

Wrestling (Girls)

Girls Individual Tournament Series

1. ASSIGNMENTS OF SCHOOLS WILL BE ON A GEOGRAPHICAL BASIS.

- a. Girls – Will be one division for the entire State and will compete at the assigned regional and sectional tournament locations.
- b. Cooperative teams are placed into divisional competition on the basis of the combined enrollment of the schools involved.
- c. Schools may be allowed to play up one division in any sport (except football) from where its enrollment would otherwise place it if an application is submitted prior to **April 1**. This will not cause other schools to be displaced.

Note: Please refer to tournament performance factor and procedures outlined in the Constitution. Article III, 3B and Appendix N.

2. THE TOURNAMENT PLAN – LEVELS OF COMPETITION, DATES, QUALIFYING AND SITES – IS AS FOLLOWS:

Note: In the event scheduled classes are interrupted or terminated due to infectious/communicable disease, refer to WIAA Bylaws, Article II, Section 6-A. (p. 25) of WIAA Senior High Handbook.

- a. Girls – Schools are assigned to one of **32** regionals on Friday, February 13.
- b. Sectional Qualifiers
The first **two** finishers in each weight division in all regionals will qualify for one of eight sectionals in one division on Friday, February 20.
- c. State Qualifiers
 - (1) The first two finishers in each weight class in all sectionals qualify for the State Tournament.
 - (2) All wrestlers must weigh in all three days of the State Tournament.
 - (3) All wrestlers will begin competition on Thursday.
 - (4) Assignments of teams to tournaments and host schools for those tournaments will be announced on the WIAA website in late spring. Schools that are able to use the official state scoring program with electronic bout sheets will be given priority when attempting to assign regional and sectional hosts.
- d. **The 2025-26 Season will be the final year that** female wrestlers will be eligible to participate in the boys team wrestling sectionals and boys Team State Tournament if their boys wrestling team advances.

3. RULES GOVERNING COMPETITION

All specifications of Numbers 8 and 15 under SEASON REGULATIONS (pages 38-43) will apply with these exceptions and additions:

Athletes who are ineligible during the WIAA Tournament (for any reason) may not appear in uniform, participate in warm-ups, and may not participate in the awards ceremony at the WIAA Tournament. Exception: An injured athlete will be allowed to participate in the awards ceremony provided he/she is included in the roster allotment for that game.

- a. A school may not compete in the tournament program if it has participated in more than 14 meets.
- b. A school must participate in a minimum of four varsity meets in the regular season to be eligible for tournament competition.
- c. The WIAA office will furnish all participating schools necessary details to enter their athletes into the regional tournament using the official state season management program.

Note: Line ups must be entered by midnight Wednesday prior to the regional tournament.

- (1) To list the names of wrestlers scheduled to compete in the regionals.
- (2) The official state weight management program may be used as a record/worksheet to reference when entering competitors' names into the tournament data program.

(3) These lists are tentative and changes may be made up to and on the day of competition.

- (4) Records of each wrestler within the division in which they are entered must be indicated along with any other pertinent information (record in other weight classes, record against wrestlers in same regional, etc.) which may be useful for the determination of seeding at the coaches' meeting. See paragraphs (4) and (5) of seeding guidelines beginning on pages 45 and 46.

- (5) Schools must take to the regional to which their school is assigned:
 - (a) Copies of minimum weight printouts containing the most recent data on each wrestler that may be entered in the regional.
 - (b) Weigh-in records from all meets the team participated in during the two weeks prior to regionals.

(6) Coaches are required to name their final entries by weight class prior to the start of the seeding meeting, not necessarily at weigh-ins.

- (7) All weights recorded by the official on official weigh-in sheets remain official and cannot be changed, or deleted, whether the wrestler competes in that event or not.
- (8) Covering a communicable skin condition is not acceptable and does not make the wrestler eligible to participate. An on-site meet physician may override the diagnosis of the physician signing the physician's release form for a wrestler to participate with a particular skin condition. NF 4-2-3 and 4-2-4.
- (9) Regional tournament hosts may release their competition pairings to the public at the end of the seeding meeting.
- (10) After the regionals, there are no entry **procedures** for schools to complete or forward relative to sectional and State competition.

d. Length of bouts

- (1) All regional and sectional championship matches including wrestlebacks will be six-minutes long – three two-minute rounds. **Regional consolation matches for 5th and 6th place shall be two minute first periods.**

