you stop the match you may need to guide the visually impaired wrestler back to the starting line.
**INDIVIDUAL SCORING MANEUVER EXAMPLES**

**Double Leg Tackle Takedown**, facing your opponent or facing away: Position and restraint down at the ankles may be considered a takedown. If wrestler B is out of bounds as shown in Illustrations 32, 33 and 34 and wrestler A has control at the ankles and finishes with both feet down on the mat inbounds, a takedown can be awarded. If this situation occurs while the wrestlers are inbounds beyond reaction time a takedown can be awarded.

When the positions shown in illustrations 23, 25 and 26 are attained, it will be up to the judgment of the official whether control has been established or not. Double underhooks, over and under, body locks and other types of upper body counters will not prevent the takedown from being awarded unless the wrestler sitting on their buttocks has a strong functional elevator(s) which is being used.

**NOTE:** The referee must let the wrestlers know when the takedown has been awarded to avoid complicating the situation with a locked hands call.

**Rule 5: Control in a Headlock.** (National Federation)

When determining control for a takedown or reversal in a headlock situation the following guidelines should be used.

1. Watch the hips of the wrestler in the headlock. If the wrestler keeps their pelvis down and the buttocks facing up, there is probably no control.

2. Look for the wrestler in the headlock to place an elbow, hand or foot on the mat to prevent shoulder exposure beyond reaction time. If this occurs, control is established.

3. If the wrestler in the headlock has their pelvis down and suddenly attempts to roll though and in doing so momentarily touches an elbow, hand or foot and realizes that they can't rollout and returns to the pelvis down position, there is still no control.

4. If the position described in item #3 should occur a second time and an elbow, hand or foot touches again, even if only momentarily, control has been established.

5. The above guidelines are useful in most situations. However, some wrestlers are so flexible that they can fight their pelvis down in a "Safe" position and their shoulders or scapula are meeting near fall criteria. In this situation the referee must use good judgment to determine control. If the
referee is convinced that the shoulders or scapula are being held in criteria and that the defensive wrestler can't rollout, a takedown or reversal can be awarded.

**Standing Merkel:** When the position shown in illustrations 29 and 30 “wrong leg in” is established beyond reaction time, but the wrestlers are standing, this will be considered a rear standing position and a reversal has been earned. (National Federation 2016)

If this position is attained and the wrestlers immediately go out of bounds or the period ends before reaction time has occurred a 1 point escape has been earned.

**Granby (Shoulder Roll, Peterson)** Takedown or Reversal: Major criterion is the offensive wrestler (or the wrestler being taken down) concerned about back exposure.

a) Arm and Lower Leg: Look for a posting of the arm in the crotch of the wrestler executing the move and solid leg control. If this is accomplished (with or without the opponents concern for back exposure) there is probably control.

b) Arm and Upper Leg (or head): Look for the posting of the arm in the crotch of the person executing the move and back concern of the opponent. This position is much harder to demonstrate control than "a" above. (See Illustrations 21 and 22)

**Neutral (Escape) Situation:** Judgment must be used not to make neutral calls to quickly when a reversal is the proper decision. Only when satisfied that a reversal is not imminent and control is lost should this point be awarded. This call can be made after the buzzer or after out-of-bounds when the referee is waiting to determine reversal possibility. In almost every reversal situation there is a neutral "condition" although it should not be called until the move is completed. In some instances, reversal may be interrupted by the buzzer or out-of-bounds and the neutral must be awarded. Judgment on the part of the referee is critical in these situations. The referee must be very careful not to award neutrals where they do not belong. A good example would be a switch/re-switch situation interrupted by the buzzer or out-of-bounds. As long as the re-switch is implanted, a neutral cannot be awarded regardless of interruption. There are many other similar examples. Loss of the ability to counter effectively is a good guideline to be used. Many times wrestlers will be hopelessly entangled at the buzzer or going out-of-bounds. In these cases it is almost impossible to determine if there is the ability to counter or not and therefore an escape should not be awarded as it cannot be “assumed.” Another good example is the overhead (front) cradle situation. If the defensive wrestler (B) comes from underneath and applies a front cradle, (B) may or
may not have earned a reversal. If the offensive wrestler (A) fights to remain on all fours and continues to turn in on the person applying the cradle, or has the ability to use their arm or arms to prevent (B) from getting behind, a reversal cannot be awarded. If the defensive wrestler (B) comes from underneath and gets into a position in which the offensive wrestler (A) has lost complete control but (B) has not gained sufficient control to be awarded a reversal, this is a delayed call. This would include, but is not limited to, the following examples: Both wrestlers start down on the mat with (A) in control and

1. (B) turns in and is able to pick up (A's) leg.
2. (B) comes from underneath and applies a quarter nelson on (A).
3. (B) comes from underneath and applies an overhead (front) cradle on (A).
4. (B) comes from underneath and applies a front headlock on (A).

In these situations, if (B) breaks contact from (A) and (A) is in a position to defend themselves (B) will be awarded 1 point for an escape. However, if contact is maintained and any of these situations are interrupted by the buzzer, out of bounds or the referee stopping the match for any other reason (e.g. bleeding, stopping to penalize etc.), (B) will be awarded 1 point for an escape, or, if (A) manages to regain a "shred of control", no escape points will be awarded to (B).

