National Collegiate Wrestling Association

2005-2006 WRESTLING PLAN

(As of: 7/1/05)

(Texts in RED denote changes effective for 2005-06 season; Text in BLUE denotes changes as of 10/1/05)

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

The National Collegiate Wrestling Association was organized in 1997 as a 501(c)3 non-profit association designed to promote, support and regulate collegiate style wrestling on the college and university level. The member schools give regulatory authority to the NCWA. Institutions of higher learning may apply for membership through the NCWA Executive Board. All junior colleges, colleges and universities, both private and public, are eligible for membership in the NCWA.

The Executive Board, along with the Legislative Council and the Judicial Committee, function together to provide the administration, regulation and promotion of amateur wrestling at the college level for all member institutions.

SECTION 1 -- MEMBERSHIP

Article 1 -- MEMBERSHIP OF NEW SCHOOLS

New Schools may apply for membership in the NCWA by contacting the NCWA at 1-800-825-3696 - extension 107 or on the web at *jim@ncwa.net* . Upon receiving the initial contact with the NCWA, a 'due diligence' will be performed in order to verify the information and clarify any questions with the Administration of the applying institution.

No new schools are accepted after February 1st of each season unless approved by the Executive Board.

Article 2 -- MEMBERSHIP OF CURRENT MEMBER SCHOOLS

Renewal Team Membership: All participating member schools must renew their membership each year. The Annual Membership Application Form is available on the NCWA website. An annual membership fee will be due between April 15th and October 1st each season. A late fee of $50 per month will be assessed any team not submitting their annual renewal payment in a timely manner. The due dates and applicable fines are listed on the Membership Application Form. All membership fees must be paid for a team and its members no later than February 15th of each season in order to be eligible to enter competition at the Conference Championships.

SECTION 2 -- ELIGIBILITY

Article 1 -- ELIGIBILITY OF SCHOOLS

Membership in the NCWA is open to all institutions of higher education that **do not** currently sponsor a wrestling program for competition in the NCAA, NAIA, NJCAA or any similar national organization. Member teams/individuals are generally under the jurisdiction of the Sports Activity Coordinator or any department granted the administrative authority by the member institution.

Schools that **do** sponsor a program in the NCAA, NAIA, NJCAA or similar national organization may apply for a membership waiver whereby their school may sponsor both an NCWA program and a NCAA (or other national organization) program. The waiver must be signed by the applying school's Athletic Director and the national organization Coach (e.g.: NCAA, NAIA,…) and then submitted to the NCWA Assistant Executive Director for approval by the Executive Board. The waiver will remain valid unless revoked by the Member institution or by the NCWA's Executive Board. Only NCWA athletes who have not entered any nationally recognized collegiate post-season championship series during the current season shall be allowed to compete in the current NCWA championship series.

NCAA schools that are in the process of changing divisions and are restricted from NCAA National Championship participation for the 4-year term of their probation, may apply for NCWA membership by submitting an NCAA Transitional Waiver Form found on the NCWA website. This waiver must be submitted each year by the NCAA member team. Acceptance of their application is subject to approval by the NCWA Board of Directors.

Article 2 – ELIGIBILITY OF WRESTLERS

NCWA wrestlers are limited to a total of 4 years of competition (consecutive or not) in the NCWA, NCAA, NJCAA, NAIA or any national organization and any combination thereof, one year of which may be while enrolled in a Graduate School program for a degree *(not just attending post-graduate classes)*.

Student/Wrestlers must be currently enrolled and attending a minimum of 6-units during the NCWA season regardless of the school's academic calendar. While you are competing, if classes are in session, you must be attending classes.

An institution shall not permit any wrestler to represent their team in collegiate competition within the NCWA unless that wrestler maintains the minimum academic eligibility requirements of that institution. Students must be satisfactorily progressing toward a degree.

It is the responsibility of the individual wrestler and his coach to monitor academic status. The NCWA does not track individual academic performance but will uphold the academic institution's decisions regarding eligibility.

All Student/Wrestlers must electronically register with the NCWA in order to be eligible for practice, travel or to compete on or for any NCWA member institution. No wrestler may practice, compete or travel in any NCWA event until their Electronic Individual Wrestler Registration and their Waiver and Release of Liability Form have been properly completed and submitted to the NCWA. Deadline for submitting the Electronic Individual Wrestler Registration is February 15th of each season.

Any NCWA team that enters an ineligible wrestler in competition in an NCWA event shall forfeit all competitions in which the ineligible wrestler competed. All team points and all individual "National NCWA Points" will be lost to the team and its members. Additional violations may result in sanctions and fines,

included but not limited to, a team being banned from competition within the NCWA for a year or longer.

Article 3 -- NCWA HOLD HARMLESS CLAUSE

The NCWA functions only as an organizational body and will not accept any liability for athletes during practice, travel and/or competition. Wrestlers and Clubs must be insured by the **liability coverage** of their respective school. Most programs are automatically covered by virtue of their officially recognized school association status.