- (2) All State tournament consolation and/or wrestleback matches will be five-minutes long – one minute first period.
- e. Substitutions**
- (1) There is a provision in the tournament program permitting replacement of a wrestler who has qualified from one level to the next but is unable to continue (excluding not making weight).
 - (2) The provision extends ONLY to
 - (a) Third place wrestler in all regionals
 - (b) Third place wrestlers in all sectional brackets
 - (3) There is no provision for moving up any other wrestlers.
 - (4) Notification should be given as early as possible so the substitute can prepare. There is, however, no deadline. Substitution can be made up to weigh-in time.
 - (5) If substitution is necessary because a first place winner (regional-to-sectional or sectional-to-State) is unable to continue, the second place qualifier will move into the winner's position and the third place wrestler into the second place wrestler's position.
- (6) If there is no substitute, the original placements stand.**
- (7) If a vacancy occurs because there is no available or eligible substitute, the scheduled opponent receives a forfeit.
 - (8) If a wrestler fails to make weight, their opponent receives a forfeit.
- (9) A school is expected to IMMEDIATELY notify the WIAA, the school of the substitute wrestler and the tournament host, in the event one of its qualifiers is unable to continue in the tournament program.**
- f. UAVs are prohibited at all WIAA indoor tournaments. The complete policy for UAVs is located on page 50 of the Senior High Handbook.
 - g. A designated, on-site event, appropriate health-care professional who determines an athlete should not participate, shall not be overruled.

4. GIRLS REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

- a. Scheduling of Competition - Friday, February 13
- b. Except for weigh-in, coaches' meeting, and opening round, no specific time schedule need be established by tournament manager. All regionals must follow a procedure in which starting time of finals is NOT determined UNTIL opening session has concluded. The reason for this procedure is the wide variance in such factors as number of entries per school, available mats, travel, urban-rural setting, etc. Managers must have two separate sessions of wrestling. Time schedules for weigh-ins and first session will be announced on the WIAA website.
- c. Tournament Pairings

Rule book instructions and instructions below apply.

Note: (1) All weight classes – even if there are four or less wrestlers – must be set up and scored as an sixteen wrestler bracket. Scoring must include appropriate points for all ensuing byes. (See d. (2) of SCORING)

(2) All tournaments must conduct wrestleback matches to determine second place. (These matches are to be six minutes in length.)

5. ALL REGIONALS

- a. Regional seeding Information and Procedures
 - (1) **Tournament Management Software** shall be used for seeding of all regional tournaments.
 - (2) Materials to have on hand: Computer, projector and screen.
 - (a) Tournament host should provide to all coaches a list of participants by weight, not by team, with their records. For example, all 100 pound wrestlers should be listed not alphabetically but according to their record, with the best winning percentage listed first and the one with the poorest record listed last.
 - (3) When drawing a bracket, every wrestler shall be seeded and all seeds are placed on the bracket.
 - (4) General considerations.
 - (a) Do not start your meeting early unless all coaches are present and ready to start. The meeting must be conducted by a licensed WIAA wrestling official and they will have final authority.
 - (b) The seeding meeting is a working session and attendance should be limited to coaches and at the host's option, working media. The seeding meeting should not be open to spectators.
 - (c) Prior to the beginning of the meeting, the head official will meet with each head coach in confidence and they shall verify their contestants / wt. class. This means they may alter their line up in any manner as long as the wrestler is eligible for that weight class. Coaches may not request to see nor may the official divulge other school's lineup changes during this process.
 - (d) Final line up changes will now be announced by the head official prior to the start of the seeding meeting.
 - (e) Any ground rules to be used that are not already entered into the **tournament management software** must be established by a simple majority vote of the head coaches present with the official voting if there is a tie.
 - (f) All coaches may appeal for a specific seed by using the following mechanisms:
 - 1) The coach making the appeal shall make a statement regarding factual information indicating a seed is justified.
 - 2) Any head coach present may either support or make a statement of disagreement regarding the request. Their opinion should also be limited to factual information.
 - 3) A simple majority vote of the head coaches present and voting will prevail (a coach does not need to vote). A tie vote means the appeal lost. The head official may not vote on such appeals.

