

USA Wrestling Requirements for MVKWA Referees

Dear MVKWA Referees:

The MVKWA teams, coaches, wrestlers and meets are part of USA Wrestling. That provides the necessary insurance for all involved. USA Wrestling is mandated by a Federal Government bill (see: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/534/text>) to require those officiating at the MVKWA meets to have a USA background check, USA Wrestling Safe Sport certification and a USA Wrestling membership (either a \$0 Event Volunteer membership card, or a \$35 Limited Wrestling Leader membership card, or a \$50 Wrestling Leader membership card). Or, for any high school wrestlers officiating at the MVWA meets, they can satisfy the USA Wrestling requirement by having a \$15 USA Wrestling Limited Folkstyle membership card. (Overall site link for this is: <https://www.usawmembership.com>)

The steps for meeting the Federal Government / USA Wrestling requirements:

- First, create a **USA Wrestling account and login**: (or use your account and login from last year if you have it)
 - View the 2 minute video "Create a free account" from <https://www.usawmembership.com/help>
 - This will show you how to setup your USA Wrestling account, user login and password.
- Then, create a **USA Wrestling Profile**: (or use your profile from last year if you have it)
 - View the 1 minute video "Creating a Profile" from <https://www.usawmembership.com/help>
 - This will show how to get your USAW ID number that you will need below.
 - Your USAW ID number will be the first item in in the first row of your "My Profile" data.
- Then, get your **USA Wrestling background check**: (if your profile has a **red dot** for "BG Check" item)
 - If you are 17 or under, you skip this step and you can do the next step (Safe Sport certification) right away.
 - If you are 18 or over, even if you are a high school student, you need to get this background check.
 - View a 2 minute video "How Do I Get My Background Check" at <https://www.usawmembership.com/help>
 - No other background check will work. You have to get the USA Wrestling background check.
 - There is \$0 payment for those in Ohio.
 - It will take 3-14 days for the background check to be processed.
 - You will get an email once your background check has been completed.
- Then, get your **SafeSport certification**: (if your profile has a **red dot** for "SS Training" item)
 - If you are 17 or under, you can do this step right away as you will not get a background check email.
 - If you are 18 or over, you may need a "passed background check" email before you take SafeSport class.
 - Whether you are 17 & under or 18 & over, you need to get Safe Sport certified.
 - The online SafeSport class takes about 90 minutes.
 - View a 3 min. video "How Do I Get My SafeSport Certification" at <https://www.usawmembership.com/help>
 - You will need your USAW ID number from above, and may need to create a SafeSport login/password.
 - The SafeSport certification has 3 units. When done you get just one overall certificate in 2019-2020.
- Once you passed the background check and SafeSport certification, **get your USAW membership**:
 - See 3 min. video "Purchasing a Wrestling Leader Membership" - <https://www.usawmembership.com/help>
 - The same video can be used for purchasing an Event Volunteer Membership.
 - The \$35 Limited Wrestling Leader membership has some USAW insurance with it:
 - USAW insurance info: <http://content.themat.com/forms/Insuranceinfo.pdf>
 - Or via <https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Wrestling>
 - Then Membership/Login > Insurance Information > Insurance Coverage
 - The \$0 Event Volunteer also satisfies the Federal Government/USAW for refereeing MVKWA meets.
 - The \$50 Wrestling Leader Membership allows you to also referee Greco/Freestyle meets.
 - It is your choice on the \$0 Event Volunteer, the \$35 Limited Wrestling Leader or the \$50 Wrestling Leader. Any of the three satisfies what is needed for the MVKWA meets.
- You can **print your USAW membership card** during the above step, or you can re-print it later.
 - View 1 minute video: Print a Membership Card Online

The overall web link for getting the USA background check, USAW SafeSport certification and USAW membership is <https://www.usawmembership.com/> (or www.themat.com, then Membership/Login). And, as a quick reference, the link to all the help videos noted above is: <https://www.usawmembership.com/help> If something comes up where you still need assistance, you can call the USA Wrestling National office at 719-598-8181 and ask for Shonna Vest (ext. 664) or anyone in Customer Service (see: <https://www.teamusa.org/usa-wrestling/about-us/staff-directory>).

Thanks for refereeing our youth wrestlers at our MVKWA meets. Our parents, coaches and wrestlers thank you for providing this very valuable service.

Thanks,
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