



NNJYWL By-Laws

The following bylaws have been ratified and adopted by the NNJYWL on 9/24/2014.

ARTICLE 1: NAME

This organization shall be known as the Northern New Jersey Youth Wrestling League (NNJYWL) with a presence on the web at www.nnjywl.com

ARTICLE 2: PURPOSE

Purpose of the organization shall be to promote amateur wrestling and good sportsmanship among member teams and participating wrestlers.

ARTICLE 3: FISCAL YEAR

This organization's fiscal year shall run from September 1st to August 31st of each year.

ARTICLE 4: OFFICERS

1. The organization shall consist of the following officers: President/League Commissioner, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and 3 At-Large Board Members for a total of 7.
2. The President shall preside at all meetings. The President shall have the power to enforce the team provisions of the by-laws and all other rules and regulations passed by a majority of the representatives in attendance. In the event the President cannot attend a meeting; the Vice President shall preside with the same power.
3. The Secretary shall keep accurate records of the proceedings of the meetings and attend to all correspondence pertaining to league business. The Secretary shall maintain minutes as permanent records.
4. The Treasurer shall maintain a bank account for all the league funds. A financial report will be communicated at each meeting. An attended treasurer's report will be made at each meeting so the treasurers' balance is in the minutes.
5. The President and Treasurer shall have signatory rights for league checks. The treasurer shall be the primary signature of all checks. The President will only conduct financial business in times when the treasurer is unavailable and business must be conducted.

6. The President shall oversee all league activities.

ARTICLE 5: BOARD OF CONTROL

The Board of Control shall be comprised of the officers of the league and 3 At-Large members, and shall review and decide on any controversial issues not covered in the by-laws.

ARTICLE 6: MEMBERSHIP

1. Every team will be subject to an annual fee to be recommended by the League Commissioner and approved by a majority of the teams present at the September meeting. This fee must be paid in full by December 1st. A \$25.00 per month fine will be levied with the past due amount.
2. Membership in the league shall be open to an affiliated or sponsored community organization on a first come first serve basis and accompanied by the necessary fees.
3. All members must participate in all league competitions provided for by the by-laws. Failure to do so is subject to a \$100.00 fine first offense, automatic probation second offense and revocation of membership by a 2/3rds majority of the teams present and voting, third offense.
4. All member teams must have a varsity team in either the Gold or Silver Division in order to participate in the league.
5. After the League's initial season, each new team shall be on probation for a period of one (1) fiscal year, and at the end of that one fiscal year period a 2/3rds majority vote of the member teams present and voting is necessary for final acceptance, except charter year.
6. Teams on probation shall have no voting rights.
7. Member teams may be placed back on one (1) fiscal year probation period by a 2/3rds majority vote of the member teams present and voting. At the end of the one (1) fiscal year period, the team must be removed from probation by a 2/3rds majority vote of the member teams present and voting or have their membership automatically revoked.

I. Non-Compliance of League Obligations

Teams not fulfilling league obligations are to be assessed a fine of \$25.00 for each infraction payable to the league

1. Not attending a season scheduled match for reasons other than weather or emergency
2. Failure to provide adequate facilities for a match including table help or officials
3. Failure to provide adequate table help for year-end tournaments for the scheduled periods

ARTICLE 7: MEETINGS

Scheduled meetings shall be held in the beginning (typically September) and the end (typically February) of the season. Additional meetings may be held as needed and will be held at the discretion of the President/Commissioner.

1. The end of season meeting shall be called the “Annual Meeting” at which time officers for the wrestling season may be addressed.
2. Each member team shall send of minimum of one (1) rep per team with a maximum of two (2) per team, to attend league meetings; failure to do so will result in a fine to the sponsor or organization involved. The fine shall be \$10.00 / first offense, \$25.00 / second offense, \$50.00 / third offense and automatic probation / fourth offense.
3. Only program directors or a representative assigned by the program director will be allowed to vote or make motions to replace board members.

Notes:

- * A majority quorum is required for a meeting (majority is defined as 2/3rds).
- ** The President shall have the tie-breaking vote at any time a tie results from the team voting.

ARTICLE 8: RULES

The League will comprise two Divisions: Gold and Silver.

N.J.S.I.A.A. wrestling rules will apply except for the following:

1. Gold Division time periods shall be 1:30, 1:30, and 1:30 minutes, respectfully.
2. Gold Division Weights: 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 96, 102, 109, 116, 123, 130, 137, 147, heavy weight and super heavy weight. The heavyweight class will have a minimum weight of 140 lbs and a maximum weight of 165 lbs. A team will forfeit a bout if they do not have a heavyweight. There will also be a super heavyweight class (above 165 lbs). This is an optional weight class. The results of the super heavyweight bout will not count toward the team score unless this is mutually agreed upon by the opposing coaches at the time of the weigh in. A 1lb weight allowance will be given as of January 1st and February 1st.
3. Ages (Gold Division): Maximum 15 years of age after September 1st of each season.
4. Grades (Gold Division): Kindergarten through eighth grade (subject to maximum age restriction)
5. Weight class eligibility:
 1. Certified weight shall be defined as the lowest weight class in which a wrestler shall be eligible to complete the balance of the season, including the league tournament.
 2. CERTIFIED WEIGHT WILL BE THE LOWEST WEIGHT MADE DURING THE FIRST 2 WEEKS OF THE LEAGUE SCHEDULED MATCHES AND AT WHICH HE/SHE WRESTLES IN THE DUAL MATCH, WITH HIS/HER WEIGHT BEING recorded.