*In the above statement the word shred of control has been used to illustrate that once you establish control and are considered the wrestler in the advantage position the amount of control you must maintain is minimal.*

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**RULE 6**

**CONDUCT OF MATCHES**

6-2-1 **Intentional Delay:** This rule only applies to intentional delay when teams are present. The outcome of a contest influenced by the absence of one or both teams due to any other circumstance (e.g. weather, breakdown, etc.) is a league problem not to be dealt with by the referee. In the event of intentional delay, if a team has been penalized accordingly, there is no time allotted for warm-ups or team introductions after the established starting time.
6-2-2 In dual meet competition, wrestlers report directly to the scorer’s table. The team who is obligated to report first based on the results of the pre-meet disk toss will have choice at the beginning of the second period. (top, bottom, neutral or defer) Once the obligated wrestler properly reports they may not be withdrawn or replaced without being disqualified. Once both wrestlers have properly reported neither wrestler can be withdrawn or replaced without being disqualified and the weight class being forfeited. (NFHS 2006) Exception can be made for an honest mistake by a contestant who reports for the wrong match, i.e. an ineligible wrestler for a weight class. The referee’s judgment is final in this type of situation. Once wrestling has started this exception does not apply. In the above situation it can only be considered an honest mistake if the wrestler reporting was not eligible to wrestle in that weight class.

6-2-3 NYS: The wrestler having the choice of position in the second or third period can change their mind only up until the referee announces the choice to the scorer’s table. The referee is advised to properly confirm the choice before announcing it to avoid unnecessary confusion.

6-4-2 Stalemate: Add to part (b) “hands locked around one leg of their opponent or their own leg to prevent opponent from scoring.”

RULE 7
INFRACTIONS

7-1-1 Slam: Returning an opponent to the mat with unnecessary force shall include unintentional loss of control causing unsafe impact and/or risk to head, neck or other body parts of the opponent.

NOTE: Regardless of who hits the mat first or if a knee touches first a slam may be called.

When a wrestler lifts their opponent off the mat, that wrestler is responsible for their opponent’s safe return to the mat. Force is the determining factor.
7-1-2 **Suplay and Salto:** A full back Suplay (belly to back) and straight-back Salto (belly to belly with or without arms tied-up) are illegal when performed correctly (to the head, *neck or shoulders* of either wrestler). This is true regardless of the force involved in view of potential injury to either wrestler. When these holds are performed incorrectly they become variations of body throws and could be subject to the slam rule or possibly unnecessary roughness.

7-1-5 **Other Illegal Holds:**

**Full Nelson:** The accidental touching in transfer of hands is not illegal:

**Reinforced Headlock** (with or without arm encircled): Locking on your own leg (inner thigh) is legal *but* potentially dangerous, *(like all other legal headlocks).* Grasping of your own uniform is a technical violation. (National Federation)

**Reinforced Crossface and Head Pry** are legal. (Illustration 58) Pressure should be below the shoulder. However, if it is used beyond normal aggressiveness, unnecessary roughness could be called.

**Functional Headlock:** Pressure against the head is not illegal. (Illustrations 45, 57, 63 and 64) Pressure around the head is illegal unless an arm or leg is encircled at or above the elbow. (Illustrations 44, 46, 49, 50, 51, 55 and 56) (National Federation).

**EXAMPLES:**

1. In a double grapevine (belly to belly on the mat) it is permissible to lock hands around the head (to break a bridge) (Illustration 57) as long as pressure is unidirectional. If the offensive wrestler pulls up and then applies pressure around the head it could be illegal.

2. The defensive wrestler reaches back and clasps the head of the offensive wrestler and applies pressure against the head (unidirectional). (See Illustration 45) This is legal. If however, the wrestler reaches back with one arm and locks up around the head (without an arm or leg encircled) and applies pressure around the head, it is illegal. (See Illustration 44)
INTERPRETER’S NOTE:

The Federation seems to be implying that a circular or turning motion around the head is the primary concern in a headlock. Use this guideline accordingly.

Headlock in the Guillotine: It is permissible to have the hands locked (without encircling an arm, elbow or above) once near fall criteria have been met and until the situation has ended. In NYS this will be allowed as long as the wrestlers move in and out of criteria on a continuing basis. If in the referee's judgment the situation moves out of criteria in such a position as to eliminate the possibility of a return to criteria the referee shall notify the offensive wrestler verbally that their opponent is "out of criteria" and allow reaction time for the hold to be released or stopped as potentially dangerous. If, through action the wrestlers come to their knees (and stabilize) the referee will stop the match and cause the hold to be released as potentially dangerous. This should not be called illegal because the situation was created by the defensive wrestler. Only when the offensive wrestler commits an action which in the referee’s judgment is an intentional act to injure their opponent, will a penalty point(s) be awarded in the guillotine situation (unnecessary roughness). Once again, reaction time is the guideline; however, the referee is reminded that reaction time is defined as a maximum of 2 seconds and can be less if appropriate (especially in this case where there is a danger of injury).

Neck Wrench: These situations should be broken where possible or stopped if necessary as potentially dangerous. Not all holds on the chin are potentially dangerous as potential neck wrenches. The potential to twist against the motion of the body is the key factor. Illustrations in the Rule Book show this difference. (See Illustrations 54, 70, 71 and 72) If there is a twisting motion against the direction of the body this is an illegal neck wrench. If a wrestler repeatedly applies a neck wrench type of hold (potentially dangerous stage) in order to stop the match and frustrate an attempted takedown, reversal, or breakdown by their opponent, the wrestler may be penalized under the rules governing stalling.

