

NEMWA Administrative Rules

Updated June 2024

NEMWA League and Tournament Structure

- **NEMWA allows no unaffiliated or independent wrestlers. Everyone who wrestles within NEMWA must belong to an approved club of NEMWA.**
- **NEMWA has no control over individual NEMWA club rules and/or guidelines. Each club obtains their own club rules and guidelines.**
- Four-division league structure created with all clubs assigned to a division. Current members of each division are listed and kept current **by the NEMWA Secretary and are posted** on the NEMWA website.
- Tournament schedule: Two tournaments per weekend. Six week regular season (two division rotations).
- Wrestlers must participate in their scheduled division tournament unless there is no tournament scheduled for their division. Then clubs may participate in the other tournament only if there is space (first-come first-serve call-in beginning at noon two weeks in advance of the tournament for filling space in alternate tournament).
- ~~Clubs~~ Clubs will submit their school confirmation at the annual board meeting for the tournament date of their choosing. Each tournament date host will be voted on at the annual meeting.
- Preseason tournament hosts will be voted on at the annual meeting. Two preseason tournaments may be hosted on the same tournament date.

NEMWA League Meetings

- The quorum necessary to conduct business at a NEMWA meeting shall be, two thirds (2/3) of the NEMWA elected officials at the time of the meeting. **NEMWA elected officials shall be your NEMWA President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, (2) two head officials and (2) two head pairers.**
- At the beginning of each NEMWA meeting, member clubs in good standing must select one person per club that will be responsible for casting votes on behalf of their club at the NEMWA meeting.
- Any NEMWA member in good standing may request a roll call vote for any item of business requiring a vote of the membership. In the case of a roll call vote, individual votes by each club will be recorded in the meeting minutes.

After the last meeting held for NEMWA and/or after the start of the NEMWA wrestling season, your NEMWA elected officials (listed above) have all executive power of NEMWA and will be allowed to obtain executive decisions for NEMWA as needed.

NEMWA Member Club/School Requirements

- Annual dues are \$100 for returning clubs in good standing and \$150 for new clubs. All annual dues must be paid by September 30th of the year prior to the season. Clubs that do not pay by this deadline will be removed from active membership and must be reinstated as a new club. Each year, dues must be accompanied by a NEMWA /USA Charter Club Membership Request/Renewal Form (Appendix 1) sheet with current club information.

For any reason a club who has paid their club dues by the above date wishes to no longer be a club within NEMWA, they are entitled to have NEMWA refund their dues paid as long as they ask before November 30th of the same year. (rule voted in December 14, 2008)

- In order to maintain in good standing, members must:
 - For the upcoming season clubs must pay annual dues by September 30th. New members may not vote prior to dues payment.
 - Meetings are not mandatory, but your attendance is encouraged.

- Members who are not in good standing will not be eligible to vote.
- League dues must be paid to participate in league functions.
- Each club must provide the NEMWA secretary with one **(1) to two (2)** name(s) that will serve as official club representatives at NEMWA tournaments. One of these representatives must be at every tournament.
- The deadline for clubs to turn in the club roster, **that must include USA information, and notification that each club has a hard copy of each wrestlers (these can be a simple check mark be hide each name)** player's agreement, **birth certificate** and concussion form is December 15th in order for the wrestler to be eligible to wrestle the first regular season tournament.
- Wrestlers who join their club after the season begins must have their **club** submit their members as stated above to the NEMWA secretary **by the Saturday before the next regular scheduled tournament. Meaning, wrestler is on a one (1) week hold to assure all paperwork is correct and USA is obtained.**
- **After the start of regular season, each NEMWA Club must submit to the NEMWA secretary a list of wrestlers who have attended three (3) or more tournaments, known as the record of tournaments.**
- **No clubs will be allowed to split and join NEMWA unless there is an agreement between the club that is forming and the club that is being split off of. This agreement must be obtained and presented to NEMWA before the new club can join NEMWA. (rule voted in November 13, 2011)**
 - A "split off" club will be defined as a club with ties to an existing club in the same community.
 - After one calendar year (12 months), a "split off" club will be considered a "new" club.
 - Any club splitting off and wishing to join NEMWA as a new club will need submit a letter in writing to NEMWA notifying the League of the split and the club's wish to join after one year of the split.
 - School district will be considered when two clubs are from the same community and exist within the same school district.
- **Each new club wanting to join, must be voted into NEMWA by the NEMWA clubs as a whole. Clubs will be added to the agenda for admission to the league in the months of June, July, and August.**