Article 4 – TEAM INFORMATION

Each member team must maintain its contact information on the NCWA website *(ncwa.net)* at all times. It is the responsibility of the Head Coach, or in the absence of a Head Coach, the Team President, to keep all email addresses, phone numbers and mailing addresses current. This will include accurate, up-to-date contact information, current athlete records and biographical information, a schedule of events and competitions. All teams must post their dual and tournament results -- Home Teams must report the results within 4-hours of the end of the event; Visiting Teams must report their results within 48-hours of the event. Failure to do so may result in league fines that will be deposited in the Conference's Penalty Fund.

SECTION 3 -- COMPETITION

Article 1 -- Step # 1: INDIVIDUAL WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY FORM

Individual Waiver and Release of Liability Form: This form is available on the NCWA website. The wrestler must add their signature to the form, and then deliver the completed form to their Head Coach. The Head Coach is to mail the ORIGINAL signed form for each wrestler to the NCWA Executive Secretary immediately. The Coach must also make, and keep, a copy of the form for his records. These copies should be kept in the NCWA Resource Binder. Upon the receipt of the completed Waiver and Release of Liability Form and the wrestler has electronically submitted their Individual Wrestler Registration on the NCWA website, the NCWA will indicate that the registered athlete is cleared for competition in the Team Roster section of the NCWA Website. No wrestler may participate in any practice, competition nor travel as part of an NCWA event before the completion of this two-step process

Article 2 – Step # 2: INDIVIDUAL WRESTLER REGISTRATION

Individual Wrestler Registration: Before the beginning of any practice, competition or travel, **all athletes** are required to be electronically registered on the Official NCWA website. Electronic Registration costs $20 per wrestler and includes a secondary accidental injury insurance policy. Payment will be required at the time of the registration and will only be payable by credit card on the website. Only wrestlers who have electronically submitted their Individual Wrestler Registration and have mailed their signed Waiver and Release of Liability Form will appear on the team's roster. The NCWA will assume that wrestlers who appear on the NCWA website have met all of the above eligibility requirements.

As new members join a team, they may not practice, compete or travel in any NCWA event until their Individual Wrestler Registration and Waiver and Release of Liability Form have been properly completed and submitted to the NCWA. Deadline for submitting the Electronic Individual Wrestler Registration is February 15th of each season.

The Head Coach is to keep the Individual Wrestler Registrations Forms, properly signed and to make the forms available at all events as proof that their wrestlers are eligible and registered members of the NCWA. The Individual Wrestler Registration Forms are to be kept in the team's NCWA Resource Binder that is provided by the NCWA.

Article 3 -- RULES OF COMPETITION

NCWA will comply with the published rules of competition as distributed by the NCAA. The current edition of the NCAA Wrestling Rules and Interpretations will be observed unless otherwise revised by the NCWA Executive Board, Legislative Council and/or the Judicial Committee.

NCWA member schools may only **host** competition between wrestlers and teams that are active members of the NCWA, NCAA, NAIA, NJCAA or other nationally recognized college associations. All matches will count toward the NCWA records and national NCWA points if the match was officiated by an NCWA Registered Wrestling Official representing a recognized sanctioning Officials association.

During competition, whether duals or tournaments, 'Advantage/Riding Time' may be used as determined at each event by the teams involved. However, at the Conference Championships and the National Championships, 'Advantage/Riding Time' will be used at all related events.

Point of emphasis: Wrestler's uniforms must comply with NCAA rules related to uniform and equipment (NCAA Rule 1- Section 11a). Specifically, the uniform must be a 'collegiate cut' singlet rather than freestyle cut. Practice uniforms are not in question but rather the uniforms used for competition.

One copy of the NCAA Rules Book is sent to each team after their Membership Application and payment has been received by the NCWA. Copies of NCAA Wrestling Rules are also available from the NCAA Sports Library at their web page: **www.ncaa.org**.

Article 4 -- WRESTLING OFFICIALS

All NCWA hosted matches, whether dual format or tournament format, must be officiated by a registered NCWA Referee. Certified Officials from the NCAA, NAIA or NJCAA should be used when at all possible. Other Officials that are recognized nationally or by state sanctioning associations are also permitted, but all Officials must be registered on the NCWA website.

Currently, registration is free. NCWA Official's merchandise is available through the NCWA website and from Cliff Keen Supplies (www.cliffkeen.com). All Officials should wear the NCWA Official's patch at all NCWA events.

