

# MISSOURI USA WRESTLING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

(Updated 03/24/2022)

## I. STATE FOLK-STYLE TOURNAMENT TEAM AFFILIATION AND POINTS

- A. All information pertaining to the Missouri USA Wrestling State Folkstyle tournament rules and regulations can be found in the **Tournament Guidebook**.
- B. All USA WRESTLING competitor membership cards, USA WRESTLING Coach's cards, and USA WRESTLING club charter applications must be purchased in Missouri, from MISSOURI USA WRESTLING, by January 31st, in determination of team points at the State Folk-Style Championships.
  - 1. For a wrestler to be considered eligible for club affiliation, competitor registration must be received in the state office prior to by January 31<sup>st</sup>. The wrestler may still qualify for the state tournament; however, they must enter as unaffiliated (UNA) and any team points earned are considered void.
  - 2. All club charter applications must be received in the state office prior to by January 31st. Applications received after this date will still be processed, however the club will not be recognized as a chartered club and will not be eligible to receive any team points or awards.

## II. TERMINATION OF WRESTLING/COACHING/CLUB MEMBERSHIP

- A. In the event that a club is found to be in violation of any by-law or rule of MISSOURI USA WRESTLING, the state chairperson will notify the club in writing, within thirty days of the violation, to notify them of the infraction. Depending on the severity of the violation, the penalty could result in a reprimand, suspension of club charter until the violation is rectified or immediate expulsion of that club for the remainder of the year. The Executive Council has final authority of any penalty. The penalized club will have the right to appeal any penalty, as outlined in Article II, Section II-D of the By-Laws.
- B. In the event that a coach is charged with misconduct, or ejected, from any sanctioned tournament, the tournament host is required to file a written report with the State Chairperson. Upon receipt, the State Chairperson will notify the coach and club in writing. The State Chairperson will also forward the report to the Coaches Council for discipline. The discipline could include a reprimand, suspension of all coaching privileges, or expulsion from MISSOURI USA WRESTLING, depending on the severity of the offense. Any coach ejected from a tournament will automatically receive at least a one-week suspension. Further penalties will be based on the severity of the incident. The penalized coach does have the right of appeal as outlined in Article II, Section II-D of the By-Laws.

Procedure for handling coaches' misconduct at a Missouri USA Wrestling sponsored event.

Warning procedure:

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> infraction (or yellow card): Wrestling Leader card is surrendered to the head official or tournament director at the time the warning, if there are no further issues card may be returned at the conclusion of the event.
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> infraction (or second yellow card) same tournament: Wrestling Leader Card is kept and turned over to Missouri USA Wrestling coaches counsel for further review.
- I. Unless FLAGRANT MISCONDUCT (or red card): Card automatically surrendered. Offender removed from premises. Wrestling Leader Card is kept and turned over to Missouri USA Wrestling coaches counsel for further review.
- C. In the event that a wrestler is charged with misconduct, or ejected, from a sanctioned tournament, the tournament host is required to file a written report with the State Chairperson. Upon receipt, the State Chairperson will notify the wrestler and their club in writing. The State Chairperson will then forward the report to the Board of Directors for discipline. The discipline could include a reprimand, suspension of the competitor's card, or expulsion from MISSOURI USA WRESTLING, depending on the severity of the violation. The penalized wrestler has the right of appeal as outlined in Article II, Section II-D of the By-Laws.
- D. Members of Missouri USA Wrestling may report violations and misconduct in writing to the Missouri USA Wrestling office. Such reports must first be reviewed by the Board of Directors. If the reported violation appears to be supported by sufficiently credible information, the Board of Directors will authorize an official investigation of the reported violation. The complaint must be submitted in writing (i.e., fax, email, or letter) with the individual or club name sufficiently identified so that it may be verified by the Missouri USA Wrestling office. Any reports that are anonymous will only be forwarded to the individual or club administrator of the club in question with no further action to be taken. The penalized party does have the right of appeal as outlined in Article II, Section II-D of the By-Laws.

### III. AGE AND OUT-OF-STATE WRESTLERS POLICY

All participants will compete in the state tournament series at the age they are on December 31<sup>st</sup>. A wrestler, who is 12 years old on December 31<sup>st</sup>, will wrestle at the district tournament in the 12 and under age bracket, etc. Absolutely no 6 and under wrestlers shall compete in the State Series. No high school students, regardless of their age may and no out-of-state residents shall be eligible to compete in the state series, even if they are members of a MISSOURI USA WRESTLING chartered club unless they attend an **accredited** school in the district in which they wrestle. Fifteen-year old's may

participate only if they have not reached 15 before January 1st of that tournament series year and if they are not in high school. Wrestlers may be required to verify their in-state residence. (State Series consist of Districts, Regionals, and State Tournament)

#### IV. COACHES CERTIFICATION AND COACHES CARD

All coaches shall be required to hold a current USA Wrestling Leader membership card to coach at any Missouri USA wrestling sponsored event. Only coaches who have an active USA WRESTLING, Wrestling Leader membership, with a current profile picture on it, and a minimum of bronze certification are allowed access to the floor at the State Folk-Style Championship Series, including 6 & Under / Rookie State, Girls State, and the State Freestyle/Greco Roman Tournament. The tournament host has the right to restrict floor access. Coaches Cards are not considered floor passes. Coaches with a Valid Coaching Card & Bronze Certification must wear their credentials around their neck with a lanyard and be clearly visible. Any coach unable to produce both will not be allowed to coach matside or be allowed on the floor.

