

TO: Athletic Directors of Teams Participating in WPIAL Team Wrestling Championships

FROM: Jim Collins, Assistant to the Executive Director

DATE: January 26, 2012

RE: 2012 WPIAL Team Wrestling Championships

Congratulations! The outstanding performance of your team has earned your team the right to participate in the 2012-team championships on January 30- February 4, 2012. To facilitate your participation, please read the following information carefully and circulate to your head wrestling coach and other appropriate personnel.

### **1) DRESSING ROOMS AND TEAM ACCOMODATIONS**

Dressing rooms will be assigned each team upon arrival by the site manager.

### **2) WEIGH-INS AND SKIN CONDITION CHECKS**

Weigh-ins and skin condition checks for all matches will begin promptly one hour before the start of the first scheduled match of each session. All wrestlers must be in the weigh-in area when weigh-ins begin. **The head coach is required to bring two (2) copies of the OPC Weigh-In sheet to the weigh-in (one for themselves and one for their opponent).** All participating schools are reminded that the completed **PIAA COMMUNICABLE SKIN DISEASE FORM** will be required for any wrestler desiring to return to competition after having been diagnosed as having a communicable disease or is suspected of having a communicable skin disease or any other condition that makes participation appear inadvisable. This form can be found on page 5 in the rules and regulations section of the 2011-12 PIAA Handbook. Physician authorization must be included on the form at the weigh-in. If a condition is present, the completed form with documentation and physician's signature must be present at the weigh-in.

### **3) EXHIBITION DUAL MATCHES DURING TEAM TOURNAMENT**

Teams participating in the WPIAL team championships are **not permitted** to wrestle exhibition matches on any day/date preceeding their participation in a team tournament match. For **AAA and AA** exhibition matches are not permitted on Tuesday, January 31, and Thursday, February 2. Of course, only teams remaining in the tournament are subject to the above restrictions.

### **4) PRELIMINARY (PIGTAIL) MATCHES/GROWTH ALLOWANCE**

All pigtail matches will be held on Monday, January 30, 2012. For AAA and AA, as a result of semifinal matches on Friday, February 3, **a one (1)-pound allowance will be granted** to all wrestlers on teams in the AAA and AA championship matches on Saturday, February 4. **In the event, inclement weather necessitates the postponement of any scheduled match, adjustments will be made.**

### **5) HOME TEAM**

The team at the top of the bracket will be designated as the "home team" in all rounds of the team championships.

### **6) TEAM WARM-UP PERIOD**

Each team will be allotted a 10-minute warm-up period prior to their team match

## **7) TICKET SALES**

General admission tickets will be sold at the match site beginning no later than one hour before the start of the first match at each site. Ticket prices are as follows:

|   |                 |               |
|---|-----------------|---------------|
| AAA and AA Preliminary thru<br>Semifinal round: | Students-\$4.00 | Adults-\$6.00 |
|---|-----------------|---------------|

|                    |                 |               |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| AA and AAA Finals: | Students-\$5.00 | Adults-\$7.00 |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|

The price of a student ticket includes any k-12 grade student. Pre-kindergarten children are admitted free of charge. The paid admission entitles the spectator to watch all matches at the same site. There is no pre-sale of tickets.

## **8) COMPLIMENTARY ADMISSIONS**

Complimentary admission will only be granted to holders of teal "WPIAL Courtesy Passes", and WPIAL complimentary passes (gray only). A maximum of 25 members of the team party, including coaches, and non-participating personnel as well as cheerleaders in uniform shall be admitted free-of-charge provided they arrive as a unit and are identified by their coach or adult sponsor. These groups must be accompanied and supervised by the head wrestling coach and adult cheerleader sponsor. Bus drivers must purchase a ticket for admittance.

## **9) TIE BREAKER**

The WPIAL has adopted the NFHS criterion in order to advance a team in the championships in the event a tie score exists at the completion of wrestling. The tie-breaking system specified in the 2011-12 wrestling rule book will be followed. Refer to Rule 9-2-2 on page 47 of the rule book.

## **10) EMERGENCY HEALTH CARE**

Each team is requested to bring their team trainer and all necessary training supplies to their match. The site manager will arrange to have an efficient medical back-up planned.

## **11) COACH/BENCH PERSONNEL AND DECORUM**

Teams are advised that extraneous bench personnel will not be permitted on the bench. All personnel on the bench must be in a school issued uniform or have a team role (coaches, statistician, trainer, etc). The head coach is responsible for the actions of the wrestlers and bench personnel. The coach is expected to act in a professional and sportsmanlike manner and control his team at all times. The Restrictive Coaching Rule will be in effect.

## **12) THE NATIONAL ANTHEM**

The National Anthem will be played before the first match of each session.

## **13) SIGNS**

Signs are permitted provided they are in good taste. Radios and other noise making devices are not permitted. The Principal or his designee will be responsible for enforcing this policy.

## **14) DAMAGES**

Schools are advised that they will be held responsible for any property damage done to the facility by their personnel. The head coach or a designated assistant should be the last person out of the locker room after checking the facility.

### **15) CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY PRESENTATION**

Immediately following the post-championship match "hand shake", the head coach should assemble his team at their bench area for the trophy presentation. The runner-up team will be awarded their trophy first immediately followed by the championship team. The head coach should give the WPIAL Manager the names of the athletes or coaches who will accept the trophies.

### **16) SOUVENIR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP T-SHIRTS**

A limited supply of 2012 WPIAL Team Champion long sleeve t-shirts (\$17) and mesh shorts (\$24) will be available at the tournament site. The WPIAL will process mail orders for \$18 per shirt and \$25 for mesh shorts for a minimum order of 3 shirts per school. Mail-order shirt forms are available on the "Merchandise" link of the WPIAL web site ([www.wpial.com](http://www.wpial.com)).

### **17) SUPERVISION**

The principal or his/her designated school representative, is responsible for the conduct of spectators as it pertains to representatives from hi/hers school and or school community. The school representative should notify the WPIAL manager upon arrival of his/her seat location during the match. The WPIAL manager will contact the school representative to resolve problems with his school's spectators.

### **18) PIAA INFORMATION**

**The top two finishers in AA and top three finishers in AAA will qualify for the PIAA team wrestling tournament.** The WPIAL champion and second place team will advance directly to the quarterfinal round at the Giant Center Arena in Hershey on February 9, 2012. The WPIAL AAA third place team will participate in a first round match on February 7 at a site to be determined. A representative of each team that qualifies a team to the 2011-12 PIAA Team Wrestling Championships must complete the electronic team information form found on the PIAA web site [www.piaa.org](http://www.piaa.org) ; prior to participating in its first PIAA team wrestling championship contest. The official PIAA Certificate of Eligibility form for wrestling on which the head coach has initialed the minimum weight classification for each of his wrestlers, an appropriate team photo, and team information form must be submitted to Dr. Robert Lombardi, PIAA First Associate Executive Director, no later than 4:00 PM, Monday, February 6, 2012. There are no exceptions. The PIAA has posted an informational memorandum for coaches and contestants on their website ([www.PIAA.org](http://www.PIAA.org)).

**GOOD LUCK TO ALL THE PARTICIPANTS**