- (g) The following ground rules should be followed.
- 1) Percentage win / loss records of a wrestler will be a basic consideration.
 - 2) All wrestlers are seeded. Those wrestlers with 10 or more matches will be seeded first. Those with less than ten matches will be seeded immediately following.
 - 3) The following criteria should be used to calculate record percentages.
 - a) A wrestler may not assume losses in order to build up their record to the minimum number of 10.
 - b) Only varsity experience shall be counted. It is considered varsity competition if either wrestling is representing their varsity. All varsity experience shall be counted regardless of the weight class the record was earned at.
 - c) Matches won by a forfeit shall be included in the win record of a wrestler. This would not apply if the whole team won by a forfeit. For example, the opposing team did not show up for the contest. Forfeit losses caused by an earlier default in a tournament shall not be included on a wrestler's record unless they return to competition in that tournament.
 - d) Wins and losses resulting from defaults shall be included in a wrestler's record.
 - e) All byes in the championship bracket or consolation bracket received during regular season tournaments will count as wins if the wrestler won their next match in the bracket.
 - 4) A wrestler deserving a seed may not refuse nor request a lower seed (with the possible exception noted in 5c below).
 - 5) If a percentage tie exists, and the wrestlers have not met earlier in the season, the wrestler with the greater number of total matches receives the higher seed.
 - 6) If a percentage tie exists, and they have met earlier in the season, the outcome of that match will get the better seed. Also, if two wrestlers are consecutively seeded (such as 3 and 4) and they have met earlier in the season, the winner of that match will get the better seed. Any ties in seeding criteria (record, number of matches, etc.) will be resolved by a random draw.
 - 7) Excuses for losses, such as illness, are NEVER to be considered.
 - 8) The appeal mechanism as described above is always available.
 - 9) All wrestlers in a bracket will be seeded and when byes exist, the highest seed(s) will receive bye(s).
- (5) Some additional considerations that may be considered through the appeal mechanism.
- (a) In cases where a wrestler has wrestled far fewer times than another wrestler in their weight class, their record need not be considered best. For example, an 18 and 3 record may be considered better than a 9-1.
 - (b) The caliber of competition within which a record has been established may be considered. For example, some good records may have been earned at the expense of junior varsity type opposition.
 - (c) The basic objective of seeding is to place the best wrestlers so that they will advance the furthest in the tournament before they meet. With this in mind, coaches present may, by simple majority vote, do virtually anything they wish. An example of a mechanism that may help resolve a difficult situation is the following: If in a given weight class, there is one wrestler who is clearly superior to all others, they should be given the number one seed. If the next three wrestlers are very close in ability, rather than place one of them in the same half-bracket with the outstanding wrestler, it would be permissible to place these wrestlers in the lower half-bracket. In effect what this does is to allow them to decide the second best wrestler by actually wrestling one another. It would be advisable to identify the number two seed so that they would be placed in the quarter-bracket of the lower half away from the number three and four seeds. Such procedure would, of course, be done by a simple majority vote of the head coaches present.
- b. Additional considerations
- National Federation Rule #10 covers conduct of tournaments as well as bracketing situations.
- c. SCORING
- (1) Place points will be accumulated toward team total as follows:
 - (a) 16 points to champion.
 - (b) 12 points to runner-up.
 - (c) 9 points to third-place wrestler (loser of wrestleback finals).
 - (d) 7 points to fourth-place wrestler (loser of first wrestleback).
 - (e) 5 points to fifth-place wrestler.
 - (f) 3 points to sixth-place wrestler.

In 2026-27 the team scoring the most points at the regional qualifies for the Team Tournament Program. Information on this program – including procedures to break ties in the event the regional has more than one team champion – can be found on pages 58 and 59.

- (2) Additional points at the regional level will be scored on the basis of 16 wrestler brackets and accumulate as follows: **Note: No points are awarded for pigtail/preliminary matches.**
- (a) Advancement points
 - 1) Two points in championship flight competition and one point in wrestleback competition.
 - 2) A wrestler receiving two successive byes will receive advancement points for each if they win their next match.
 - 3) Advancement point scoring for byes apply to the wrestleback bracket as well as the championship bracket.
 - 4) An advancement point is awarded to the wrestler that wins the third place match in regional, even if a final wrestleback match is not necessary.
 - 5) No advancement points are awarded for: Consolation Matches, Championship and final wrestleback matches in regional, or in a weight class with only one wrestler.
 - (3) Two points are awarded for each win by a fall, forfeit, default or disqualification.
 - (4) One point is given for each decision won by 8-14 points.
 - (5) One and one-half points are awarded for each win by a technical fall (15 points or more).
 - (6) In an incomplete bracket (anything less than eight) any wrestler receiving a bye will receive four points for their team if they wins their next match (two points for advancement and two points for lost potential pin). If they received two byes before their win, they will receive four points for each bye.

Note: Every wrestler is entitled to the opportunity to score as many points for their team as any other wrestler. It therefore becomes necessary to pay particular attention to situations involving byes. The following is offered to help clarify how to score these situations.