A figure four is defined as when the foot is directly behind the knee. If the foot is in front of the knee or anywhere below the knee, it will be considered a scissors. (National Federation)
**Note:** Occasionally when an offensive wrestler is applying a body scissors the actions of the defensive wrestler forces the foot off the calf into a figure four position. When this occurs the offensive wrestler should not be penalized, this should be considered potentially dangerous.

**Leg Block:** This maneuver is illegal if applied by either wrestler in the top, bottom, or neutral position. Leaving the mat and using a leg (or legs) with force against your opponent’s leg(s) is illegal. (Illustration 88)

7-2

**Potentially Dangerous Holds:**

**Chicken Wing:** Force is the key word. Look for parallel force. If the hand is limp or palm is up chicken wing may be OK. (National Federation)

1. Arm is 90 degrees, chicken wing is legal
2. Arm gets to 45 degrees, referee should caution wrestler to keep it legal.
3. Arm gets parallel, referee will stop match and call potentially dangerous.
4. Arm gets parallel and pressure is applied, referee will stop the match and award a penalty point(s).

**Reinforced Chicken Wing:** This is legal, but potentially dangerous. (To be observed) It occurs when a wrestler applies a chicken wing and at the same time has control of the opponent’s arm or wrist on the same side as the chicken wing and holds the arm or wrist under the opponent’s body. In this situation, when parallel pressure is applied, it is impossible to create a twisting hammerlock.

**Double and Single Arm Tie-Ups Standing:** *Any time the wrestlers are standing and there is a double arm bar or a body lock with one or both arms trapped the match is to be stopped as potentially dangerous.* *In other rear standing positions such as the arm bar/tight waist and the arm bar with a half nelson the match is to be stopped as potentially dangerous only if the referee feels there is a potential for injury. Any time the wrestlers are standing and there is a single arm tie-up, if the wrestler applying the hold positions to execute a trip, stop the match as potentially dangerous.*
All standing single arm tie-ups prior to a trip situation should be treated as potentially dangerous to be observed as discussed in the Rule Book under 7-2-2. (See Illustrations 101 and 102)

Leg Wrestling (National Federation)

The attached information has been compiled after lengthy, in-depth review of materials provided at various National Rules Meetings, assorted articles, and discussions with experienced coaches and officials. The information contained should serve as a guide for coaches to teach aggressive tactics and for officials to recognize when a wrestler is not being aggressive in leg wrestling.

When a wrestler applies a cross body ride or a parallel leg ride, it is the offensive wrestler's responsibility to attempt to secure a fall or score points. Over the years leg wrestling has had its place in mat wrestling and still can be used as an effective means to score points or a fall. However, there is a tendency to allow the leg series to be used as a ride, which creates little or no action and brings the wrestling match to a dull state. For that reason, the burden to wrestle aggressively and score with the legs is generally put on the offensive wrestler.

While using the legs series the top wrestler must try to turn the bottom wrestler. The key to power in using the legs is to keep your hips above your opponents. If they are below your opponents, they have very little chance to turn their opponent, and chances are they are only riding or will be locked up in a position where they are unable to score or progress the action. A stalemate would be called and charged to the offensive wrestler, assuming that the defensive wrestler has not caused the stalemate. If this situation occurs repeatedly (2 or more times), stalling will be charged against the offensive wrestler.

It is not the intention of the Rules Committee to eliminate leg wrestling all together and it would be unrealistic for officials to only allow a leg wrestler one attempt to use leg techniques; therefore, at least two stalemates should be charged before warning or penalizing for stalling. Again, this is assuming that the defensive wrestler did not create the stalemate by clamping down on the offensive wrestler's arm. In this situation a stalemate is charge against the defensive wrestler using the same guidelines listed earlier.

NOTE: If the defensive wrestler simply covers up and refuses to wrestle, they will be subject to the rules governing stalling. A wrestler who is clearly stalling must be warned and penalized. There is no intention in these guidelines to allow blatant stalling to occur during leg wrestling by either wrestler.
Example: Legs are in and the offensive wrestler can't improve.

1st stoppage = Stalemate, Offensive wrestler

2nd stoppage = Stalemate, Offensive wrestler

3rd stoppage = Stalemate - Warning Stalling, Offensive wrestler

4th stoppage = Stalemate - Penalty Stalling, Offensive wrestler

Example: Legs are in and the defensive wrestler clamps down on one arm of their opponent.

1st stoppage = Stalemate, Defensive wrestler

2nd stoppage = Stalemate, Defensive wrestler

3rd stoppage = Stalemate - Warning Stalling, Defensive wrestler

4th stoppage = Stalemate - Penalty Stalling, Defensive wrestler

The first example indicates legs are in and the offensive wrestler (A) can't improve. It is assumed that (A) is attempting to improve but can't do so and that is the reason for the stalemate. If (A) can't improve after the second stalemate, it is stalling. If (A’s) hips are high and (A) is just hanging on and not attempting to improve, it is stalling. The key is that (A) is really attempting to improve. If (A) is not attempting, no matter when, it is stalling. The offensive wrestler cannot use the leg series to merely ride the opponent.

In the second example, the defensive wrestler (B) clamps down because that is the counter to being turned and pinned. This should be obvious to the official and a very quick stalemate would be called. Also, by repeatedly causing a stalemate, stalling may be called on (B). If the wrestler simply covers up, it is not a stalemate. This is stalling and should be called.

