



December 23, 2013

Our young ladies and the appropriate uniform for competition: We strongly recommend our young lady wrestlers along with a sport bra wear an approved t-shirt under their wrestling uniform. The uniforms they wear are a men's uniform, which are usually cut low across the neck line as well as in the arm pit. In an effort to prevent a very embarrassing moment for the young lady, her opponent and the referee wearing a tight fitting sleeve or sleeveless t-shirt protects everyone. This situation will be addressed in the 2014-15.

Attention: We have seen many tournaments not mark the required coach's zone in the corners for the two coach's chairs. The NFHS requires the coach's zone to be no closer than five feet to the edge of the 28 foot competition circle. The zone may be a colored carpet, rug or mat. It may be strip of athletic tape diagonally across the corner of the mat. **NFHS Rule 2-2-2** describes and illustrates the variety of ways the restricted coaches' zone may be placed for the coaches.

The Junior High School regulation manual is a valuable tool and needs to be in the hands of all junior high coaches. Several questions have popped up which are answered in the JHS regulation manual. One in particular is; do the middle school wrestlers have an overtime procedure for dual meets and tournaments? If so, is it the same as the high school procedure? **YES**, middle school has an overtime procedure. And, although similar to the high school procedure there is a slight difference. In the event of a tie match at

the end of regulation there is a one minute sudden death period with the wrestlers starting in the neutral position. First to score is the winner. If a tie match still remains they will wrestle a 30 second ultimate tie breaker period (similar to high school). The wrestler who scored first in regulation has choice of top or bottom (and remember an unsportsmanlike violation plays a role in this). The top wrestler earns one match point if he/she completes the ride out.

NOTICE: a change has been made to the weight classes for freshman teams. A 215 pound weight class has been added. This allows the minimum weight for heavyweights to stay at 215, and does not leave an open slot whereby some wrestlers may not have a place in the line-up.

ATTENTION OFFICIALS: Please check your official's profile on the Myohsaa web page. It is important to keep that updated so AD's, OHSAA office, and assigners can contact you with contract offers and assignments. Along the same lines, please do not block out the two regional dates; January 22nd. and January 29th. If those are blocked the OHSAA office cannot get a contract to you.

Lastly, **EXTRA MATCHES**; The topic of extra matches in varsity events has again been raised by four of our 17 referee associations. This is a serious question because of the liability issue questions it raises not only for the officials, but the schools, their coaches, ADs and administrations. Beau Rugg, Assist. Comm. has stated ...“We are concerned with having "extra matches" that are not part of the event because it is not supported by NFHS Rules and thus there is a liability concern that we have matches wrestled that are not "legitimate". My suggestion is that schools/tournament organizers set up a separate "bracket/division" for these matches and make them part of the event. If they write the contract as such, it would legitimize these matches.” This will be a topic of concern as we approach the 2014-15 season.