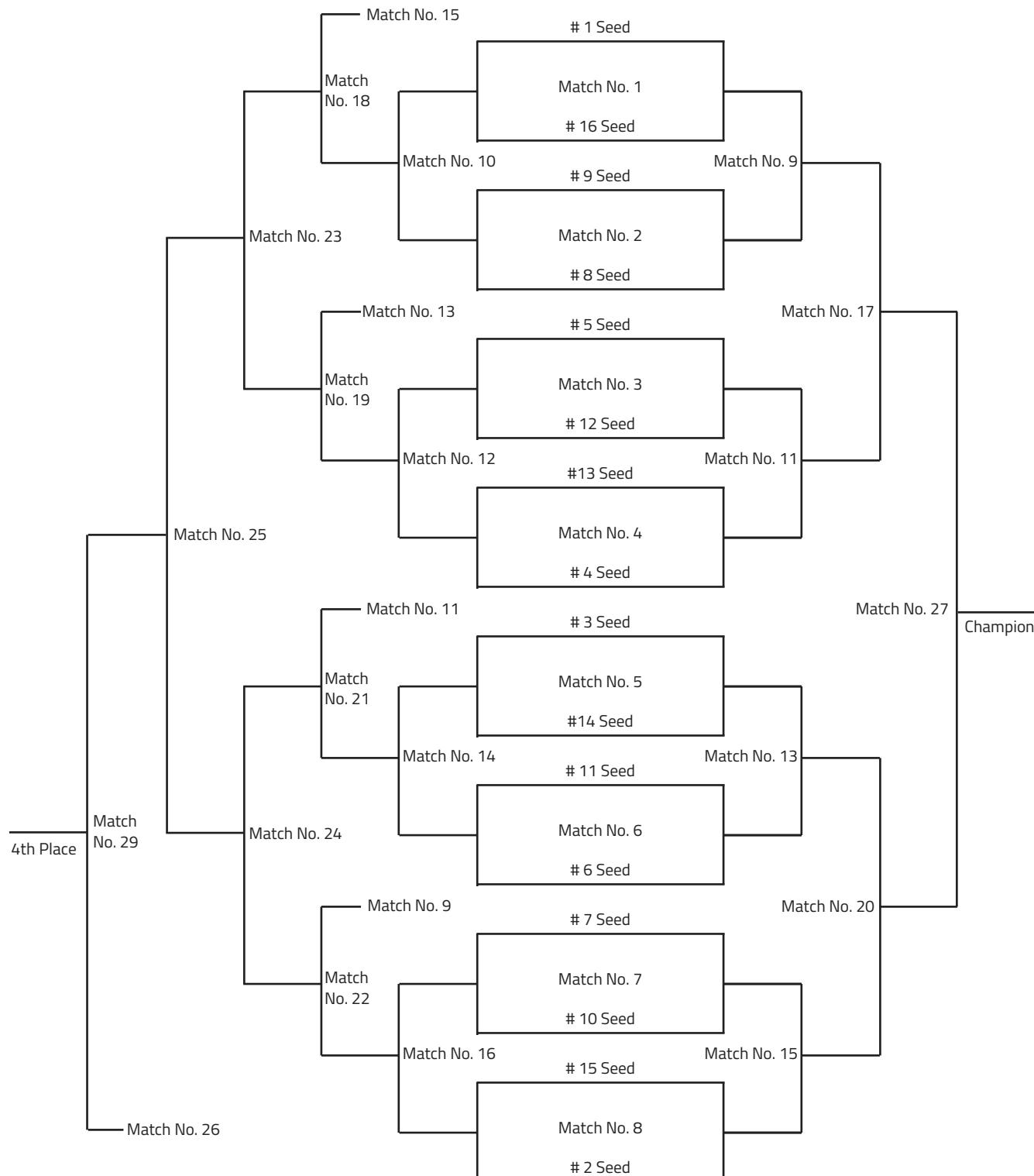
If a wrestler wins their first match, they are entitled to two advancement points and two pin points (a total of four points) for each bye they received before their win. If there are four wrestlers, each has received a bye in the first round (round of 8). If there are only three wrestlers, one has received two byes before their first match.

In the event there are only two wrestlers in the weight class, each has had two byes before they meet for the championship. The winner, therefore, is entitled to four advancement points and four pin points after winning the championship match. They would in addition earn first place points, as well as any points earned by a pin, technical fall, or major decision in the championship match. The loser in this situation is entitled only to second place points.

In a weight class with only one wrestler, only place points will be awarded. No advancement points are awarded unless a wrestler competes and wins.