Article 5 -- CONFERENCE ALIGNMENT and CONFERENCE BOARDS

The NCWA is divided into 7 Conferences: *(As of: 3/19/05)*

North Central Conference

Chairman ..... Dave Mills – Grand Valley State University
Commissioner..... John Sanderson -- Grand Valley State University
Development/Treasurer ..... Paul Holdren -- Mott Community College
Conference SID ..... *OPEN*

Northeast Conference

Chairman ..... Brian Reardon – Yale University
Commissioner..... Rick Bartel -- Bryant College
Development/Treasurer ..... Stephen Shaw -- Adirondack Community College
Conference SID ..... *OPEN*

Mid-Atlantic Conference

Chairman ..... Matt Butler – The Apprentice School
Commissioner..... Dr. Charles Brown – University of Maryland--Baltimore County
Development/Treasurer ..... Marty Willigan – University of Maryland--Baltimore County
Conference SID ..... *OPEN*

Southeast Conference

Chairman ..... Johnny Rouse – University of Central Florida
Commissioner..... Kevin Andres - Mercer University
Development/Treasurer ..... Wayne Hart -- Marion Military Institute
Conference SID ..... *OPEN*

Southwest Conference

Chairman ..... Dennis McGrane – University of Texas at Dallas
Commissioner..... Chris Lamaire -- Texas Tech University
Development/Treasurer ..... Jeff Davis -- Texas Christian University
Conference SID ..... *OPEN*

West Conference

Chairman ..... Jim Lucas -- San Jose State University
Commissioner..... *OPEN*
Development/Treasurer ..... *OPEN*
Conference SID ..... *OPEN*

Northwest Conference

Chairman ..... Dave McKay – Douglas College
Commissioner..... *OPEN*
Development/Treasurer ..... *OPEN*
Conference SID ..... *OPEN*

Article 6 -- DIVISION I -- DIVISION II ALIGNMENTS

The NCWA is currently a One-Division Association with seven Conferences. Long-term expansion goals include a Division I and a Division II, voluntarily separated by each team before the beginning of each season. The goal of this philosophy is to strive to achieve a higher standard of excellence.

To be recognized by the NCWA as a D-I team, the following minimum criteria must be met:

- The team must have a professional coach; he must be financially compensated for his services
- The team must compete in a minimum of 8 events prior to the Conference Championships
- The team must pay an annual dues as determined by the NCWA Executive Board
- The team must not be a first year member of the NCWA
- All registered team members must be full-time students while competing
- D-I teams cannot be located on campuses with NCAA Wrestling Teams

If a team is already an active member of the NCAA, the team may only enter the NCWA as a D-II team. New teams (non-NCAA teams) will enter in the NCWA D-II Division for at least one-year. Annual membership fees for D-II teams will be set by the Executive Board.

At the National Championships, The D-I Division will acknowledge 6 All-Americans; the D-II Division will acknowledge 6 All-Americans.

At the current rate of expansion, the Division split is anticipated but will be subject to participation numbers and with the approval of the Legislative Council and Executive Board.

Article 7 – 2005-2006 WEIGHT CLASSES (11)

The NCWA will use the weight classes as set forth by the NCAA except where modified by the NCWA. The NCWA has approved 11 weight classes as follows:

125 -- 133 -- 141 -- 149 -- 157 -- 165 -- 174 -- 184 -- 197 -- <u>235</u> -- 285 *(minimum 184)*

NCWA

Weight allowances are not granted to any competitors at any time for any event.

NCWA has developed a separate weight control plan which is detailed in a separate document titled **Weight Control Plan**. The National Wrestling Coaches Association (NWCA) has also developed a weight management program that has been adopted by the NCAA and other wrestling organizations. As part of the benefits from our membership in the NWCA, all NCWA coaches will have this program available for evaluation during the 2005-06 season. It is proposed that the NCWA adopt this weight management program beginning with the 2006-07 season.

Article 8 -- SEASON

The official NCWA season will begin on November 1st of each year and will conclude with the presentation of awards at the National Championships in March. During the season, rules contained in the NCWA Wrestling Plan, will apply.

The NCWA does not set any limits on the time and conditions of practice or competition. The number of competitive events, practices schedules and times are only limited by the individual member institution.

All NCWA teams that have been active for at least 2 consecutive seasons are required to host (or co-host) at least one event (dual, triad, quad meet or tournament) per season. Failure to comply may result in league fines to be applied to the Conference Penalty Fund..

The 2006 Conference Championships are scheduled for the weekend of February 17-18, 2006. Contact the Conference Chairman regarding times and location for the event. The Conference Board is responsible for selecting the tournament host and for approving the venue.

The 2006 National Championships are scheduled for the weekend of March 2-5, 2006 at a site yet to be determined. For current information, see the NCWA website *(www.ncwa.net)*.

Article 9 – NCWA NATIONAL POINT SCORING PROGRAM

The NCWA has established a National Point Scoring Program for the following purpose:

1) To highlight top wrestlers
2) To promote expanded competition
3) To rank wrestlers and teams for national exposure
4) To use as a benchmark for scholarships
5) To use as a seeding criteria at the Conference Championships

For each match that a NCWA wrestler wins, he will be awarded points; in each tournament in which he places, he will earn additional placement points. Bonus Points are also earned for each pin, along with previous year placement in Conference and National tournaments. Wrestler's lose NCWA points for losses in both dual and tournament competitions. The NCWA will change the calculation of points from time-to-time based on actual head-to-head competition.

The NCWA Judicial Committee reserves the right to penalize an athlete for any unsportsmanlike conduct or rules violation by the removal of NCWA National Points.

