

Winter Folkstyle Tournament Guidelines

2013 - 2014

Summary of document items-

- Middle school division made-up of 7th & 8th graders born in years 1999-2000 & 2001. 6th graders can also be in the Middle School Division if their date of birth allows.
- Tournament sanction forms must be submitted at least 4-weeks prior to event, with number of wrestling surfaces to be used (mat size rules must be followed)
- All tournaments are pre-registration only. Absolutely no walk-ins.
- Only sanctioned USA clubs may pre-register wrestlers. Out-of-state wrestlers / clubs must contact the tournament director.
- Tournament registration fees are \$20 for the first family member, \$14 for the second family member and \$8 for the third family member and subsequent family members. The qualifier registration fee is \$20/ individual (No family discount) and the State Championship is \$25/individual (No family discount).
- Madison weights will be used for all tournaments with the following exception-
 - Intermediate, Novice and Middle School division state qualifier and state championship will follow the USA Wrestling weight classes for their age group.
- 4 or 5-man round robin bracketing will be implemented in order to improve tournament efficiency and allow every wrestler to get three (3) to four (4) matches, which should also be more competitive.
- Only Intermediate, Novice and Middle School wrestlers will need to “qualify” for the state championship the weekend of February 23, 2014, four Sites to be determined and assignment of Clubs to each site will be determined by Mid January 2014.

USAWCT is combining the Schoolboys and Cadets into a single category labeled “Middle School” division. This will reduce the confusion about the two age groups competing together or separately. This is applicable to only those wrestlers who are both born in 1999 and are in the eighth (8th) grade. The Middle School division will therefore include only those wrestlers who are presently in the 7th and 8th grade and have a birth year in 1999, 2000 or 2001.

All coaches will be required to have both a current USA Wrestling coaches card and be at least Copper certified to be able to participate in this years State Championship Tournament. Copper Certification can be done online http://www.asep.com/asep_content/org/USAW.cfm. To get more information about the Coaches Certification Courses you may visit the website (www.usawct.org) or email Coaches Director John Knapp jknapp125@yahoo.com Copper Coach's Certification is **NOT** mandatory during the regular season tournaments however; a current USA Wrestling coach's card is required and must be displayed on the coach's upper body when coaching alongside the mat or an electronic version can be presented at mat side upon request.

Wrestlers are permitted to only register and wrestle in one (1) bracket regardless of staying within their own age group or not.

Tournament Sanction forms should be submitted at least four (4) weeks prior to the tournament date, please indicate the number of mat surfaces you plan to run. You'll need at least one (1) more official than the number of wrestling surfaces that you will be using. Forms may be obtained from the State Chairperson, Sarah Jadach phone number evenings (203) 735-7175 or by e-mail, sjadach23@aol.com Tournament sanction fees are \$150 for normal tournaments and \$100 for small invitational tournaments and \$100 for Beginner's tournaments. Anyone submitting a sanction form with less than 30 days will be assessed a \$50 late fee penalty.

All Tournament sanctions must be accompanied by a USA Wrestling Policy on Abuse and Harassment, signed by the tournament Director.

Tournament Director will also need to fill out an Evaluation Form after their tournament to report tournament information and Issues. The form should be emailed to the State Chairperson no later than 3 days after the tournament.

In addition, the USAWCT Sportsmanship and behavior policy must be posted at the entrance to the facility and read aloud prior to the start of wrestling for each session.

Regular Season- December 2013 thru February 16, 2014 exclusive of the qualifiers on February 23, 2014, however, tournament dates may recommence after March 2nd, 2014.

Each Club's director or designated person for that club will check in with the tournament Director and inform the director of any known NO SHOW wrestlers and pay for their team's entry.

All WRESTLERS and only Wrestlers will check into the tournament at the skin check location, which will be separate from where the Club Director or designated person(s) check in area. Wrestlers must have proper forms completed by a Doctor at skin check. Please see website for proper skin condition form (www.usawct.org)

WRESTLERS THAT DO NOT CHECK IN AT THE SKIN CHECK AREA WILL NOT BE ENTERED INTO THE TOURNAMENT.

Club Directors or the designated person for that club, will check with the head person running the Skin check in area to see if any of their wrestlers have not checked in, by 8:15am for the morning session and 11:45am for the afternoon session.