REGIONAL TOURNAMENT (Continued)

Girls



- Note: 1. Brackets are labeled reflecting 16 seeds. In most instances fewer than 16 wrestlers will receive seeds. Wrestlers not receiving seeds are placed on bracket according to procedures outlined in 5a.
2. Matches #26 and #27 must be conducted simultaneously and both are three, two-minute periods
3. Match #28 (if necessary) will determine the runner-up
4. Winner of Match #26 receives advancement points even if Match #28 is not necessary.
5. Team points are earned/awarded through 6th place.
6. First two finishers advance to sectionals.
7. A wrestler will be allowed to wrestle-back to fourth place in cases where the fifth place finisher has not met the fourth place finisher.

REGIONAL TOURNAMENT (Continued)

h. Officials

- (1) The WIAA will generally seek to contract officials based on the number of mats used at a tournament site, the number officials contracted will be equal to the number of mats used, plus one. The strength of the regional and number of participants will also be considered. Checks and contracts will be issued by the host school. Host schools will be reimbursed by the WIAA for fees and expenses of assigned officials.
 - (2) Officials will be paid:
 - (a) Officiating fee
3 officials = **\$250** each/4 officials = **\$220** each, plus \$12 meal allowance
 - (3) Expenses - 55¢ per mile (round trip) for travel.
 - (4) Officials shall travel together when geographically feasible with mileage paid to one official. If officials choose to travel separately, the mileage for the longest trip may be split between the officials.
- One of the officials, as determined by the WIAA, will act as the head official and chairman of the coaches' meeting for purposes of determining the tournament draw.

i. Awards

- (1) Plaque to championship team.

j. Finances

(1) Host School Allowances

- (a) A financial report provided by the WIAA must be filed by each school conducting an event.
- (b) The following items are authorized for payment out of tournament receipts:

- 1) Fees and expenses of officials.
- 2) Host school - 20% of receipts to cover items such as lights, workers, host manager's fee - **\$150**, etc. Minimum of **\$860**.
- (c) The balance remaining after the above items have been deducted from total receipts shall be allocated as follows:
 - 1) **25%** to host school.
 - 2) **75%** to WIAA.

(2) Participating School Allowances

There is no allowance of any kind for participating schools.

(3) Ticket Prices

	Child/Student/Adult
All Sessions	\$7
Finals	\$6

Note: In order to do away with the many problems associated with clearing the gym of patrons during the wrestling regional the following procedure should be used in selling tickets:

- (a) Patrons arriving for or during the opening session will be charged the all session ticket price listed above.
- (b) Patrons arriving for the finals will be charged the price listed above.
- (c) Host schools may sell, if their facilities permit, a single admission ticket for \$1 for children 6 years of age and under if accompanied by adult.

(4) Admission Policies

- (a) Free admission shall be provided only for:

- Members of the team - actual number of wrestlers but not more than fourteen.
- One manager.
- Head coach and assistant coach.
- No more than six cheerleaders.

(b) All Sites

- 1) Each school in a tournament (including host school whether in tournament or not) shall be allowed no more than two admissions without charge for use by school personnel, designated by the school.
- 2) Meet officials, scorers, timers, ticket takers and sellers, ushers and concessionaires along with the tournament manager and a person designated as their assistant shall be admitted without charge but must be properly identified by means of a ribbon or tag. Workers are entitled to free admission only at those sessions in which they work, and they shall not be provided with additional tickets for their spouses. Provisions should be made for working members of press, radio and television.
- 3) No other persons from any school or any community (including the host school and community) shall be provided with complimentary admissions. If the host school wishes to permit its usual complimentary ticket contingent to see the meet at no cost, the host school must purchase tickets to present to these persons.
- 4) Free admissions permissible under g. (4) (a) and (b) above are not transferable.

7. SECTIONAL TOURNAMENTS

a. Scheduling of Competition - Friday, February 20

Time schedule will be determined by tournament manager and announced to schools on the WIAA website. Generally, the girls competition will not begin earlier than 4 p.m. and no later than 5 p.m. Tournament manager may (1) establish set times for quarterfinals, semifinals and finals, or (2) start semifinals and finals at given time period following the conclusion of quarterfinals and semifinals, respectively. No specific time

SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT *(Continued)*

schedule is recommended because of wide range of differences in such factors as available mats, travel, urban/rural setting, etc. Managers **MUST** schedule three separate sessions of wrestling.

b. Tournament Pairings

The **four** regionals will be numbered using Roman numerals, and the eight qualifiers (**two** from each regional) will be paired as follows in all weight classes:

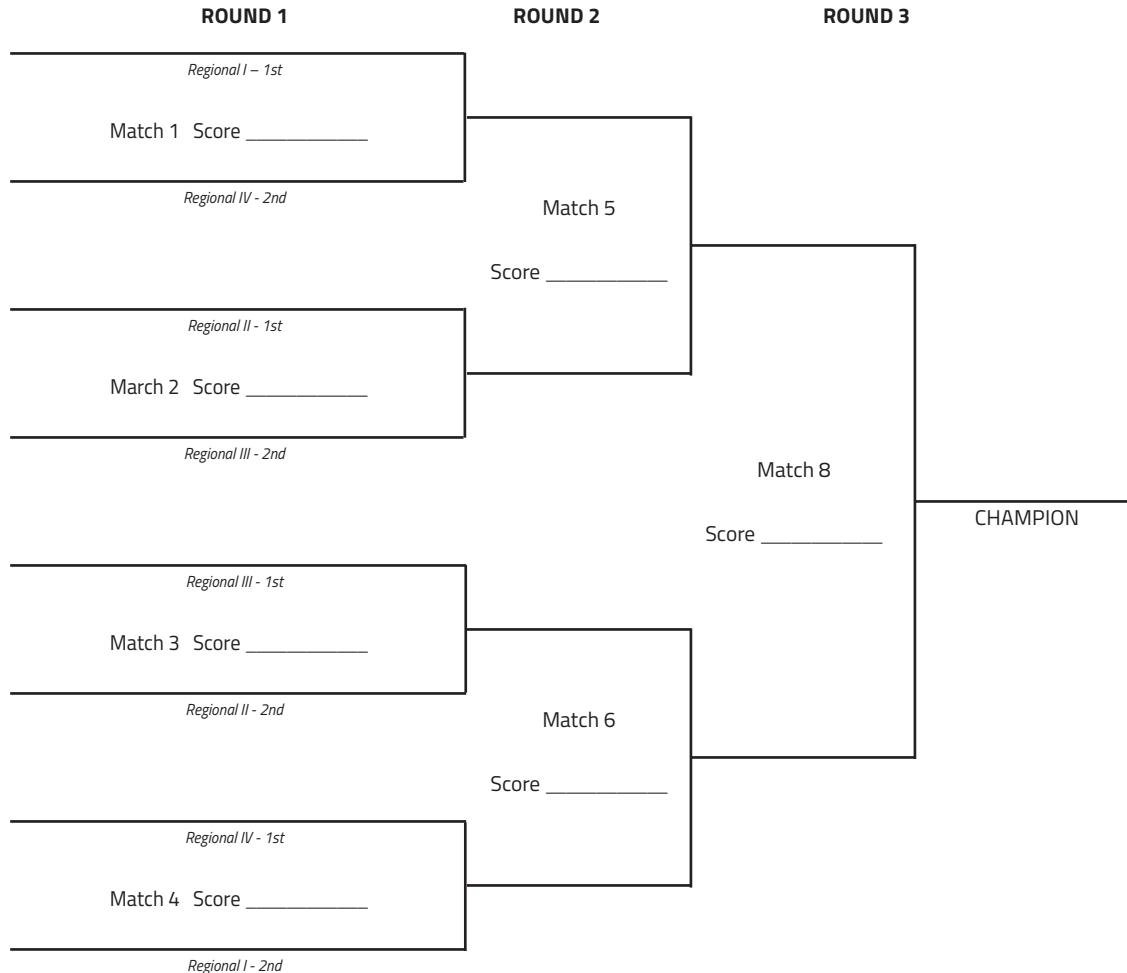
Top Bracket – Reg. I-1st vs. Reg. IV-**2nd** and Reg. **II-1st** vs. Reg. **III-2nd**

Bottom Bracket – Reg. **III-1st** vs. Reg. **II-2nd** and Reg. **IV-1st** vs. Reg. **I-2nd**

c. Sectional Bracket and Procedures

Championship Matches

(All 2 minute first periods)



WRESTLEBACK BRACKET – GIRLS



Reminder: 1st and 2nd place finishers advance to State.

Wrestling/Individual (Girls)**SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT (Continued)**

Note: (1) Bouts No. 7 and 8, must be conducted simultaneously and **both are three two-minute periods**.

(3) Match No. 9, (if necessary three two-minute periods) will determine the runner-up.

d. Awards

(1) Medals to first two individuals in each weight classification.

e. Scoring

There is no team scoring at sectionals.

f. Officials

(1) The WIAA will contract four officials. Checks and contracts will be issued by the host school. Host schools will be reimbursed by the WIAA for fees and expenses of assigned officials.

(2) Officials will be paid:

(a) Officiating fee - **\$230** plus \$12 meal allowance.