Article 10 – SCHEDULES

Schedules for each Member Team must be published on the NCWA website by October 31st . Failure to post team schedules by the October 31st deadline will result in a $50 fine assessed to the team. The fine will be applied to the Conference Penalty Fund. Available tournament and dual competitions are located in the “Events” section of the NCWA website.

The NCWA “Forum” section of the website is to be used to solicit both tournament and dual competitions.

Article 11 – CODES OF CONDUCT *(from NCAA – WR-7 - WR-8)*

COACHES' CODE OF CONDUCT:

It is the moral obligation of all collegiate wrestling coaches to conduct themselves in such a way as to reflect credit upon their institutions, their profession and themselves. Personal grooming and appropriate dress is a standard of professionalism. Jeans, T-shirts, sweatsuits or warm-up suits (top or bottom), headwear and similar apparel are not considered suitable attire and are prohibited. Moral obligation and ethical conduct are part of winning and losing. Good sportsmanship, appearance, pride, honor and concern for the welfare of the competitors should be placed before all else. The rules have been established in the spirit of this statement.

STUDENT-ATHLETES' STATEMENT OF CONDUCT AND RESPONSIBILITY:

It is the responsibility of all wrestlers to conduct themselves in such a way as to reflect credit upon their institutions, the sport and themselves. Further, all wrestlers should realize that their personal appearance, behavior and standards are related closely to the image of the sport as perceived by all segments of the public and wrestling communities. This applies to conduct as a competitor on the mat, while attending the event, while traveling to and from the event, and conduct both on and off campus. Moral obligation and ethical conduct are part of winning and losing. Good sportsmanship, pride, honor and personal behavior should be placed above all else. The rules have been established in the spirit of this statement.

REFEREES' CODE OF CONDUCT:

Wrestling referees have the responsibility for conducting matches in a dignified, professional and unbiased manner and shall deal with all situations in the spirit of good sportsmanship and in the best interest of the wrestlers and the sport. The character and conduct of referees must be above reproach. When in a uniform or on site, a referee shall not fraternize with contestants and / or coaches. Referees must keep themselves prepared both physically and mentally to administer matches. Referees will enforce the rules firmly and fairly in both letter and spirit in such a way that attention is drawn to the wrestlers rather than themselves.

SPECTATOR SPORTSMANSHIP:

The NCAA *(and NCWA)* promotes good sportsmanship by student-athletes, coaches and spectators. We request your cooperation by supporting the participants and officials in a positive manner. Profanity, racial or sexist comments, or other intimidating actions directed at officials, student-athletes, coaches or team representatives will not be tolerated and are grounds from removal from the premises.

SECTION 4 – ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

Article 1 – EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board of the NCWA will consist of the following members:

Board of Directors: Executive Director, Assistant Executive Director, Executive Secretary/Treasurer

In addition, adjunct members: National Director of Development, National Compliance Officer

Article 2 – JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

The NCWA Judicial Committee will consist of the following voting members: The 3 Executive Board of Directors plus the following membership to be appointed by the Executive Board: a Wrestling Official and one active wrestling Coach.

Article 3 – LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL – "The Rules Committee"

The NCWA Legislative Council will consist of the following voting members:

-- 5 members of the Executive Board
-- 7 Conference Chairmen
-- 7 Conference Commissioners
-- National Sports Information Director
-- National Communication Director
(Maximum of 19)

The Legislative Council will be responsible for formulating the necessary rules and regulations applicable to the NCWA and its member schools.

Article 4 – NCWA NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

The NCWA **National Director of Development** will be responsible for fund raising for the NCWA. For the 2005-2006 season, **John Piper of Lafayette College** will hold this position.

Article 5 – NCWA NATIONAL SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR (N-SID)

The **National Sports Information Director (N-SID)** is responsible for communication of NCWA directives, schedules and results to all media sources including, but not limited to, radio, television, newspapers, periodicals and electronic communications. For the 2005-2006 season, **Jim Heath of The Apprentice School** will hold this position.

It is recommended that each NCWA member team designate a Sports Information Director (SID) for timely reporting information to the media and the NCWA.

Article 6 – NATIONAL COMPLIANCE OFFICER

The **National Compliance Officer** is responsible for:

a) investigating reported rule infractions
b) presenting his findings to the NCWA Board of Directors
c) informing the involved parties of the Board's decision and resolutions of the problem

Kevin Andres of Mercer University is the National Compliance Officer for the 2005-06 season.

Article 7 – ADVISORY BOARD

The NCWA Advisory Board will consist of the following non-voting members plus other members to be developed: Media Director, Athletic Director, Medical Advisor, Legal Consultant, National Publication consultant, an Olympic Wrestling Champion, along with any additional specialists that the Executive Board considers necessary.