Stalemate – The offensive wrestler applies a grapevine and is unable to turn the defensive wrestler. Referee will stop as soon as possible after recognizing stalemate. If used repeatedly (generally means 2 or 3 times), it results in stalling. (NF Casebook 2010)

The National Federation Casebook covers these as follows:

Ex. 1 Stalemates - Situation 6-4-2, Situation A - This covers the 3/4 Nelson situation, but it is comparable because the wrestler is effectively countering the 3/4 Nelson by
bracing their chin with the elbows on the mat. It is an effective counter and creates a stalemate in the same way that the defensive wrestler in a leg situation clamps down.

**Ex. 2** - Grapevine and standing –see situation 7-6-6a. (Casebook pg54.)

**NOTE:** Some officials are stopping this when the offensive wrestler has a free leg or a rudder bobbing up and down. This is not potentially dangerous.

If the defensive wrestler stands and the offensive wrestler applies a leg ride and jumps up to create a potentially dangerous situation, this may be considered stalling on the first offense. The referee shall use good judgment in determining what the offensive wrestler's intent was.

Example: Down on the mat with legs in and the defensive wrestler stands to create a potentially dangerous situation.

1st stoppage = Potentially Dangerous, Defensive Wrestler

2nd stoppage = Potentially Dangerous, Defensive Wrestler

3rd stoppage = Potentially Dangerous - Warning Stalling, Defensive Wrestler

4th stoppage = Potentially Dangerous - Penalty Stalling, Defensive Wrestler

Example: Defensive wrestler stands up and the offensive wrestler applies a leg ride and then jumps on their opponent’s back in an obvious attempt to create a potentially dangerous situation.

1st stoppage = Potentially Dangerous - Warning Stalling, Offensive Wrestler

2nd stoppage = Potentially Dangerous - Penalty Stalling, Offensive Wrestler

**7-2-2**  
**Stack (Pump handle) and Front Bridge:** When the top wrestler applies a stack and the bottom wrestler goes into a front bridge, treat as follows:

a) If the bottom wrestler's feet are off the mat it is potentially dangerous - to be stopped. (See Illustrations 94 and 95)

b) If the bottom wrestler goes into a front bridge on their toes, it will be considered potentially dangerous - to be observed similarly to the headlock situation.
c) If the bottom wrestler stays on their knees and uses own head as additional support, this is a front bridge and it is not a potentially dangerous situation.

**NOTE:** Anytime the neck is “flexed” awkwardly (to the limit of normal range of movement), the referee must be aware of the injury hazard and be prepared to stop the match. Special attention should be paid to the situation in which the head of the defensive wrestler is posted by the offensive wrestler applying the pump handle. The referee should try to be in a position to stop the match as soon as the offensive wrestler applies “lifting” pressure to the offensive wrestler's body while the head is posted to the mat. (See Illustrations 94 and 95)

**Mills Series:** This style from the advantage position of a half nelson and far arm tie-up (of many types) coupled with the spiral ride and “extensions” for additional pressure creates potentially dangerous situations. Any time the defensive wrestler cannot turn because the far arm tie-up is preventing him (e.g. chicken wing, half nelson), this should be called potentially dangerous and stopped. Also, if pressure becomes parallel instead of perpendicular the referee should be ready to stop the match as potentially dangerous or illegal if appropriate.

Many times with the half nelson and one-on-one tie-up, the offensive wrestler approaches a full nelson condition with their own hand and the hand of their opponent. The referee should caution the wrestler to avoid full nelson type pressure and will stop the match only if they feel there is danger to the bottom wrestler. Do not call this a full nelson (NYS).

**Gable Bar:** In this maneuver the offensive wrestler has the defensive wrestler on their stomach on the mat. OW then applies a one-on-one or two-on-one straight arm pry, executes a high leg maneuver sitting on their own butt thereby posting the near shoulder of DW with their own upper body. Now OW takes DW’s wrist and rotates it inward so that the palm of the hand faces up. This effectively locks DW’s shoulder to the mat and is potentially dangerous. The match need not be stopped at this point; however, the referee should position himself at DW’s head to block the lifting of the arm if necessary.

a) Now OW lifts the arm toward DW's head with DW’s head facing away from OW. The match should be stopped. If not stopped in time and the move is executed, it should be illegal.

*See illustration 80.*
b) However, if OW releases the posting of DW’s shoulder, allows movement and DW looks towards OW, OW can drive perpendicular across DW's back into a pinning situation. This move is legal.

*See illustration 79.*

### 7-4-2

List failure to keep shoulder straps up while on the mat as unsportsmanlike conduct. In NYS in dual meets a penalty will be called if the straps are down while any part of the wrestler is on the mat. If the wrestler is completely off the mat on the hardwood floor, the straps can be dropped without penalty. As it is common in both individual and dual meet tournaments to have mats together and coaches chairs on the mats, New York State Wrestling Committee felt that wrestlers should not be penalized for taking shoulder straps down while in their corners while dressing before or after their match. In tournaments a penalty will be called if the straps are down while any part of the wrestler is inside the minimum 28 foot circle. If the wrestler is completely outside the circle, the straps can be dropped without penalty. (New York State Wrestling Committee 2014)