(b) Expenses - 55¢ per mile (round trip) for travel.

(c) Officials shall travel together when geographically feasible with mileage paid to one official. If officials choose to travel separately, the mileage for the longest trip may be split between the officials.

(3) One of the officials, as determined by both officials and the host school manager, will act as chairman of the coaches' meeting.

g. Finances**(1) Host School Allowances**

(a) A financial report provided by the WIAA must be filed by each school conducting an event.

(b) The following items are authorized for payment out of tournament receipts:

1) Fees and expenses of officials.

2) Host school - 20% of receipts to cover items such as lights, workers, host manager's fee - **\$135**, etc. Minimum of **\$860**.

(c) The balance remaining after the above items have been deducted from total receipts shall be allocated as follows:

1) **25%** to host school.

2) **75%** to WIAA.

(2) Participating School Allowances

There is no allowance of any kind for participating schools.

(3) Ticket Prices

Child/Student/Adult

All Sessions (Rounds 1-5) \$10

Second Session and Finals (Rounds 2-5) \$8

Finals (Rounds 4-5) \$7

Note: In order to do away with the many problems associated with clearing the gym of patrons during the wrestling sectional the following procedure should be used in selling tickets:

(a) Patrons arriving for or during the opening session will be charged the all session ticket price listed above.

(b) Those arriving for or during the second session will be charged according to the price listed for that session and the finals.

(c) Those coming to the finals will pay as listed above.

(d) Host schools may sell, if their facilities permit, a single admission ticket for \$1 for children 6 years of age and under if accompanied by adult.

(4) Admission Policies

(a) Free admission shall be provided only for:

- Wrestlers actually competing.
- One manager.
- Head coach and assistant coach.
- No more than six cheerleaders.

(b) All Sites

1) Each school in a tournament (including host school whether in tournament or not) shall be allowed no more than two admissions without charge for use by school personnel, designated by the school.

2) Meet officials, scorers, timers, ticket takers and sellers, ushers and concessionaires along with the tournament manager and a person designated as their assistant shall be admitted without charge but must be properly identified by means of a ribbon or tag. Workers are entitled to free admission only at those sessions in which they work, and they shall not be provided with additional tickets for their spouses. Provisions should be made for working members of press, radio and television.

3) No other persons from any school or any community (including the host school and community) shall be provided with complimentary admissions. If the host school wishes to permit its usual complimentary ticket contingent to see the meet at no cost, the host school must purchase tickets to present to these persons.

4) Free admissions permissible under g. (4) (a) and (b) above are not transferable.