ADVISORY SUB-COMMITTEES:

Tournament Committee:
John Piper – Lafayette College
Bill Casto – The Apprentice School
Lelan Brotherman – NCWA

Development Committee:
Jim Giunta – NCWA
Kevin Andres – Mercer University
Dave Mills - Grand Valley State University

Communication Committee:
Jim Heath - The Apprentice School
David Matthews - Mercer University
Steve Davis - NCWA

Article 8 – CONFERENCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Within the NCWA structure, there will be 7 Conferences with their own local Board of Directors that will consist of the following:

Chairman, Commissioner, Director of Development and Conference Sport Information Director

Each Conference will fill the positions of their Conference Board by an election to be held at their annual Conference Championships. The newly elected Board will assume their duties at the conclusion of the National Championship Finals. The current Board members will attend and vote at all legislative sessions through the end of the National Championships. The new Board members may attend the meetings and advise the current Board Members but may not vote on any motions.

The **Chairman's duties** will be to set and administer all conference meetings; document all competition results for their Conference teams. The Chairman is responsible for completion and submission of the entire Conference Championship packet to the NCWA National Secretary/Treasurer for entry into the National Championships.

The **Commissioner's duties** will be to verify all schedules for all teams and tournaments within the Conference; responsible for certifying the eligibility of all Conference and National Qualifiers; responsible for competition contract disputes and establish a working relationship with the local Wrestling Officials Associations.

The **Conference Director of Development's duties** are to encourage expansion of the NCWA within their Conference, including but not limited to, initial school contacts, invitation to membership, fund raising and advertising the NCWA and Conference events and their respective results.

The **Conference Sports Information Director (C-SID) duties** shall include the publication of a minimum of two (2) articles each season promoting the accomplishments of their Conference. In addition, the C-SID shall facilitate the compliance of conference schools in the timely publication of competition results on the NCWA website.

The **Conference Board's composite duties** will also include the following:

1) Oversee all of the NCWA and NCAA rules within their Conference
2) Promote new programs within their Conference
3) Report information and competition results to the NCWA
4) Promote local/conference events to the various media
5) Present information to School Boards and Athletic Departments
6) Inform local high schools about programs at NCWA member schools
7) Selecting the Conference Championship host team and approving the venue
8) Oversee and direct their local NCWA Conference Qualifying Championships
9) Determine which Official(s) and tournament workers will be recommended for the NCWA's National Championships

Article 9 – NCWA BOARD COMPENSATION

All NCWA Board members are volunteers. No compensation is paid for any services rendered. The NCWA Board members may request expense reimbursement from the Executive Secretary/Treasurer in advance of incurring an expense on behalf of the Association.

Currently, most expenses for promotion of the NCWA will be the responsibility of the respective volunteer. We anticipate some expenses being reimbursed as the Association begins to accept money through fund raising and donations. The NCWA does NOT anticipate that it will pay any type of compensation to the directors, volunteers or organizers in the near future but does reserve the right to make such payments if the treasury allows.

Article 10 – NCWA STRATEGIC PLAN COMMITTEE

An ad hoc committee will be established to formulate a strategic plan for the future development of the NCWA.

SECTION 5 – WRESTLING PLAN – RULE CHANGES

Article 1 – Primary Method to Change Rules

a) Changes to the published NCWA Wrestling Plan articles are to be submitted to the Legislative Council (a.k.a. Rules Committee), in voting form for discussion at the National Committee Meeting which are held at the National Championships each year;

b) Proposals are solicited from each Conference as part of their Conference Championships Results Packet. All proposals must be approved by the Conference Board prior to being submitted for consideration;

c) All submissions will be placed on the agenda for the National Meeting; the agenda will be placed on the NCWA website prior to the National Meeting;

d) Motions, debates and voting will use the normal parliamentary procedures outline in Roberts Rules of Order;

e) A simple majority vote by the Legislative Council is required for a motion to pass; a quorum (defined as 30%) is required.

Article 2 – Electronic Vote via Email

a) During the year, proposals may be submitted for consideration using electronic balloting;

b) A proposal must be by unanimous agreement of the Conference Board submitting the proposal or a majority agreement of the Executive Board;

c) The voting period will last 30-days from the time the email is issued;

d) During the voting period, the proposal may be discussed and evaluated by all member schools;

e) The vote may be cast anytime during the 30-day voting period and may be submitted by all active (i.e.: paid) member schools. Every team may vote as long as they are paid members of NCWA;

f) A simple majority vote is required for an electronic vote to pass;

g) A quorum (defined as 30%) of the active/paid member schools must be cast for the vote to be valid.

Article 3 – Emergency Vote

a) Only a Conference Chairman or an Executive Board member my request an emergency vote;

b) The resolution must be submitted to the Executive Board of Directors who will determine if the vote qualifies as an emergency;

c) If approved, the resolution will be published for evaluation by member schools;

d) The voting period for an emergency vote is 72-hours from the time of issuance;

e) The motion will require a three-quarters vote to pass; only active/paid member schools may vote;

f) A quorum (defined as 30%) of the active/paid member schools must be cast for the vote to be valid.