### SPORTSMANSHIP

**NOTE:** Failure to comply with end-of-match procedure is always a team point deduction.

The Association recognizes and appreciates that the influence and responsibility of the school administration with regard to good sportsmanship extends to all levels of competition. However, it must also be seen that the NYSPHSAA has been vested with the responsibility to ensure that all contests under its jurisdiction are conducted satisfactorily. This standard applies to all regular season and post schedule play. (*NYSPHSAA Handbook*)

*As of July 1, 2013, the Dignity for All Students Act (Dignity Act-Section 52.2, Part 80 and 57-4) is to provide all public-school students with an environment free from harassment, bullying (including cyber bullying) and discrimination, as well as to foster civility in public schools. The Dignity Act focuses on the prevention of discrimination behaviors, including harassment/bullying through the promotion of educational measures meant to positively impact school culture and climate, which includes the interscholastic programs.*
a. Coach:

Any coach excluded by a certified official from an interschool competition for unsportsmanlike conduct, including, taunting, is ineligible to coach any interschool competition in that sport until after the next previously scheduled contest at the same level (e.g. junior varsity, varsity, etc.) has been completed. In individual sports a multi-day contest is considered to be a contest. Disqualification from one season carries over to the next season of participation. The coach may not be present at the game site nor communicate in any manner during the contest with any person present at the site.

NOTE: Not being physically present at the site means the disqualified coach is not to be present in the locker room, on the sidelines, in the stands or site area before, during or after the game/meet.

Any coach that does not serve the penalty for violating the sportsmanship standard will be ineligible to participate in the next two regularly scheduled contests. If the coach continues to not serve the penalty, the matter will be referred to the section for further action. If the coach is involved in the NYSPHSAA play-offs, the matter will be referred to the executive director of NYSPHSAA.

Any coach:

1. Who receives a disqualification penalty in a sport shall not participate in the next regularly scheduled contest;

2. Who receives a second disqualification penalty in the same sport in the same season shall not participate in the next two regularly scheduled contests; and

3. Who receives a third disqualification penalty in the same sport in the same season will not be allowed to participate for the rest of the season. If the disqualification penalty takes place in the last contest of the season (regular season or post schedule play), the Section Athletic Council will assess the penalty carrying over into the next season of participation.

4. The section athletic council will have the authority to extend the period of ineligibility in those cases where the actions of the individual that was disqualified from a contest or scrimmage are
A coach who strikes, shoves, kicks or makes other physical contact with the intent to annoy, harass or intimidate another person (e.g. official, another coach, player, fan) shall be expelled immediately and banned from further participation or coaching in all sports for a period of time to be determined by the section not to exceed one year from the date of the offense.

b. Player:

Any member of a squad disqualified by a sport official for unsportsmanlike conduct, including taunting, or for a flagrant foul shall not participate in that sport in the next previously scheduled contest with a member school or in NYSPHSAA tournament play. In individual sports a multi-day contest is considered to be a contest. The contest in which the athlete was disqualified must count in the total maximum number of contests permitted. Disqualifications from one season carry over to the next season of participation.

Any Player

1. Who receives a disqualification penalty in a sport shall not participate in the next regularly scheduled contest;

2. Who receives a second disqualification penalty in the same sport in the same season shall not participate in the next two regularly scheduled contests; and

3. Who receives a third disqualification penalty in the same sport in the same season will not be allowed to participate for the rest of the season. If the third ejection takes place in the last contest of the season (regular season or post schedule play), the Section Athletic Council will assess the penalty carrying over into the next season of participation.

4. The section athletic council will have the authority to extend the period of ineligibility in those cases where the action of the individual that was disqualified from a contest or scrimmage are warranted. The period of ineligibility can not exceed one year from the date of disqualification.
Any member of the squad who strikes, shoves, kicks or makes other physical contact with the intent to annoy, harass or intimidate an official shall be expelled from the game immediately and banned from further participation in all sports for a period of time to be determined by the section not to exceed one year from the date of the offense.

NOTE: Member of the squad includes player, manager, score keepers, timers, and statisticians.

c. Official:

Unprofessional conduct on the part of the official such as, but not limited to, taunting, baiting, use of profanity, shall be reported by a school administrator form the aggrieved school to the section executive director. A request will be made to the appropriate sport official’s chapter to investigate the incidence and to report their action to the section in a timely manner.

**Taunting** includes but is not limited to, any actions or comments by coaches or players which are intended to bait, anger, embarrass, ridicule or demean other players, coaches or game officials. Included in this is conduct that berates, needles, intimidates or threatens based on gender, ethnic origin or background and conduct that attacks religious beliefs, size, economic status, speech, family, special needs or personal matter. Examples of taunting that would lead to ejection include, but are not limited to, physical and verbal intimidation outside the spirit of the game (“trash talk”) reference to sexual orientation, “in the face confrontation” by one player to another, standing over, straddling a tackled or fallen player, etc. (NYSPHSAA Handbook)

**Excessive Celebration** actions such as, back flips, front flips, cartwheels, will be considered unsportsmanlike conduct.

5-2-1 & 2 **Intentional biting** is flagrant misconduct and may be called even if it is not observed by the referee. The referee must have cause to believe that it occurred during the match and was not “staged” prior to the match. The rule states that if in the opinion of the referee, a wrestler bites the opponent, this will be deemed intentional biting and will be called flagrant misconduct. When the referee makes this call it must be an occurrence that is brought to the referee’s **immediate attention.** As an example, something that
occurred in a previous period would not be given consideration. (NF Case Book)

7-5-5 Flagrant Misconduct of Coach: If a coach is removed from the premises for any reason and there is no qualified person present to take responsibility for the team, the meet becomes a forfeit regardless of time or score. A qualified person means a Certified Coach trained to handle emergency situations related to injury. The person does not have to have specific wrestling training, but must have training such as First Aid and must have the proper certification in this regard.