#### V. TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Once a wrestler has signed-up with a chartered club of MISSOURI USA WRESTLING they must wrestle with that club, or wrestle as unaffiliated (UNA). They may practice with another club if they wish; however, they must enter the state tournament series as an unaffiliated wrestler and can receive no team points. They will not count as part of the active roster of any chartered club. The only exceptions to this rule are if a wrestler has physically moved their residence into the area of another chartered club or the chartered club representative releases the wrestler from their active roster. The wrestler that moved would be required to show proof of the new residence before the card would be transferred to the new club. For the released wrestler, the new club will have to agree to add them to their roster or would otherwise become an unaffiliated wrestler.

Unaffiliated wrestlers must compete in the district and region in which the club they purchased their card with is assigned; or individuals not wrestling with a chartered club will be assigned a district by the state chairperson, even if they are practicing or competing with a MISSOURI USA WRESTLING chartered club in another district or region.

#### VI. NATIONAL TEAMS

Our summer Freestyle and Greco sponsored Missouri USA National Teams have been fundamental in our growth as a nationally recognized State and Organization. Our basic philosophy is to involve our wrestlers of all ages in our state Freestyle and Greco programs across the state and then reward those individuals that participate in our state tournament with the opportunity to represent Missouri on our National Dual Teams. Our grass root efforts begin with our kids/schoolboy age wrestlers participating in the Schoolboys Duals and Kids National Tournament. This has proven to be successful in developing our wrestlers through the years as they go on to compete at

16U (Cadet) and Junior Nationals as Team Missouri. Our goal is to slowly acclimate our wrestlers to learn from our National Team coaching staffs through the years, as well as, beginning the process to travel together as a team.

A. Schoolboy Freestyle and Greco Dual Team

The State Freestyle Champion will be given the opportunity to represent Team Missouri at the National Dual competition. The team member will be required to participate in both the Freestyle and Greco Tournaments of the competition. The State Champion will participate in a minimum of 50% of all duals wrestled. If the State Champion chooses to not represent the State of Missouri his spot will be filled by the National Team Director with input from the Team Leader and Head Coach. Each Team will be allowed to pick 2 alternates that did not participate in the State tournament. All other members must have participated in the State Freestyle and/or Greco tournament.

Tournament volunteers, parents, or club coaches will not be allowed to interfere with the wrestlers or coaching staff during the event. If they are found to be in violation, they will be asked to forfeit their volunteer credentials for the remainder of the tournament and face possible further sanctions by Missouri USA wrestling such as loss of membership and/or coaching privileges.

Cost is \$550 per member.

B. 16U (Cadet) and Junior Dual Teams

Missouri USA wrestling will be sending a Freestyle and Greco Dual Team to compete at the 16U (Cadet) and Junior levels. The State Champion in each style will be given the opportunity to represent Team Missouri at the National Dual competition. The State Champion will participate in a minimum of 50% of all duals wrestled. If the State Champion chooses to not represent the State of Missouri his spot will be filled by the National Team Director with input from the Team Leader and Head Coach. Each Team will be allowed to pick 2 alternates that did not participate in the State tournament. All other members must have participated in the State Freestyle and/or Greco tournament.

Tournament volunteers, parents, or club coaches will not be allowed to interfere with the wrestlers or coaching staff during the event. If they are found to be in violation, they will be asked to forfeit their volunteer credentials for the remainder of the tournament and face possible further sanctions by Missouri USA wrestling such as loss of membership and/or coaching privileges.

Cost is \$550 per member for cadets and \$400 per member for juniors.

C. 16U (Cadet) and Junior National Team

Missouri USA wrestling is allowed to the four wrestlers at each qualifying weight classification. The state champion at that weight and style is guaranteed one of those positions. All other spots will be filled by a qualification process if we have more wrestlers wishing to participate than available spots. Regional qualifiers do not count against our allotted numbers. All members will be required to meet registration deadlines, and pay a non-refundable deposit for consideration for the Missouri National Team. All members must be in good standing. All members are expected to train

accordingly for a national competition. All members are required to travel with Team Missouri, stay in the provided lodging with the team, and attend all team camps, training sessions, and meetings. Any member that does not follow the instructed protocol or violates any Team rule will be dismissed from the Team and not allowed to participate in the competition. If this happens while at the event the wrestler will be sent home at their own expense. All participants will remain with the Team at all times unless they have been signed out to a parent or legal guardian. Tournament volunteers, parents, or club coaches will not be allowed to interfere with the participants or coaching staff during the event. If they are found to be in violation, they will be asked to forfeit their volunteer credentials for the remainder of the tournament and face possible further sanctions by Missouri USA wrestling

#### D. Girls/Women's National Team

##### Women's Qualification Process for Fargo:

Automatic Qualifier:

1. Placing 1st in a regional tournament (Freestyle Only)
2. Placing in the Top 4 at Missouri State Freestyle Tournament
3. Attending both a regional tournament and the Missouri State Freestyle Tournament

All other applicants will be considered on a waiver process (waivers will be considered for athletes that could not attend state or regionals due to VERIFIABLE conflicts such as injuries)

You CAN change weights for the Fargo Tournament. You just need to get with the coaching staff to verify the change prior to the start of camp.

##### National Duals Qualification

National Duals Teams will be selected by the National Team Coaching Staff based on a scoring system consisting of returning National Placement finishers, State Placement and Regional Tournament Placement.

#### E. National Team Coaches

All National Team coaches must be a minimum of Bronze certified. They must submit the required application by the set deadline for consideration for any coaching position on a National Team. All coaches must be in good standing with Missouri USA Wrestling. All applicants must be actively involved with one or more of the following: a sanctioned Freestyle and/or Greco club in the State of Missouri, a senior level competitor, past or present USA wrestling coach, or active collegiate coach or collegiate competitor. All coaching selections and Team leaders will be picked by the National Team Director