

## Wrestling: State Tournament Schedule

Submitted on Thu, 02/15/2024 - 8:38 AM

### Indicate the category of the proposed recommendation

State Tournament Recommendations regarding Format and Non-NFHS Rules or NFHS Experiments

### Authors of the Proposal

Wrestling Advisory

Shawn Larson-President and A Rep

Mike Schauer-Past President

Tim Haneberg-President-elect

Kurt Habeck-MSHSCA Delegate

Zach Hansen-AAA Rep

Eric Swensen-AAA Rep

Doug Svihel-AA Rep

Matt Hennen-AA Rep

Brandon Gruchow-A Rep

Kip Lynk-MWCA Executive Director

### Activity/Activities (Check all that apply)

Wrestling

## Current Rule/Policy

**State the rule/policy as it appears in the current MSHSL Handbook or Activity/Sport Specific Rules and Policies.**

Currently the MSHSL State Wrestling Tournament has one day for team competition and two days for individual competition. The link takes you to the 2023 State Tournament Schedule:

[www.mshsl.org/sites/default/files/2023-01/2023%20WR%20Tourn%20Schedule.pdf](http://www.mshsl.org/sites/default/files/2023-01/2023%20WR%20Tourn%20Schedule.pdf)

## Proposed Recommendation

**Submit your proposed change to the above-stated rule/policy.**

Eliminate the "follow the leader" format for the individual state tournament consolation brackets and implement full consolation to third place.

Here are two possible layouts to making it possible without adding additional 1/2 day to the state tournament. The options will be addressing day 1 of the individual tournament only as day 2 will be able to stay the same as it is currently.

Option A for Day 1

9:00am-Class AAA (two rounds) Round of 16, Quarterfinals/1st Round Wrestlebacks

12:00pm-Class AA (two rounds) Round of 16, Quarterfinals/1st Round Wrestlebacks

Break from 3:00-4:30

4:30pm- Class A (two rounds) Round of 16, Quarterfinals/1st Round Wrestlebacks

7:30pm-2nd Round Wrestlebacks for all classes

Option B for Day 1

9:00am-Class AAA Round of 16

10:30am-Class AA Round of 16

12:00pm-Class A Round of 16

Break from 1:30pm-3:00pm

3:00pm Class AAA Quarterfinals/1st Round Wrestlebacks

4:30pm Class AA Quarterfinals/1st Round Wrestlebacks

6:00pm Class A Quarterfinals/1st Round Wrestlebacks

7:30pm 2nd Round Wrestlebacks for All Classes

The above proposals will fit until the girls' division of the state tournament doubles in size. When that happens, there will be a need to expand the state tournament with an additional half day. We have worked with tournament organizers on what that format would look like and would also accommodate the full consolation to third place for both the open division and the girls' division.

**Include any other policies that are impacted by this proposal.**

N/A

## **Rationale**

**What is the history of the proposal?**

Full consolation brackets in the individual tournament has been the top priority for MN Wrestling Coaches and Wrestling Advisory for over 20 years. With the reduction of a weight class for the 2023-2024 wrestling season and tweaks that have been made to the operations of the state individual tournament (seeding the state tournament, wrestling on first available mat vs. staying on assigned mats in the program and rolling straight into the next class [A, AA, AAA] without waiting for the whole class to finish) over the last few years, we now have the opportunity to have full consolation to third place in the individual tournament without adding days, space, or mats for the first time. With the above mentioned modifications, a full round of wrestling for the 16-person bracket has been lasting 1.5 hours on eight mats.

**How does your proposal benefit education-based opportunities and MSHSL Mission and Beliefs for all Minnesota students?**

This proposal provides the opportunity for wrestlers from all over the state to wrestle at least two matches at the state tournament.

### **What other policies are significant in this proposal?**

N/A

### **Provide evidence of support for the proposal from other groups**

This has been the top priority for the MN Wrestling Coaches Association for over twenty years. We also have the support of parents. In the current format, parents need to pay to come to session 2 of the individual tournament with the possibility that their athlete will not get to wrestle in it due to the "follow the leader" format. We also have support of school programs as some wrestlers are traveling long distances to only wrestle one match.

## **Impact**

### **How does your proposal affect this activity, including its impact on all classes, areas of the state, and variety of schools**

Currently  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the participants in the individual tournament are eliminated after the 1st round. This proposal would allow 100% of the state individual participants to have the opportunity to wrestle back to as high as 3rd place. Currently an unlucky draw can mean only one match at the state tournament. In the current format, the wrestlers on the seed lines of 15 and 16 are more likely to get a 2nd match than those actually seeded 7th and 8th.

## **Administration**

### **How does your proposal impact section and state tournaments?**

This proposal adds the equivalent of a 1/2 round of wrestling to each Class (A, AA, AAA), but now fits into the current framework of the MSHSL State Individual Tournament.

## **Length of Tournament**

### **How does your proposal impact the needed competition time for section and state tournaments?**

There should be very minimal impact on the amount of time needed for the state individual tournament.

## **Participants**

### **How does your proposal impact the number of participants/teams?**

It will not add participants. The possibility exists that the girls tournament will need to move from 8 to 16 wrestlers in the near future. At that time an additional 1/2 day will be needed to accommodate that growth.

### **How does your proposal impact the percentage of participants/teams that would qualify for the state tournament?**

No impact

## **Facilities**

### **How does your proposal impact the facilities needed to accommodate your recommendation at both the section and state level?**

This proposal fits in the current facility and in the time that is already used.

## **Awards**

**How does your proposal impact the number of awards at both section and state?**

No impact

## **Other**

**Provide any other pertinent information not included in this proposal**

The Wrestling Advisory has been working with the MSHSL Tournament Managers throughout the years to "buy back" time within the schedule. With the reduction of weight class, seeding the state tournament, wrestling on first available mats, and rolling into the classification have bought back enough time to make this move.

## **Primary Author and Contact for Proposal**

**Proposal submitted by**

Kip Lynk

**Position**

Executive Director of the MWCA

**Phone number**

[320-296-1123](tel:320-296-1123)

**Email**

[kip.lynk@gmail.com](mailto:kip.lynk@gmail.com)