Registrations:

- ✓ **All tournaments require pre-registration. Absolutely NO Walk-ins will be permitted.**
- ✓ **Only Directors, or their appointee, of sanctioned clubs will be allowed to pre-register wrestlers. Wrestlers who are not club affiliated or are from out-of-state are requested to contact the Tournament Director directly by the Thursday immediately before the event.**
- ✓ **Only the data base on our web site will be used to register for tournaments, this will ensure that all wrestlers are proper USA wrestling members and allow for a uniformed format to process entries.**
- ✓ **Each wrestler's weight must adequately represent the weight that they will be come tournament morning. Every wrestler will be required to check-in the morning of the tournament to *check-in* and get a skin check.**
 - **Tournament registration fees are \$20 for each individual, \$14 for 2nd, \$8 for any additional family members. All club directors are to collect their wrestler's registration fees and pay the tournament director the morning of the tournament. Payment should not be made with more than one (1) check. There are NO refunds for no-shows.**
 - **All wrestlers are required to have a current USA Wrestling membership.**
 - **Wrestlers in need of a card should contact their club director or Sarah Jadach at (203) 735-7175 or sjadach23@aol.com . Arrangements must be made by each Wednesday prior to a Sunday Tournament to allow proper issuance of cards, **NO EXCEPTIONS****

Weight Classes:

- ✓ **A Madison weight class system will be followed. All wrestlers will be grouped relative to both their age and weight. There are no published and strict weight classes to follow during the regular season. The maximum weight distribution will be no more than 10%, without coaches approval.**

- ✓ There will be *random weight checks* at normal tournaments with a 3 pound allowance given to each wrestler. Random checks will be determined at check-in, by the tournament Director.
Any wrestler that violates the three (3) pound allowance will be disqualified and removed from that tournament, if the tournament director believes that this was a typo error, the wrestler can be re-bracketed. In addition, any wrestler disqualified as a result of violating the three (3) pound allowance will be reported to the State Chairman and that wrestler is to be identified (Flagged) on the web site and must be weighed in at every subsequent tournament to verify their weight.
- ✓ Weight challenges during a tournament are performed at the tournament director's discretion. When a wrestler's weight is challenged by another wrestler (Coach or Parent), then the challenging wrestler will also be weighed in.
- ✓ The tournament director must notify Kids Director, Dave Kanute within 2 days of event in which there was a weight issue or challenge in which a wrestler violated the three (3) pound allowance and or a violation of USA Wrestling Policy on Abuse and Harassment or the USAWCT Sportsmanship and behavior policy. Failure of the Tournament to follow this rule will result in forfeiture of their right to run a Folk Style Tournament in the 2014-2015 Season.
- ✓ When weighing-in, each wrestler must weigh-in wearing a competition singlet.

Age Categories, Start Times & Period Length: A minimum of 20 minutes must be allowed between wrestlers matches, unless agreed upon by the coaches for a shorter time.

Boy/Girl Division Times Schedule					
Category	Year of Birth	SKIN Check-in Time	Start Time	Period Length	Paperwork Color
Mighty Mites	2008-2009	7:45 – 8:30	9:00 AM	1-1-1	Pink
Bantam	2006-2007	7:45 – 8:30	9:00 AM	1-1-1	Yellow
Intermediate	2004-2005	7:45 – 8:30	9:00 AM	1-1-1	Blue
Novice	2002-2003	11:15 – 12:00	12:30 PM	1.5-1-1	Green
Middle School	1999-2001 wrestlers can not be in HS	11:15 – 12:00	12:30 PM	1.5-1-1	White

TECH FALLS will occur when a 12 point margin is achieved; this rule applies to all age groups

Tournament Results:

- ✓ It is the responsibility of each tournament director to forward the results to the State Chairman sjadach23@aol.com by Wednesday morning immediately following the tournament. The top three (3) wrestlers in each bracket must be identified with the following information-
 - Wrestlers name by placement with-
 - Age category
 - Weight class
 - Club or town

Site:

- ✓ **Mats- no less than one-half mats is to be used at any time for any age category. The minimum mat size is recommended to be the equivalent of two (2) full-mats broken-up into three (3) mat surfaces, this is considered a full mat surface.**

All Novice and Middle school wrestlers that are in a weight class of 115 pounds or more will be required to wrestle on Full Mats, this is not left to the tournament director's discretion.

- ✓ **Sound system- adequate sound systems must be available in each area where wrestling matches are present**
- ✓ **Emergency personnel- it is the responsibility of each tournament director to have on hand one of the following type of personnel (Certified Athletic Trainer is required)**

Officials:

- ✓ **Only certified officials may be used at USAWCT tournaments, which are to be selected from the USAWCT pool of Officials or CIWOA officials. Tournament directors are required to contact Mark Cammisa, Officials Director 30 days prior to your event date (preferably by e-mail) and request from him or with event sanction form as to the number of Officials that you will require. E-mail markcammisa@comcast.net phone number Mobile 203 321-9344. Mark Cammisa the officials Director will make the assignments for the officials.**
- ✓ **You'll need at least one (1) more official than the number of wrestling surfaces that you will be using when wrestling on seven (7) surfaces and you'll need at least two (2) more official than the number of wrestling surfaces if the wrestling will be on eight (8) or more surfaces.**
- ✓ **You will provide free of cost to all officials and the supervisor official Nutritious breakfast & lunch, have water available at the tables at all times and provide a dinner meal if the tournament runs beyond 5:00 pm. Officials will be paid \$15.00 per hour for 2013-14**
- ✓ **You will also pay the Supervisor Official \$150.00 for their services that day.**

Coaches and Spectators Conduct--- This code of conduct has been established to ensure that there is a defined method for the handling of unacceptable conduct by coaches at USAWCT sanctioned wrestling events. The responsibility of the assigned officials and the USAWCT Board of Directors is described in this document.