NEMWA Wrestler and Coach Requirements

- All wrestlers and all coaches must be active USA "Wrestling Leader" card members holders in the sport of wrestling prior to their first practice. Coaches can direct parents to register for USA cards directly (preferred), or coaches can do so on behalf of the club, **however this is strictly up to each club within NEMWA to allow coaches/parents to obtain additional USA cards.** In either case NEMWA clubs are responsible for verifying that the online USA registration has been completed for all participants and coaches before the first practice in order to qualify for USA insurance.
- To be eligible for official NEMWA league meets the wrestler's club must:
 - Provide the NEMWA secretary with a copy of the **spreadsheet roster of the club that includes USA information, and notification that each club has a hard copy of each wrestlers (these can be a simple check mark be hide each name)** player's agreement, **birth certificate** and concussion form
 - Have approval to participate by NEMWA. If a wrestler has not turned in the required forms by the applicable deadline, the wrestler is ruled ineligible for the event and removed from the tournament. Rather than redrawing the weight class the wrestler defaults his or her matches. His or her opponent advances uncontested.
 - Wrestlers may only register and represent one club in NEMWA per complete season. Once a wrestler enters a NEMWA tournament under a club name, that wrestler cannot enter other NEMWA tournaments under any other club name during the same season unless **all** of the following criteria are met:
 - The wrestler has physically moved and has taken up residency outside of the area represented by the club.

- The wrestler must live near full time in new household as evidenced by changed schools, etc. Wrestlers with separated parents cannot bounce between homes and clubs.
- The new club is willing to accept this wrestler into their club and represent his/her case to NEMWA to gain approval if necessary.
- The wrestler gains permission through NEMWA.
- There may be special cases that warrant NEMWA to allow a wrestler to change clubs even if the statements above are not met. These special cases will require at least 2/3 of the clubs in NEMWA to approve of the "Hardship case". Should any concern or issue arise, the tournament director and NEMWA will contact the proper club representative and resolve the issue.
- Wrestlers must compete in three regular season NEMWA tournaments in order to be eligible to compete in the regional tournament. The NEMWA Preseason tournament may count towards the three tournament requirement to be eligible to compete in the regional tournament.
- **If a wrestler qualifies for NEMWA State Tournament, and chooses not to attend and wrestle somewhere else that weekend, they will be banned from NEMWA for the next season.(voted in May 15, 2016)**

Tournament Operations Requirements

- Each tournament **will** have a minimum of one qualified NEMWA head pairer. **The pairer will be trained in Track Wrestling and will bring one (1) to two (2) qualified pairers to help her during the tournament.**
- Track Wrestling will be used and each hosting club will be responsible for paying the Track Wrestling fee per tournament. Tournament dues will be \$15 for regular season per wrestler and \$20 for regionals and \$25 for finals per wrestler.
- **\$2.00 kickback will be given back to NEMWA, by each hosting club, to help offset the cost of computers, and other items needed to run a paperless NEMWA tournament using Track Wrestling.** Hosting club will be responsible for Trackwrestling fee that will bill at a later date, and included in the NEMWA invoice.
- The tournament head official is required to be MHSAA certified. NEMWA will pay for expenses required as part of the MHSAA certification process.
- The tournament director is responsible for coordinating with the NEMWA head official, **to assure that enough mat officials are obtained.** The NEMWA head officials, will **obtain and assure that all officials are** trained officials **and** are permitted at NEMWA tournaments. In order for officials to be paid at a tournament, they must be trained and/or qualified by the head NEMWA official or his/her representative prior to the tournament and they must stay until the end of the tournament or he/she are released to leave by the head official in which they are paid. Each tournament must have a minimum of 8 qualified officials plus one head official.
- Rates for tournament help are paid by the host club and are as follows:
 - Head official \$225 and Qualified official \$175
 - Head pairers **\$400 – in return of this payment the head pairer is responsible for paying her staff of pariers**
- Officials may not referee matches of their relatives.
- **The tournament director must let both the head pairer and the head official know how many mats are going to be used at their tournament at least two weeks prior to their tournament.**
- **NEMWA door fees for all tournaments are as follows; \$5.00 for adults, \$2.00 for students \$10.00 for families and 5 years and younger are free (rule vote October 13, 2013 and price change voted in May 15, 2016)**