9-2-1e A team forfeit is scored 1-0 and is counted as such. If the offended team is ahead the score will stand.

7-6 Stalling in the Advantage Position: Add to part (c) that repeatedly grasping or interlocking around one leg of their opponent or their own leg to prevent them from scoring is stalling. Also, the offensive wrestler trapping the heel to the buttocks is stalling. The heel to the buttocks is defined as a position. If the defensive wrestler is broken down of their base and the leg is trapped at less than a 45 degree angle (from heel to buttocks) we will apply the 5 second automatic stalling criteria (this 5 second count is silent and no hand signaling will be used). The key is the trapped position for the purpose of riding with no attempt to work for a fall. This criteria should not be applied where the offensive wrestler ties up a leg while attempting to secure a fall from a perpendicular position. It should be noted that tying up a leg repeatedly regardless of length of time can be construed as stalling and should be penalized accordingly.

Stalling During The Ultimate Tiebreaker

The ultimate tie breaker presents a different format when it comes to stalling. The referee should take into account that the offensive wrestler does not have to score to win, and can win by controlling the defensive wrestler for 30 seconds. If the defensive wrestler scores the match is concluded. This could be by an escape, reversal or through a penalty point(s). If the offensive wrestler scores the match is also concluded. If neither wrestler scores, the offensive wrestler will be awarded one point and declared the winner.

To ensure that the offensive wrestler does not take advantage of the 30 seconds by just grabbing onto a body part(s) and holding on, a stalemate should be called immediately. After determining that the offensive wrestler has grabbed onto a body part(s) solely in
an effort to prevent the defensive wrestler from scoring, the offensive wrestler will only be given one quick stalemate. Following the quick stalemate wrestling will resume from the offensive starting position on the mat; if the offensive wrestler uses any tactic designed to "freeze wrestling" or any of the tactics listed below stalling shall be called. The obligation to attempt to secure a fall goes away during the ultimate tiebreaker but the offensive wrestler is still obligated to wrestle.

If the offensive wrestler immediately grasps an ankle and is simply hanging on, or drops to both ankles (watch for locked hands), jumps into a side head lock with no attempt to improve or lifts the opponent off the mat with no attempt to bring them back down, one quick stalemate will be called. If the offensive wrestler continues any of these or similar maneuvers, stalling will be called.

If the offensive wrestler is holding a leg in the air from a standing position or is in a rear standing position, they must attempt to return their opponent to the mat just as they would in the regulation match.

Note: Once the offensive wrestler successfully returns their opponent to the mat there is no obligation to attempt to pin. It is acceptable to ride their opponent and remain parallel. Controlled wrestling examples would include but not be limited to: cradle, arm bar, chicken wing, spiral ride, half nelson, two on one, heal to the butt, leg rides etc. There is no obligation to come out to the side and get off the opponent’s hips. (2015-16 NFHS Pre-Season Guide)

RULE 8
PENALTIES AND INJURIES

8-1-3 Incorrect Starting Position and False Starts:

NYS: When either wrestler assumes an incorrect starting position, the referee will issue a verbal correction, not a caution. Assuming an incorrect starting position can be penalized when, in the judgment of the referee, a wrestler assumes an incorrect starting position:

a) Repeatedly.

b) To gain a distinct advantage over their opponent.
c) To demonstrate obvious disregard for the referee's instructions or the rules.

This rule variation applies only to incorrect starting positions. False starts will be penalized in accordance with the National Federation penalty chart.

**NOTE:** Historically, by Federation interpretation, the term *repeatedly* has meant TWO OR MORE TIMES. This applies to creating potentially dangerous situations, causing stalemates, etc. In this rule modification, the word definition remains identical. The phrase TWO OR MORE means allow for two corrections at a minimum, unless you feel there is disregard for your instructions or intent to gain unfair advantage. The third time should carry a caution or penalty, but the referee has the option to continue to correct using good judgment.

**8-1-6**

**NYS NOTES:**

A wrestler disqualified for Flagrant Misconduct in a dual meet tournament cannot compete in other dual meets during that tournament regardless of length of time to complete the tournament. The penalized wrestler’s team can insert another wrestler in the vacant weight class who has been properly qualified as to weigh-in and other tournament procedures (except for the meet in which the incident occurred). Removal of points earned will not be retroactive in these cases due to the complications of team scoring.

**8-2**

**Injured Contestant:** In the event of injury to a contestant the referee has the authority to terminate a match whenever they feel that the contestant would be in danger of further injury if they were to continue to wrestle. Coach, parent, trainer or a person who is a medical doctor or claims to be a medical doctor and is not the attending physician cannot override the referee's decision.

The designated on site physician who states that an injured contestant can continue wrestling does bear the responsibility for any further injury to that contestant. The referee can override the attending physician in this case and not allow the wrestler to continue.
UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES CAN THE DECISION OF THE
DESIGNATED ON SITE PHYSICIAN THAT A CONTESTANT
NOT CONTINUE BE OVERRULED BY ANYONE INCLUDING
THE REFEREE.