8. STATE TOURNAMENT**a. Scheduling of Competition**

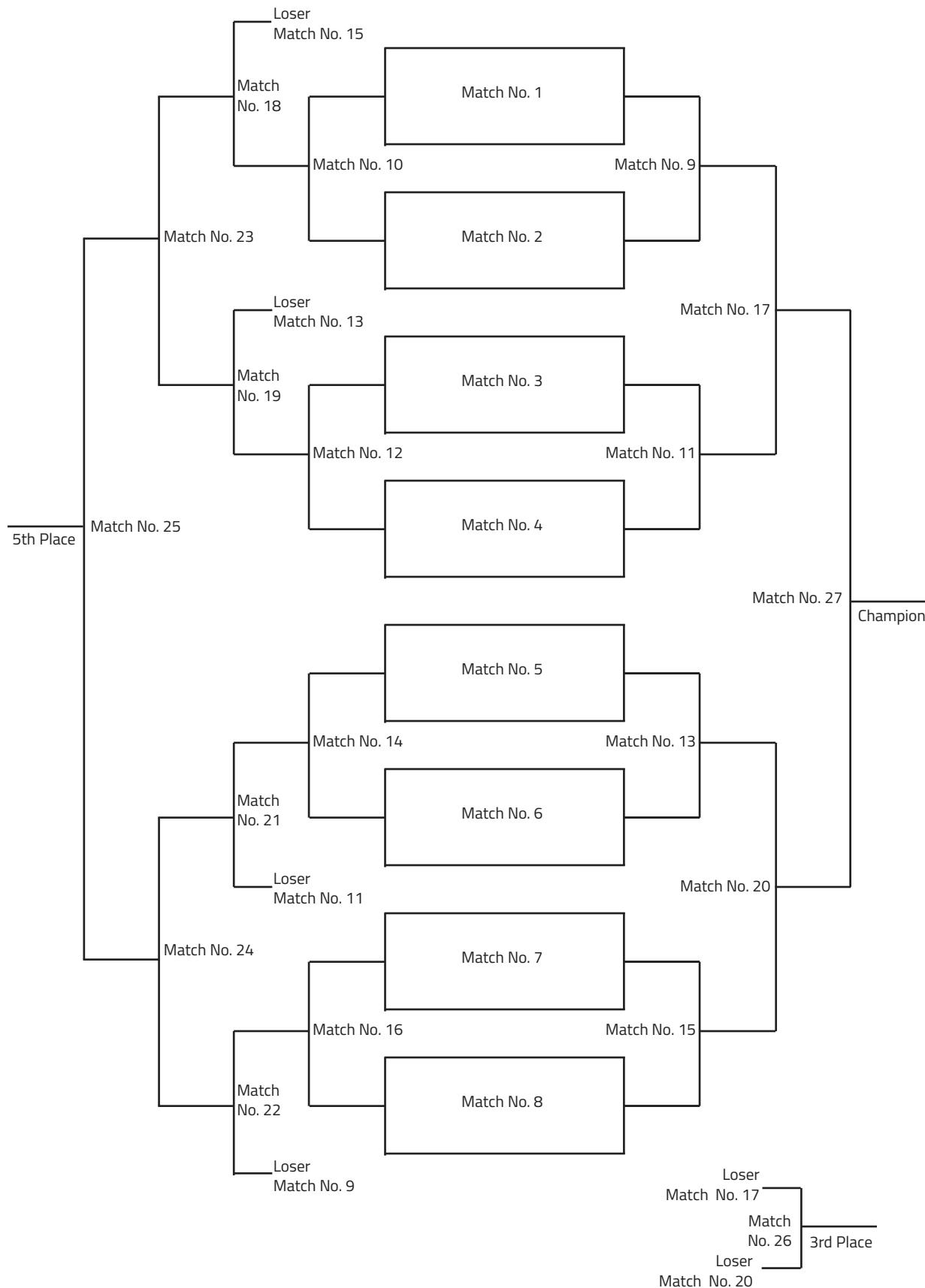
The time schedule for the State Meet Competition will appear on the WIAA website early in the wrestling season. Divisions 1, 2, 3 and girls will begin on Thursday, February 27, with Division 1 and girls weigh-ins set for 12:30 p.m. Wrestling will begin at 2 p.m.

b. Tournament Pairings

At the individual state tournament, seeding criteria will be used for all competitors. **The tournament management software** will seed all 16 wrestlers at the Individual State Tournament using the following criteria:

- | | |
|---|--|
| (1) Head-to-head competition | (5) Returning fourth through sixth place finisher from previous season |
| (2) Competition against common opponents | (6) Sectional champion |
| (3) Returning state champion | (7) Returning state qualifier in previous season |
| (4) Returning second or third place finisher in previous season | (8) Winning percentage in the current season |

c. Seeding Information and Procedures



d. Scoring

Girls state team champion and runner-up will be determined based on state individual results.

e. Officials

(1) The WIAA will contract the state tournament officials.

(2) Officials will be paid:

(a) Officiating fee - **\$140** per session.

(b) Expenses - 55¢ per mile (round trip) for travel.

(c) Necessary meals and lodging.

(d) Officials will be expected to travel in one car when practical.

f. Awards

(1) Trophies to champion and runner-up teams.

g. Finances

(1) Participating Schools Allowances

Schools will receive an allowance for their State Tournament expenses. The following factors will be used to determine the amount each school receives:

(a) Travel to and from State Tournament city at the rate of **70¢** per mile.

Note: No allowance will be paid to schools located in State Tournament city.

(b) **\$60** for each actual participant plus two other persons.

(2) Ticket Prices

	5 Session	Single Session
Ticket Prices Child/Student/Adult – Children two and under do not require a ticket	\$55*	\$11*

*On-line ticket sales subject to processing and handling fees.

(3) Ticket Allocations

Complete information relating to ticket allocation for the State Tournament will be provided to member schools in October via email. All individual State wrestling tickets will be available for purchase online and the remaining tickets will be available at the door on the days of the State Tournament.

(4) Admission Policies

Free admissions shall be provided for the wrestlers actually competing plus two additional persons.

Note: There is no provision for free admissions for either administrators or cheerleaders.

6. MISCELLANEOUS

State Tournament Housing

The WIAA office will not be involved in housing for students in Madison during the State Tournament but will inform schools of possible arrangements for housing in the event a Madison agency is available for this service. Schools are reminded students may not register in hotels and motels in the Madison area during the State Tournament without adult chaperones.

7. RADIO AND TELEVISION (See Radio and Television Section in HANDBOOK)