Symbolic Yellow Cards can be given to a coach by the official if a coach is issued a Warning.

Warnings are given for: 1) Questioning Judgment 2) Improper Action of a Coach

- As described by the current season tournament guidelines, policy on harassment and abuse or other applicable state or national guidelines.

Symbolic Red Cards can be given if a Coach is issued a Flagrant Misconduct. *If a Coach is issued a Red Card that Coach will not be able to participate in the next USAWCT tournament that their team is attending.*

Flagrant Misconduct is: 1) An act the Official judges serious enough to remove offender from the premises 2) As described by the current season tournament guidelines, policy on harassment and abuse or other applicable state or national guidelines.

2-Yellow cards in the same day will be considered a Red Card in which the Coach will not be able to participate in the remainder of the current or the next tournament that their team is attending.

3- Yellow cards during the season will be an automatic Red Card in which the Coach will not be able to participate in the next tournament that their team is attending following the day the third yellow card is issued.

If the Coach received 2 Red Cards in the same season this will be grounds for an Automatic Due Process Hearing as defined in the USAWCT Bylaws. If the Coach refuses to participate in the Due Process Hearing their coach's card will be automatically suspended for an entire year without appeal. Officials will fill out a form explaining the reason for either a yellow or red card.

Each club will be asked to designate a Head Coach for each Session of the Tournament for that Day. This will be done at registration.

Head Coach will be the point of contact regarding the conduct of their staff and fans.

Bracketing:

Tournament committee strongly recommends that Mighty Mites and Bantam wrestle in four man round robin brackets. Intermediate , Novice and Middle School can be four or five man round robin brackets depending on the registration numbers.

When the 5-man (Maryland Crab) round-robin format.

- All wrestlers will be grouped by both age category and weight into 5-man brackets. Each wrestler will wrestle one-another giving each wrestler a total of 4 matches (round-robin format). There are many advantages to doing this. Everyone gets 4 matches.
- When using 8-man brackets with only 7 listed wrestlers the #1 seeded wrestler will only get two (2) matches. Wrestlers with lesser experience tend to only get two (2) matches too. The round robin format automatically gives these wrestlers a 100% increase in the number of matches. Wrestlers of equal caliber can be grouped together providing for more competitive matches. This should give everyone 4 competitive matches versus a #1 seed in an 8-man bracket who usually gets only one (1) competitive match.

It is a very easy format to operate. This will allow the tournaments to be operated more smoothly and in a timely fashion.

With only five (5) rounds the match-ups will be identical each week, each wrestler gets four Matches.

- Round 1- #2 vs #3 and #4 vs #5 with a bye to #1
- Round 2- #1 vs #4 and #3 vs #5 with a bye to #2
- Round 3- #1 vs #5 and #2 vs #4 with a bye to #3
- Round 4- #1 vs #3 and #2 vs #5 with a bye to #4
- Round 5- #1 vs #2 and #3 vs #4 with a bye to #5

With only three (3) rounds the match-ups will be identical each week, each wrestler gets 3 matches.

- Round 1- #1 vs #4 and #2 vs #3
- Round 2- #1 vs #3 and #2 vs #4
- Round 3- #1 vs #2 and #3 vs #4

In the event of multiple wrestlers with the same record, a tie breaker criteria is as follows:

- When only two (2) wrestlers have the identical win-loss record, the tiebreaker will be HEAD to HEAD results, therefore the one who won their match will be determined the higher place finisher.
- When three (3) wrestlers have identical win-loss records the following criteria, in order, will apply- MOST Falls, then MOST Technical fall, MOST major decisions (8 more points than opponent). Scoring total- the wrestler who had scored more points in their 3 matches regardless of the type of decision, fall, forfeit or injury default. In the event that each of the 3 wrestlers in the tie breaker all have a fall, then the least amount of time aggregate of the three will be the winner and will break the tie, then the other two placements are based upon head to head results.

Qualifiers- Date *February 23, 2014*

Only wrestlers from the Intermediate, Novice and Middle School age categories will need to Qualify for the State Championship. There will be no exceptions to this policy

There will be a mandatory questionnaire sent to Clubs Director around Mid January 2014 requesting that each report the number of Novice and Middle School wrestlers from their club that will attend the qualifiers for the Kids State Championships. The Club Directors on the BOD will gather this information and remit it to the State Chairperson by January 19th. The tournament committee will then determine which Clubs will be at which Qualifying location. This determination by the tournament committee will be presented and approved or amended by the Board of Directors before January 23, 2014.

