



IESA Wrestling

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES & RECOMMENDATIONS

April 9, 2025

The following members were present: Jonathan Hauter (IESA Assistant Executive Director), Brian Wilcoxon (Canton Ingersoll), Mike Mabry (Vandalia), Mike Hurckes (Coordinator of Officials), Rob Zielinski (Official) and Matt Grimm (Auburn). Via Zoom: Connor Cummings (Woodridge Jefferson), Jon Ryan (Minooka), David Rush (Homer Glen Homer). Not in attendance: Steve Alfredson (Wilmette JHS),

The IESA Wrestling Advisory Committee, in its meeting on April 9, 2025, makes the following recommendations to the IESA Board of Directors for their April 2025, meeting:

Recommendation 1: Advance Seeds in Regionals, Sectionals, State

Current: Once a bracket has been seeded, the bracket is frozen and there are no changes to the bracket even if a wrestler scratches for any reason. For example, the #2 seeded wrestler misses weight Saturday morning of the regional. That wrestler is scratched, there is no replacement made, and the wrestler who was scheduled to wrestle the #2 seeded wrestler advances via a forfeit. IT DOES NOT MATTER THE REASON, IF A WRESTLER SCRATCHES AFTER THE SEEDING MEETING, THERE ARE NO CHANGES TO THE BRACKET.

Proposed: Once a bracket has been seeded, if there is a scratch the day of regionals, sectionals or state the seeds will be advanced. For example, the #2 seeded wrestler misses weight Saturday morning of the regional. That wrestler is scratched, the #3 seed now becomes the #2 seed the #4 seed becomes the #3 seed etc. until the bracket is seeded properly. The #1 seed will now receive the bye.

Rationale: Making a scratch a forfeit potentially gives a lower seed a bye whereas the higher seed has a match. The higher seed should be the one receiving the bye. The change would put the final placement order in more of a correct and true order because the byes would be in the logical place the way tournaments are ideally set up. It was likely done as a forfeit because it makes the bracket easier to construct when there aren't any changes, however; since TrackWrestling is the software used it takes no time at all to make the adjustment the day of the tournament.

T&C: V. B. (Host Book)

Handbook:

Admin. Vote: 4-0

Board Action: **Approved**

Recommendation 2: Seed Meeting language

Current: Schools not in attendance shall have nothing to say regarding seeding.

Proposed: Schools are required to make every effort to attend the seed meeting in person. Virtual attendance may be approved by the wrestling administrator on a case-by-case basis, provided the host is able to accommodate the request. Schools not in attendance shall have nothing to say regarding seeding.

Rationale: Clear up confusing language whether virtual attendance is allowed. There are larger regionals that require some schools to have a travel time over 1 ½ hours. Virtually has been allowed in the past this would put it in writing that virtually would be accepted if needed.

T&C: V. A. (Host Book)

Handbook:

Admin. Vote: 4-0

Board Action: **Approved**

Recommendation 3: TrackWrestling

Current: The On-line Regional Entry Form, to be completed by logging in to the IESA Member Center, shall be used to list up to two certified contestants in each weight class for state tournament series play.

No current TrackWrestling account

Proposed: The Regional Entry Form, to be completed by entering your roster into TrackWrestling, shall be used to list up to two certified contestants in each weight class for state tournament series play. All schools are required to have a TrackWrestling account.

Rationale: TrackWrestling software is used for regionals, sectionals and state. Using TrackWrestling for the regional entry form makes it more efficient for the coaches, hosts and tournament manager. Requiring TrackWrestling benefits the host and tournament manager. It provides a more accessible and efficient way of gathering data throughout the state series. No Cost.

T&C: III. A.

Handbook:

Admin. Vote: 4-0

Board Action: **Approved**

Other Items discussed:

- Wrestlebacks at regionals
- Mandatory on-site trainer
- Seeding criteria
- State coach passes
- Girls wrestling division
- Regional assignments
- Weight classes
- Dual team state

Next Meeting: April 8, 2026