Tournaments shall be run with 3 sessions beginning 9am, 12pm, and 2pm. Pairers will determine if, based on the number of wrestlers and mat surfaces available, that 2 sessions is more appropriate. Start times may be adjusted to accommodate poor weather, any change in start times will be determined by the Board.

Any wrestler dropped from the tournament after 10pm the day before the tournament date, will be paid for by the club to the hosting club.

32 man brackets will be split into 16 man brackets by the pairers during pre- and regular season tournaments.

NEMWA

Club Information Membership and/or Membership Renewal

Name of Club: _____

Club Mailing Address: _____

City: _____, **Michigan Zip:** _____

Club Contact Email Address: _____

Phone Number: __ () _____

Point of Contact: _____

NEMWA Purpose and Goals:

1. Teach the basics of collegiate-style wrestling.
2. Encourage healthy, fair and fun competition with a focus on improvement.
3. Build self-confidence by showing the positive results that come from practice and self discipline.
4. Teach respect for peers, those in authority (such as coaches and referees) and property (such as the wrestling mat, school gym, lockers, etc.).
5. Develop wrestlers that have potential to become successful at the higher levels of competition in the middle or senior high schools.

(please check which one applies to your club)

_____ ***Our club is requesting to become a member of Northeastern Michigan Wrestling Association (NEMWA). And we commit to the following:***

_____ ***Our club is renewing its membership in, Northeastern Michigan Wrestling Association (NEMWA). And we commit to the following:***

1. To support the purpose and goals of NEMWA.
2. To read, understand, and comply with the rules of NEMWA.
3. To actively contribute to NEMWA, including participation at NEMWA meetings.
4. To communicate NEMWA membership obligations to present and future coaches, leaders, wrestlers, and parents.

Primary Contact Signature: _____ Date _____

Once I receive this information, a list will be sent to USA as a NEMWA club and you will be added into the system as a NEMWA Chartered Club. Then each club will have a certificate of Insurance emailed to you! So please get this information to me ASAP.

NEMWA Regionals and Finals Rules

Regional Rules –

- All regular NEMWA season rules will apply
- You must have 3 or more regular seasons tournaments in (preseason may count)
- Brackets will not be split for no ages
- True second will be used by all ages **in Regionals only**
- Trophies will be awarded for the top four places for all charts
- Where you wrestle at in regional's is where you will be placed at in finals
- No contestant shall wrestle in two consecutive matches with less than a 15-minute rest period between them. The conclusion time of each match shall be recorded, unless agreed upon by wrestlers and coaches
- During tournament competition a maximum of 2 team personnel (coaches and/or non-participation contestants, this means parents or picture/video taker) shall be seated in provided chairs.
- The referee shall be firm in enforcing the letter and spirit of the rules, consistently penalizing any repeated infractions. He must enforce penalties for infractions explained in Articles 7 and 8 without hesitation. The referee shall not use TV monitoring or replay or any other video equipment in decision-making related to a match.
- If a wrestler qualifies for NEMWA State Tournament, and chooses not to attend and wrestle somewhere else that weekend, they will be banned from NEMWA for the next season.*(voted in May 15, 2016)*

Section 5 – Weighing In – page 18

NEMWA RULE 1 – (replaces Rule 4, section 5, art. 1) No home weigh-ins allowed for regionals. Weigh-ins will take place on the gym floor. The standard weigh-in time for all age groups is posted on flier and shall be uniform across satellite weigh-in sites.. Changes to the standard weigh-in times for any NEMWA-sanctioned tournament must be approved by the majority of NEMWA clubs at least two weeks in advance of the tournament. Friday evening weigh-ins are allowed provided they are publicized two weeks in advance.