SECTION 6 – FINANCES

Article 1 – FUND RAISING

Schools and teams may raise funds for their local programs through sponsorships, tournaments, sale of items and through donations.

Fund raising activities must be in total compliance with any and all rules specific to their own school policies regulating these activities. The NCWA will not disallow any method approved by the local academic institution.

The NCWA requires that all funds be deposited in separate accounts, specifically designated for team use. The funds, however, may be placed in a joint account with the school's recreational sports department or athletic department and must follow all proper accounting procedures.

The NCWA reserves the right to all name and logo rights involved with items sold or sponsorships obtained. Permission to use the NCWA logo, or name, in conjunction with any fund raising, or any other event, *must be approved in writing*. To obtain approval, contact the NCWA Executive Director.

SECTION 7 -- NCWA COLLEGIATE STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

a) The NCWA will encourage Open State Collegiate Championships for any and all members schools of the NCWA, NCAA, NAIA, NCCAA, NJCAA and other nationally recognized organizations;
b) The state must have at least 3 NCWA active member schools in the state;
c) Regional (i.e.: geographical) Championships may also be supported by the NCWA and must have a minimum of 3 participating NCWA teams involved;
d) If a state already supports a similar State Championship, the NCWA would not support a competing event but would support the efforts of the existing event.

SECTION 8 -- NCWA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS SERIES

Article 1 – NCWA CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

The date for the 2006 NCWA Conference Championships for all Conferences will be the weekend of February 17-18, 2006. For the site and times of the 2006 Conference Championships, contact the specific Conference Chairman.

Only NCWA athletes who have not entered any nationally recognized collegiate post-season championship series during the current season shall be allowed to compete in the current NCWA championship series.

The tournament management of each NCWA Conference Championship will collect $5.00 per wrestling entrant for the NCWA national treasury in addition to their own Conference Championship entry fees. The fee is to be collected and submitted with the Conference Results packet and sent to the NCWA Executive Secretary/Treasurer. It is the responsibility of the Conference Chairman to collect the fee ($5/entrant) and write one check for the amount due as determined by the number of the Conference entrants. This composite check is to be made payable to the **NCWA.**

For individual or team payments at the Conference Championships, contact the tournament management regarding to whom checks are to be made payable.

Conference Championship Entry Forms are available on the NCWA web site and the information must be submitted before entering the seeding meeting of the Conference Championship. The form will supply the tournament management with the following information: Name, school, class, age, and overall record at all weight classes during the current season for each entrant. In addition, the NCWA National Point Scoring totals for each entrant must be supplied. This will facilitate the seeding process for each weight class. Failure to submit the proper paperwork by the seeding meeting deadline may result in a wrestler not being allowed to compete.

In order to verify that a wrestler is an active student at the represented school, the Conference Championship Entry Form will also include space for the school's administration to verify enrollment. Failure to provide administrative verification will disqualify a wrestler from participation in the Conference event.

Weigh-in procedures for the Conference Championships will follow standard NCAA rules. All competitors must report at the posted time or forfeit their right to compete.

If a Conference wrestler is unable to compete in the Conference Championships due to extraordinary circumstances he may submit a waiver to the Conference Board to waive normal procedures. This application must be presented at least 48-hours before the seeding meeting of the Conference Championships. Even though the wrestler may be granted a waiver to the competition phase of the Conference Championships, he must still weigh-in at the Conference site, along with the other competitors and make weight in order to complete the requirements of the waiver.

In addition, if the wrestler is not able to be present at the Conference weigh-in site at the posted time, he may be granted permission to weigh-in 'off-site' at the same time as the Conference weigh-ins, have the weigh-in witnessed and verified by at least two individuals. This weigh-in sheet must be submitted to the Conference Board within 24-hours of the Conference Championships completion. The waiver application and the weigh-in information is to be included in the Conference packet that is submitted to the NCWA Executive Board following the Conference Championships.

For the Conference Championships, The NCWA will supply each Conference with individual medals for the top 4 places in each of the 11 weight classes (44 medals total). The local host will be responsible for all team awards and any special awards that they deem appropriate and must pay for these additional awards from their own revenues. Each Conference must compete to the 6th place in each weight class in order to aid the Nationals Tournament Committee in selecting 'wildcard' entrants.

Additional NCWA Conference Championship medals may be ordered through the NCWA for additional places at the Conference Championships. The deadline for ordering additional medals is **December 15th**.

In order that a **'true second place'** is available at the Conference Championships, a **"Challenge Match"** is to be conducted after the conclusion of the Championship Finals of the Conference event. The Third Place winner may challenge the Second Place winner IF the Second Place and Third Place wrestlers have not met during the Conference Championship tournament. If they have not met, then a challenge match lasting 3-2-2 will be conducted after a 45-minute rest period.

The Challenge Match will not affect the results of the Conference Tournament. The Team Scores will remain the same and the place medals will not be affected. The only difference would be who will represent the Conference as 'Runner-Up' and 'Third Place' as they advance to the National Championships.

When reporting the results of the Conference Championships, the results of the Challenge Matches are to be included. The win/loss records are to be modified as a result of the Challenge Matches.