- **A survey will be given at the beginning of January to all clubs asking to give estimated numbers of who will be attending the State Tournament for the Intermediate, Novice and Middle School Divisions. This is to help us make sure each qualifier location is balanced. The clubs will be given a deadline for the estimate and if they have not responded to the survey by the 10th of January then they will not be allowed to register for subsequent tournaments until they provide the estimate.**

- ✓ **Intermediate, Novice and M.S. division weight classes are set and bracketed.**
- ✓ **All registrations will be \$20. No family discount.**
- ✓ **Weight Classes**
 - Intermediate- 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 87, 95, 103, 112, 120, 120+ (20 lbs.max difference)**
 - Novice- 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 105, 112, 120, 130, 140, 140+ (25 lbs. maximum difference)**
 - Middle School- 70, 77, 84, 91, 98, 105, 112, 120, 128, 136, 144, 152, 160, 175, 190, 210, 265**

- ✓ There will be four (4) qualifying sites. Wrestlers will be eligible to only participate in one (1) qualifier.
- ✓ Wrestlers must compete in the qualifying location which their club or team is in.
- ✓ Each club will assigned a Qualifying location and all of the wrestlers will be required to qualify at that qualifier regardless of where the wrestler lives Wrestlers that are not affiliated with a club will be assigned a location
- ✓ Weight classes will be adhered to. See the weight classes found later in this document.
- ✓ Weigh-ins will be conducted for the qualifiers. Check-in times and start times may be modified for these four (4) tournaments only. Scratch weights with no allowance.
- ✓ Only the top four (4) wrestlers in each weight class in each qualifier location will proceed on to the State Championship.
- ✓ The top four (4) wrestlers of each weight class will be required to register and pay the State Championship registration fee before they leave the qualifying tournament. Anyone who does not pre-register and pay at this time will forfeit their spot, to the next wrestler in order of placement.

State Championship- March 2, 2014 @ Hillhouse High School Field-house, 480 Sherman Parkway, New Haven, CT 06511 operated by USAWCT

- ✓ **Open to Only Connecticut wrestlers (residents) Intermediate, Novice & Middle School must qualify to be entered into the Kids State Championships.**
- ✓ **All registrations will be \$25. No family discount.**
- ✓ Intermediate, Novice and M.S. division weight classes are set and bracketed based on the qualifier results.
- ✓ Weight Classes
 - Intermediate- 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 87, 95, 103, 112, 120, 120+ (20 lbs.max difference)**
 - Novice- 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 105, 112, 120, 130, 140, 140+ (25 lbs. maximum difference)**
 - Middle School- 70, 77, 84, 91, 98, 105, 112, 120, 128, 136, 144, 152, 160, 175, 190, 210, 265**
- ✓ **Pre-registration only at the Qualifiers. NO walk-ins.**
- ✓ All Intermediate, Novice and Middle School wrestlers are required to have wrestled their clubs regional qualifier and have been the top four (4) in their bracket.
- ✓ **Everyone's weight will be checked during the check-in period. Anyone more than +3 lbs from their registered weight will be move up in to the next bracket for the Kids State Championship for Mighty Mite and Bantam divisions only. This does not apply to Intermediate, Novice and Middle School division wrestlers. They must make the weight class that they qualified for in order to wrestle at scratch weight.**
- ✓ **Pre-registration for the state championships is required similar to all previous tournaments. Exception to this Pre-registration rule will be for the Novice and Middle School categories that are required to register and pay their fees at the end of their qualifying tournament the weekend before.**
- ✓ **Each club that enters wrestlers that participate in the State Championship tournament will be required to provide help to run the tournament or be required to pay a fee in lieu of providing help. The State Championships is large tournament; therefore help will be needed on Mar 2, 2014.**

Tournament directors who choose not to follow the adopted guidelines will not be permitted to operate a sanctioned tournament the following year.

Club Name: _____

Date: _____

We _____ club agree to follow the above rules to the best of our ability and agree to try to timely (by December 4, 2013) to pay our Sanction Application fee, review and complete the Facility Risk Management form and make arrangements with the State Chairman to schedule the proper number of officials needed at our tournament 4 weeks ahead of schedule.

In addition, your Club agrees to pay \$2.00 per bracketed wrestler to USAWCT, within one week of your event.

Sign Here: _____

Title: _____

\$2.00 payment per bracketed wrestler is payable to USAWCT and is to be mailed to:

USAWCT c/o

Sarah Jadach

20 Lakeview Terr.

Derby, CT. 06418