NEMWA RULE 2 – (replaces Rule 4, section 5, art. 7): All contestants will weigh in wearing a singlet or gym shorts and tee shirt. **No long sleeves or tights. Skin checks are to be done at same time as weigh ins.***(added May 15, 2016)*

NEMWA RULE 3 – A contestant shall weigh in for only one weight class during the weigh in. If only one scale is available, a contestant may step on and step off two times to allow for mechanical inconsistencies in the scale. If multiple scales are available, a contestant may step on and off the first scale two times to allow for mechanical inconsistencies in that scale. If the contestant fails to make weight on the first scale, the contestant shall immediately step on each available scale one time in an attempt to make weight. During the time off the scale(s), activities that promote dehydration are prohibited.

There will be a 1 lbs growth allowance allowed from regionals to finals.

Finals Rules –

- All regular NEMWA season rules will apply
- To be able to wrestle at finals, you must of placed 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th place in NEMWA regional's
- You will be seeded as where you are to wrestle

There will be no round robin brackets.

- Your club must of paid to wrestle before the start of the tournament by paying at regionals.
- Trophies will be awarded for the top four places for all charts **and will be presented upon completion of all brackets during an awards presentation.**
- There is a 1 lb weight allowance for all wrestlers attending finals.
- Where you wrestle at in regional's is where you will be seeded at finals
- No contestant shall wrestle in two consecutive matches with less than a 15-minute rest period between them. The conclusion time of each match shall be recorded, unless agreed upon by wrestlers and coaches
- During tournament competition a maximum of 2 team personnel (coaches and/or non-participation contestants, this means parents or picture/video taker) shall be seated in provided chairs.
- The referee shall be firm in enforcing the letter and spirit of the rules, consistently penalizing any repeated infractions. He must enforce penalties for infractions explained in Articles 7 and 8 without hesitation. The referee shall not use TV monitoring or replay or any other video equipment in decision-making related to a match.
- **If your club fails to show up for your assigned table help shift during the NEMWA finals, your club will be charged \$250.00. If you fail to pay this fine by the 15th of December when all paperwork is required, your club cannot be part of NEMWA until this is paid. (rule voted in November 8, 2015)**
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NEMWA Chain of Command

Disciplinary Chain of Command

This disciplinary chain of command is for during or after a match or any time during the tournament and if for all wrestlers, parents, coaches and spectator, ect.

All issues MUST be handled by the Head Coach of each club!

1. Wrestler/Parent/Coach/Spectator addresses the issue to their club head coach.
2. Club head coach takes issue to the tournament director.
3. Tournament director takes to referee.
4. Referee to head referee.
5. Head referee to grievance committee.
6. If disciplinary action is required, NEMWA Letter of Discipline of Misconduct is to be filled out and given to NEMWA secretary for NEMWA board to review.
7. Board will review and action will be handled with all communications being done through the club head coach.

Unsportsmanlike conduct can occur before, during or after a match. It would include, but is not limited to, such acts as swearing, baiting an opponent, throwing headgear, repeatedly dropping to one knee to break locked hands, indicating displeasure with a call, failure to comply in the end-of-match procedure, not properly displaying the uniform while on the mat and will be penalized without warning in accordance with the Penalty Chart.

Flagrant misconduct involves physical or nonphysical acts and they can occur before, during or after a match and is any act considered by the referee to be serious enough to disqualify a contestant from the match and any additional wrestling in the multiple school event. It would include, but it is not limited to, striking, butting, elbowing, kicking, biting an opponent, or using any tobacco products.

The consequences of your behavior are indicated on the excerpt of the NEMWA penalty chart which can be obtained for NEMWA secretary, head pairer, head referee or off the NEMWA.net web site.

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