The Conference Chairman of each Conference Championship is responsible for submitting the Conference Championship Results to the NCWA Executive Secretary. The Results must be sent via email no later than Monday - 5:00 PM EST after the event. The Results must be completed on the data disk provided with the Chairman's packet. The email information is to be sent to the Executive Board, The hardcopy of the data, along with all payments are to be sent via Fed-Ex / Over-Nite no later than Monday following their Conference Championships. The Fed-Ex packet will be furnished by the NCWA. Information required will include the following on each entrant at the event: Name, school, class, age, overall record at all weights during the current season (including Conference matches) for each qualifier. This information will be needed for the souvenir booklet for the National Championships.

In addition to this information, each Qualifier will be required to complete a **NCWA Nationals Entry Form – Competitor's Application & Contract (*a.k.a.* CAC)**, which is available on the NCWA web site. This form is their statement of intent as to whether or not they will compete in the National Championships. If they indicate that they will compete, they must submit their $25 entry fee *(or fee set by the Executive Board)*, along with their CAC Form, to the Conference Chairman, who will send this information and money to the NCWA Executive Secretary in the provided Fed-Ex packet no later than Monday following their Conference Championships. All Forms and all money must be submitted at this time. The Conference Chairman is to generate one check equal to the total amount due based upon $25 per entrant from their Conference. The Conference composite check is to be made payable to: **NCWA**

If a wrestler is unable to compete during the Conference Championships due to a medical condition, or is unable to complete competition during the event due to a medical condition, they must submit a "Medical Release to Participate" form to the National Championships Tournament Committee before competing in the Nationals. The "Medical Release to Participate" form must be signed by a medical personal (e.g.: doctor, school certified trainer). A release form is available on the NCWA website.

Article 2 – NCWA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS TOURNAMENT

The date for the 2006 NCWA National Championships will be March 2-5, 2006 . The location for the Championships will be set by the Executive Board. More information is available on the NCWA web site *(www.ncwa.net)*.

The NCWA will sponsor an annual National Championships for all Conference Qualifiers. The event will host the top qualifiers in each weight class who are able to participate in the Championships. If a qualifier is unable to advance to the Nationals, alternates may be selected from subsequent Conference participants. The Nationals will be held 2-weeks after the scheduled weekend for the Conference Championships in order to allow participants to arrange schedules and transportation.

At the conclusion of the Conference Championships, each qualifier for the Nationals must commit to participate in the Nationals or pass their opportunity to the next qualifier. Participation in the Nationals will not affect their Conference standing, team scoring or reception of awards. This commitment will be in the form of their **"NCWA Nationals Entry Form - Competitor's Application & Contract"** which is available on the NCWA web site.

The National Championship brackets will be composed of the top finalists in each weight class from each Conference. The qualifiers will be placed on their bracket according to a rotational method which will match various conferences with alternating conferences on a **[1st vs 4th]** and **[2nd vs 3rd]** basis. The number of National Championship Qualifiers for each Conference will be determined by the NCWA Executive Board of Directors based on the current season's Conference participation and will be declared prior to the Conference Championships. A Conference's placement of NCWA All-Americans in the prior National Championships may also be considered for additional qualifiers.

If a Conference Qualifier who has submitted their CAC to the National Championships is unable to compete for any reason, they must submit their status to the Executive Board as soon as possible so that their position among the qualifiers may be replaced by another wrestler. The scratched wrestler's name will be replaced by another qualifier in the same Conference or by a wildcard. If no wrestler is available, the name will become a "BYE" on the brackets. The deadline for scratch/replacement is 6:00 PM EST, Thursday following the Conference Championships. After that deadline, all scratches will remain on the brackets and will be scored as a 'forfeit'.

The results of the Conference Championships will be collected and posted on the NCWA web page. During the week that follows the Conference Championships, the Conference Qualifiers will be distributed across the proposed brackets and then the brackets will be sent to the Conference Chairmen for their evaluation. All changes will be completed by the weekend following the Conference Championships and will then be posted onto the NCWA Web Page *(www.ncwa.net)* for the other teams to view.

If a wrestler is unable to qualify for the National Championships through his Conference Championships due to extraordinary and unforeseeable circumstances, he may petition to his Conference Board for a Wildcard berth into the National Championship Tournament.

If the Conference Board accepts that his petition has merit, they shall present the petition to the NCWA Executive Board for consideration. If the Executive Board upholds the petition as valid, a special vote consisting of the NCWA Executive Board and the NCWA Conference Chairmen will be cast. By a simple majority vote, a Wildcard berth shall be granted, provided that the petitioner has met the weigh-in procedures as set forth in the NCWA Wrestling Plan.

In order to assist the Executive Board in conducting the National Championships, each Conference may be assigned various responsibilities during the event. The responsibilities may include conducting the weigh-ins, managing the score tables, gate supervision, providing Officials and other duties deemed necessary for a smooth event. The Assistant Executive Director will assign any additional event responsibilities.

