

Please be aware of the following questions that have been brought to our attention as you look forward to regional and sectional competition (updated 1/7/2020)

Q1: *Can a wrestler be cleared to wrestle with a signed **skin condition form**, even if it is not the form the WIAA has provided?*

A1: NO – The form provided on the WIAA website MUST be used or the wrestler will not be allowed to compete (contains Contagious/Non-contagious check boxes). The link to the WIAA approved form is provided below:

<http://www.wiaawi.org/Portals/0/PDF/Sports/Wrestling/wrestrelease.pdf>

The first thing officials will check on the skin form sheet is the contagious and non-contagious boxes. Regardless which box is checked, then refer to the diagrams to make sure the locations correspond to where it is found on the athlete. If it is marked 'non-contagious' and the locations correspond, then the wrestler should be OK to wrestle. If it is marked 'contagious', then check the part of the form that indicates the earliest date the wrestler may return to competition. If that date has been reached, then again, the athlete should be good to wrestle. Remember that covering a contagious skin condition does not make the wrestler eligible to participate prior to the return to participation date. It is also important to remember that an onsite appropriate health care professional can overrule the medical release form for a wrestler to participate or not participate with a particular skin condition.

Q2: *Do wrestlers with braces have to have a full mouth guard or can they use the strips they get from the orthodontist? I have come across that one twice this year and one head official ruled okay on the strips and the other said full mouth guard.*

A2: If it is designed by the specialist, it would be OK

Q3: Does a wrestler have to wear a mouth guard to cover the braces, or may he wear a "snap on" plastic cover that snaps onto the braces?

A3: If the snap on plastic cover adequately covers the braces, this should be legal. However, it must be examined and approved by the referee.

Q4: *What kind of documentation do we need to have from our orthodontist and who will we need to present this information to in order to get approval?*

A4: You can get a note that the mouth guard was designed by the orthodontist and take it to the match with you.

Q5 - Under the new concussion guidelines adopted by the WIAA, there seems to be some confusion out there regarding whether or not an athlete that shows signs, symptoms or behaviors of a concussion may return to competition the same day. In the past, in the sport of wrestling, we have allowed athletes showing these symptoms to leave the facility and get clearance from an appropriate health care professional to allow them to return to competition that same day. Is this acceptable?

A5 - A student who displays symptoms of concussion shall not return to practice or competition during the same day. The student shall not return to practice or competition until approved in writing by an appropriate health care professional, but they may not return that same day. Any athlete deemed unconscious must have medical evaluation and clearance before being allowed to return to participation.

Q6 - In tournaments with multiple mats, how far should officials allow contestants to encroach upon an adjacent wrestling area (outside the 28-foot circle) in a NF situation?

A6 - All mat configurations vary in different tournaments, and even within the same tournament. I'm very hesitant to make a steadfast rule that would apply in all situations. We have lived with wrestling outside the 28-foot circle regarding take downs and reversals for many years. During this time, I know officials have used common sense and good

judgment when it comes to safety. If wrestlers leave their wrestling area and infringe upon another, it should be understood that wrestling be stopped. In all tournaments, prior to the onset of the event, I would encourage the lead official and his crew to inspect the wrestling area of every mat. During and after the inspection, and prior to meeting with the coaches, they will discuss this issue and then come to a consensus regarding this topic as it pertains to that event. If they cannot come to a consensus, then he should make a ruling. Coaches should then be informed of the decision. Consistently applying your decision, and properly informing coaches should make for a good day.

Q7– *How is the team score affected when a wrestler is disqualified from an individually bracketed tournament due to unsportsmanlike conduct?*

A7– If a wrestler is disqualified from an individually bracketed tournament due to USC, he / she will not be eligible to place in the event (rule 9.2.3) and would be removed from the premises. The only points they will maintain would be advancement and pin points. No placements points! If they have already been awarded, they will be deducted. In addition, 2 team points would be deducted. If this USC occurred while wrestling, then it would be handled within the progressive penalty sequence, and would be match points, not team points.

Q8– *So how is it scored when a contestant is disqualified due to FMC?*

A8 – It is treated the same in a dual and individually bracketed event. Regardless when it occurs, if a wrestler is disqualified for FMC, they will lose all team points earned and would be sent to the locker room with a coach. In addition, 3 team points would be deducted from the team score. If in a dual, and it occurred after wrestling has been completed, if that individual won the match, there would be no winner. If they lost the match, the winner would maintain the team points he/she has already earned.

Q9 – *Officials seem to be inconsistent across the state when it comes to stalling as it relates to the shoelaces. Can you make a simple concise statement on stalling as it pertains to shoelaces?*

A9 – **YES!** This is as simple as it gets. Once you are checked in by the referee, **ANYTIME** the shoelaces become untied it is stalling.

Comment: Remember – coming out of a pouch or velcro cover is not untied. Tape coming loose or off of the laces, is not untied. Untied means you must re-tie the laces. **Whenever** you re-tie, it is stalling. You cannot tie your laces anytime during a wrestling match without it being considered stalling. I hope that is clear enough!

Rule 6.6 – Correction of Errors

Page 34, rule 6.6.5a.1-2.

Errors by the timekeeper, official scorer or referee must be corrected prior to the offended contestant leaving the mat area, and before the start of the match on that mat, if additional wrestling is necessary. If additional wrestling is not necessary, the error may be corrected if the offended wrestler or coach remains in the wrestling area after the match has concluded, and prior to the start of the next match on that mat.

Errors involving the computation of match score must be corrected prior to the next match in whom either wrestler competes. If the error necessitates additional wrestling it must be corrected prior the offended contestant leaving the mat area and prior to the start of the next match on that mat.