



## OK USA YOUTH WRESTLING LEAGUE

### **NOVICE (BEGINNER) DIVISION POLICIES AND RULES:**

OK USA YWL will host a Novice (Beginner) Division during the Folkstyle Season.

Novice (Beginner): Defined - a person new to or inexperienced in a field or situation \*\*\* An OK USA YWL

Novice (Beginner) wrestler will be defined as a NEW wrestler or that is INEXPERIENCED.

### **OK USA YWL Policy to move from Novice(Beginner) to Open:**

Each Novice (Beginner) Wrestler will move into open upon completion of awarded medals:

D1 (4) medals

D2 (6) medals

D3 (8) medals

D4 and D5 (10) medals

AND/OR two(2) years of competing in Novice (Beginner).

\* It counts as a medal won if the bracket has 6 or more wrestlers. Regardless of combined or not.

\* If a Novice (Beginner) Wrestler wins (1st place) Novice (Beginner) State they must move to Open Division.

\* If a Novice (Beginner) Wrestler places in an Open Tournament in a bracket with 6 or more wrestlers before their medal count is met they will not be allowed back in the Novice (Beginner) Division.

\* If a Novice (Beginner) Wrestler places at a national tournament with six(6) or more wrestlers, they must move to Open Division.

Upon completion of obtaining the maximum medal count as a Novice (Beginner) Wrestler, in any division, a wrestler must progress and promote to the next level of competition, the Open Division, and wrestle his / her division that is designated for their age group or an older division, if that wrestler chooses to do so.

A wrestler is not allowed to continue to wrestle in the Novice(Beginner) Division at a Division Level and obtain the maximum medal count and then proceed to the next division with a new medal count. I.e wrestler Novice (Beginner) D1 and obtain the maximum medal count to move to the Open Division and then move to Novice (Beginner) D2 and wrestle until that wrestler meets the maximum medal count, etc.

Trackwrestling will be used to track placements and notification will be sent to club coach. Additionally, any wrestler will be eligible for competition at the State Championship in the Novice (Beginner) division if the individual begins the season as a qualified Novice(Beginner). Athletes who excel quickly and 'move up' to the open division will remain eligible to compete and can expect to be rewarded for their advancements. With this in mind, the current graduated medal count has the intention of keeping the Novice (Beginner) division as a springboard for advancement. It will above all safeguard inexperienced wrestlers from negative first experiences, and promote an environment in which basic skills can be rewarded. We wish for the Novice (Beginner) division to be a launch pad, not a destination. Because the approach outlined will create a faster migration to the open level, advancing wrestlers will also find a 'smoother' transition to open tournaments. Top advancing Novices (Beginners) will be continually challenged by greater competition while at the same time competing with other advancing Novices (Beginners). Please keep in mind, the target is moving and there is no perfect scenario for entry into 'The toughest Sport on Earth.' In the beginning, USAOK's Youth Wrestling League (YWL) will rely heavily on the integrity of our coaches and parents to help us build the best possible experience for our youth wrestlers in the Novice (Beginner) division. We will dutifully track medals to the best of our ability with your help and put in place technology as quickly as possible. Keep in touch with any directors, coaches and members about your concerns and ideas.