Weigh-ins at the National Championships will use 4 scales. The scheduled time for all weigh-ins will be established by the tournament committee, stating that 15-minutes before the actual weigh-ins time, the official skin checks will begin. After the 15-minute skin check time, the Head Official will declare the official time for weigh-ins to begin. When the scales are officially opened for weigh-ins, all weight loss activities must stop.

At the National Championships, individual awards will be presented to the top 6 placers in each weight class, along with "All-American" certificates. Team awards will be presented to the top 5 teams each year. "Most Outstanding Wrestler" and "Coach of the Year" awards will also be presented as determined by a vote of the participating coaches.

SECTION 9 -- NCWA ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Article 1 -- AVAILABILITY OF SCHOLARSHIPS

The NCWA will be actively soliciting scholarship opportunities for its athletes. Scholarship applications must be submitted to the NCWA Scholarship Committee two (2) months before the semester for which funds are required.

1) No scholarships will be given for the purpose of recruiting high school graduates;
2) The NCWA will not limit scholarships within the NCAA guidelines;
3) Only active members of the NCWA wrestling teams who have at least one year of wrestling history with the NCWA team will be eligible for any NCWA scholarship.

NCWA Scholarships will be based on the following criteria, which may be modified at any time by the Executive Board:

1) Overall team participation within the NCWA;
2) Attitude, example and leadership of the individual;
3) NCWA Ranking Points acquired by the eligible wrestler;
4) Academic achievements;
5) Number of years on the team;
6) Financial need.

All scholarship awards will be processed for payment through the Financial Aid/Scholarship Department of the recipient's institution. The scholarship will be administered by the respective institution's appropriate guidelines.

Article 2 -- SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS TRUST FUND

The NCWA has established a Scholarship Awards Trust Fund, which will generate the needed money for distribution.

Fifty percent (50%) of all funds donated in a fiscal year will be distributed to recipients in the next two (2) award cycles.

Fifty percent (50%) of all scholarship revenues donated in a fiscal year will be deposited into the NCWA Scholarship Trust Fund.

Sixty percent (60%) of the earnings generated by the Scholarship Trust Fund will be distributed to recipients annually. When the Trust reaches $1 million, 70% of the earnings will be distributed; at $10 million, 80% of the earnings will be distributed; at $100 million, 90% of the earnings will be distributed.

Article 3 -- NCWA SUPPORT FUND

The NCWA Treasury will be permitted to award funds to various college programs that may help to provide such necessities as: mats, travel, uniforms, entry fees, etc.

All awards from the Support Fund must be requested in writing and submitted to the NCWA Executive Director. The Executive Board must then approve these requests.
The NCWA Support Fund will support/sponsor camps, clinics and certification schools, such as:

-- Coaching Camps (philosophy, integrity)
-- Wrestling Technique and Conditioning Camps
-- Wrestling Officials Certification Schools
-- The Overall Improvement of Wrestling's Image

SECTION 4 -- MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

1) Coaches will be enrolled in the **National Wrestling Coaches Association**.
Membership will entitle coaches to all benefits of the NWCA, including their Weight Control Program.

2) The NCWA's web page at **www.ncwa.net.** The NCWA web page will facilitate communication with other teams, coaches, media and the NCWA

3) Team Liability Insurance coverage of $1,000,000 per occurrence and $2,000,000 aggregate

4) Supplemental individual accidental insurance for Registered NCWA participants

5) A toll-free telephone number for active members to communicate with the NCWA

6) Each team is supplied with one copy the *NCAA Wrestling Rules and Interpretation* Book, sent along with their Membership Payment Receipt

7) Member teams are supplied with the NCWA Coaches Handbook, which will include:
-- NCWA rules and eligibility
-- The NCWA Weight Control Plan
-- An Historical Perspective of the previous years' competition
-- Final Results, brackets and photographs of the previous year's National Championships
-- List of participant schools within the NCWA

8) Each Coach may also request a free subscription to Wrestling USA Magazine
Addition copies may be ordered through Wrestling USA Magazine

9) The NCWA National Point Tournaments

10) The NCWA works with member teams to promote their program to their student body, their community and the national media

11) The NCWA promotes each team to its respective Athletic Department for eventual inclusion into the school's NCAA, NAIA or NJCAA program

Conference Penalties / Fines Schedule:

	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense	4th Offense
-- Use of Non-NCWA Official	$50	$100	$200	Disqualification
-- Wrestling a Non-Registered Athlete	$50	$100	Disqualification	
-- Not reporting results / late results	Warning	$50	$50	$100
-- Inaccurate info on official website	$50	$50	$50	$100
-- Team SID Article not submitted	$20	---	---	---

NOTES:

For more information, please contact the NCWA Executive Director (Jim Giunta) at:

214-378-8700 - ext 107 (DFW Metroplex)

1-800-825-3696

FAX: 214-378-9900

e-mail: jim@ncwa.net

Web-Site: www.ncwa.net

<u>Mailing Addresses:</u>

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