If a physician is present, who is not officially the attending (on site)
physician, and recommends the wrestler not continue, the referee shall
not override this decision.

NYSPHSAA  (Revised 8/19/10) NFHS Concussion Rule

This memo is to serve as a clarification of the NFHS Concussion Rule, effective for the
2010-2011 school year, for the sports that use the NFHS rules.

The NFHS Concussion Rule states, “Any athlete who exhibits signs,
symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of
consciouness, headaches, 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 NFHS emphasizes
in the concussion rule that coaches and officials are NOT expected to
“diagnose” a concussion. This is the responsibility of the appropriate health-
care professional.

The responsibility for observing signs, symptoms, and behaviors that are consistent
with a concussion is shared by both sport officials and school officials. The following
protocol should be followed if any signs, symptoms or behaviors are observed.

Sport official: Remove the athlete from the contest. The official is NOT
responsible for the sideline evaluation or the management of the athlete once
they have been removed from the game. The official does not have to
receive any paper work clearing the player to return to the game.

School official: The athlete needs to be assessed by an appropriate health
care professional. School health personnel are considered appropriate health
care professionals. School health personnel include the Chief School
Medical Officer, school nurse, physician, certified athletic trainer or an EMT
that is a member of the on-site EMS squad. If the appropriate health care
professional suspects a concussion, the student athlete MAY NOT return to
the contest. The athlete MAY NOT return if an appropriate health care
professional is not available. The NFHS and NYSPHSAA recommend that
any athlete that suffers a concussion should not return to play the day of the
injury. A student athlete that has been diagnosed with a concussion MUST be cleared by the Chief School Medical Officer.

The NFHS and NYSPHSAA have developed many resources to help school officials, sport officials, parents, and students learn more about concussion management. A concussion DVD, sideline cards, and other useful materials can be found on the NYSPHSAA website (www.nysphsaa.org). A cost free concussion management course can be found on the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).

We have included a list of possible signs, symptoms, and behaviors that can be observed by sport officials and school officials. We have also included for school officials a recommended return to play protocol. We encourage anyone that has questions or concerns to contact the NYSPHSAA office or the Section Concussion Management Team.

SIGNS, SYMPTOMS, AND BEHAVIORS OF A POSSIBLE HEAD TRAUMA

1. Problems in Brain Function
   
   a. Confused state – Dazed look, vacant stare, confusion about what happened or is happening.

   b. Memory problems – Can’t remember assignment on play, opponent, score of game, or period of the game. Can’t remember how or with whom he or she traveled to the game, what he or she is wearing, what was eaten for breakfast etc.

   c. Symptoms reported by athlete – Headache, nausea, or vomiting, blurred or double vision, over sensitivity to sound, light or touch, ringing in the ears, feeling foggy or groggy.

   d. Lack of sustained attention – Difficulty sustaining focus adequately to complete a task or a coherent thought or conversation.

2. Speed of Brain Function: Slow response to questions, slow slurred speech, incoherent speech, slow body movements, slow reaction time.

3. Unusual Behaviors: Behaving in a combative, aggressive or very silly manner, or just atypical for the individual. Repeatedly asking the same question over and over. Restless and irritable behavior with constant motion and attempts to return to play or leave. Reactions that seem out of proportion and inappropriate. Changing position
frequently and having trouble resting or finding a comfortable position. These can be manifestations of post-head trauma difficulties.

4. **Problems with Balance and Coordination:** Dizzy, slow, clumsy movements, inability to walk a straight line or balance on one foot with eyes closed.

8-2-7 **Blood:** The 5 minute blood time is cumulative throughout the match and overtime. Five minutes is the maximum amount. The referee has the authority to terminate the match prior to the wrestler using their entire 5 minutes, if in the referee’s judgment the bleeding is so severe as to be a health hazard or if it is putting either wrestler at a distinct disadvantage.

Anytime a wrestler is bleeding, the bleeding must first be controlled and then, if necessary, injury time or recovery time may be used. If, however, bleeding is not controlled in five minutes (or the remaining amount of the maximum of 5 minutes “blood time” remaining), the match shall be terminated. Injury time or recovery time cannot be used to control bleeding after the five minutes cumulative time has expired.

Rubber gloves on both hands are mandated for blood clean up. (NYSPHSAA) Violation of this rule is not penalized by the official.

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**RULE 9**

**SCORING**

9-2-1b Because there is a value difference in team points between a Fall and a Technical Fall, if a takedown or reversal that creates a technical fall goes directly in to near fall criteria, wrestling will be allowed to continue until the near fall situation has ended. If the defensive wrestler commits an act that must be penalized (other than Flagrant Misconduct), wrestling shall continue as described under Rule 8-1-2 (d), If the offensive wrestler commits an act that must be penalized wrestling shall be terminated, but the T/F will not be negated. Only Flagrant Misconduct by the offensive wrestler will negate the T/F. Flagrant misconduct by either wrestler will terminate wrestling prior to the situation ending.

In a situation where the wrestler winning by a technical fall as described above commits a flagrant misconduct violation there will be no winner.
The above interpretation will also apply to a takedown in the one minute sudden victory period that goes directly into near fall criteria or a reversal that goes directly into near fall criteria during the ultimate tie breaker.

**TOURNAMENT SCORING (New York State)**

If multiple entries are permitted in tournaments the Tournament Director must declare that either all individuals will be scored or team scores will not be tallied.

9-2-3

**TOURNAMENT SCORING (National Federation):**

When there are only 2 entries in a weight class, the winner of the match would get first place points and the loser would get second place points. If you were scoring six places, the winner would get 16 points plus any points earned for a fall, etc., and the loser would get 12 points. There would be no advancement points from a prior round. If there were 3 contestants in the weight class, one would get a bye and would receive the appropriate advancement points for the bye only if he/she is the winner of the final match.

9-2-3a, b There must be a bout competed in a round in order that those who received byes have the opportunity to earn advancement point(s). Many times a bracket is not full and all competitors received so-called byes. Actually, these are not byes as there were no bouts in that round. This eliminates inflated team scores by receiving points that weren’t earned.

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**RULE 10**

**CONDUCT OF TOURNAMENTS**

In individual tournament competition the winning wrestler is required to sign the bout sheet after verifying the results. (NYSPHSAA Wrestling Committee meeting 5/12/06 minutes)

In tournaments being scored electronically the winning wrestler must still report to the scorer’s table to verify the match results.

*When is a wrestler officially entered a tournament?* See Wrestling Program Booklet
MODIFIED WRESTLING

Detailed information about Modified Wrestling is found in the NYSPHSAA Handbook on the NYSPHSAA website.

The requirement for head gear, hair covers and tooth and mouth covers has not been waived.

Rule 2-1-1 has not been waived, therefore all modified wrestling matches shall use National Federation Rules which require a minimum 28 foot circular wrestling area.

Game Conditions

1. A contestant (or team) may participate in competitions not to exceed 14 points during their season. Points assessed to competitions are as follows:

   a) 1 Point Meets are any competitions where a wrestler or wrestlers compete in one or two bouts.

   b) 2 Point Meets are any competitions where a wrestler or wrestlers compete in three or four bouts.

2. No contestant (or team) can accumulate more than 10 points out of the maximum 14 points allowed via 2 point contests.

3. No contestant (or team) can accumulate more than 3 points per week.

4. There shall be no competition between wrestlers with an age difference of more than 24 months.

5. At least 2 nights shall elapse between contests.

6. The time periods for bouts shall be as follows:

   a) If a contestant competes in only one bout per contest, the time periods are:

      Program 1: Three 1 and 1/2 minute periods

      Program 2: 1st Period - 1 minute, 2nd and 3rd Periods - 1 and 1/2 minutes
b) If a contestant competes in two, three or four bouts per contest, the time periods will be either:

1) Three 1 minute periods, or

2) 1st Period: 1 minute, 2nd and 3rd Periods: 1 1/2 minutes.

There must be a 30 minute rest period between bouts.

c) With Section approval, a sudden victory overtime period shall be permitted in modified wrestling. Wrestlers must start in the standing or referee’s position, and the period shall not exceed 30 seconds. (May 2010)

7. Weight Control:

a) The Physical Education Director shall establish each wrestler’s weight class prior to the first match. A contestant may not wrestle out of this established weight class except as indicated under (b).

b) No attempt at weight reduction before the official weigh-in is permitted except on written permission from the parents and a written recommendation of a physician. Once a wrestler is established in a weight class, weight reduction and participation in a lower weight class is permitted only under a doctor’s authorization and with the parent’s permission.

c) A squad list, indicating the established weight classes for each team member as well as birth dates and ages, shall be sent to all opposing schools.

d) Wrestlers participating in the Modified Program may progress in weight in their individual classes at the same pound and date allowance as high school wrestlers.

8. Weigh-ins on the day of a dual meet shall be established by the Section Athletic Council.

9. For multi-school contests, refer to General Eligibility Rule #10.

10. With Section/League approval, wrestlers shall have the option of wearing an alternative to the traditional singlet. Uniform must include a form-fitting compression shirt and compression shorts, or a form-fitting compression shirt under the school uniform singlet.
Game Rules (Program 1)

1. Weight Classes: the official weight classes for competition are: 80, 86, 92, 98, 104, 110, 116, 122, 128, 134, 140, 148. For schools having only 7th and 8th grade students a 155 pound weight class may be optional. Optional classes may be 74, 165 and unlimited classes with contestants competing weighing within 10 pounds of each other. Minimum weight for the 74 lb. weight class is 67 lbs.

2. Honor Weigh-in: The procedures described in the Wrestling Weight Control Plan shall be followed. (NYSPHSAA Handbook)

3. There is no limit to the total team bouts in a contest.

4. Scoring: Use regular scoring system with teams receiving zero points for tied bouts or count number of bouts won or a combination of both. All bouts to count in team scoring.

Game Rules (Program 2)

1. Weights: Wrestlers may wrestle each other within a 10lb variance.

2. Matching Wrestlers: Both coaches will get together and match their wrestlers. All safety measures on the squad roster form are to be used to equalize competition, namely, experience, physical strength and maturity

3. There is no limit to the total team bouts in a contest.

4. Scoring: Use regular scoring system with teams receiving zero points for tied bouts or count the number of bouts won or a combination of both. All bouts to count in team scoring.

Officiating: (NYSPHSAA Handbook) Proper officiating is a most important safety factor. The following policies should be in effect:

1. The use of the “fast whistle” is mandatory when participant safety is questionable.

2. Strict enforcement of all rules violations will inculcate the proper playing habits and attitudes.

3. Special attention should be made to determine “potentially dangerous” holds in wrestling and to eliminate them.

4. It is required that certified officials conduct contests whenever possible.