3. The wrestler does NOT have to wrestle at that particular weight class and can move up as stated in our bylaws. He/she needs to weigh-in that day as part of the league.
4. A wrestler may compete in no more than two (2) weight classes higher than his/her certified weight at any time during the season, including his/her first match. It is the coach's responsibility to be sure that a wrestler weighs in at the lowest weight class at which the wrestler will compete during the season.

ARTICLE 9: LEAGUE ELIGIBILITY

1. Rosters: team rosters shall consist of participants' name, grade and approximate weight, also team and coach's name. Rosters must be submitted to the webmaster or designated contact by December 1st.
2. Roster additions after the first team match of the season are permitted using this criteria:
 1. An updated roster is submitted to the webmaster (or designated contact) and the President, once a new wrestler is added to the roster. The new wrestler should be highlighted in yellow.
 2. The wrestler weighs in and certifies at season opening weight (no weight allowance) at the first varsity match which cannot take place for two weeks after the roster addition.
3. With the exception of the temporary grandfather clause in Article 27, programs may only roster wrestlers who are attending a sending district for their high school. If there is more than one high school, the schools must share a common border and be public in nature. Exceptions may exist, but only as approved by the board.

ARTICLE 10: WEIGH-INS

1. If officials are unavailable, coaches are to weigh-in contestants for Varsity bouts ½ hour before the meet starts.
2. Weigh-in will be done in boxers with arms held out for skin check. No weight allowances permitted. Female wrestlers will be exempt from the undergarment rule and will weigh in a singlet with a 2-ounce exemption.
3. Wrestlers may only wrestle in the weight class that their certification is held and two weights above. Any match outside of those weight classes will be considered exhibition and the team will forfeit the bout to the wrestler's opponent.
4. If any team competes in more than one match in 24 hours a one pound allowance will be granted to all wrestlers of the teams competing in subsequent matches. This also applies to matches wrestled outside the league provided that all teams have been notified and are aware that there will be a one pound allowance. Teams must be notified at least 2 days in advance of the match. The allowance only applies to other leagues, and not tournaments.
5. Teams are required to present a weigh in sheet obtained from the website. After weigh-ins concludes the sheet will be signed by the coach on both teams. Actual weights must be recorded on the bout sheet.

ARTICLE 11: TOURNAMENT

1. In the event there are problems due to weather that would prevent the tournament going on as scheduled, the host team should call the league commissioner who will determine action whether it be postponement or delay.
2. Gold and Silver Varsity Tournament eligibility:
 1. A wrestler must wrestle a minimum of $\frac{1}{2}$ of the league scheduled matches to be eligible for the league tournament. In addition, wrestlers must wrestle at the weight in which he/she had the most matches (including forfeits).
 2. Seeding criteria will be determined by entry into the league website. The information stored in the database online will be presented in a clear manner at the league seeding meeting.
 3. A rostered wrestler who is sidelined during the regular season no matter what the reason can participate in the Gold and/or Silver Final Tournament provided they comply with the following provisions:
 - a. The coaching staff makes the league teams aware of the intent by January 15th of the season.
 - b. The wrestler is weight-certified no less than three-weeks prior to the tournament date.
 - c. Teams will assign one (1) wrestler to each weight class for both the Gold and Silver Tournaments. Per the Silver Tournament details, multiple wrestlers from one team may compete in the same weight class in the Gold Tournament.
 - d. Seeding criteria will be set as follows:
 - Most wins
 - Head to head competition. In cases where three or more wrestlers have the same number of wins, this criterion will only apply if one of the wrestlers beat ALL of the others being considered.
 - Winning percentage
 - Number of pins
 - Number of technical falls
 - Number of major decisions
 - Fewest wins by forfeit
 - Vote of coaches.
 - e. Individual awards will be awarded to wrestlers at the discretion of the league.
 - f. The Outstanding Wrestler trophy may be awarded at the league tournament by a vote of one (1) representative from each team. In the event of a tie, the President will be the tiebreaker. If the President isn't in attendance, then the vote will be recast using only the wrestlers involved in the tie.

- g. Team champion will be determined based upon the team points in the varsity tournament.
- h. All tournament financial affairs shall be the responsibility of the Tournament Director (and the President of the league).

ARTICLE 12: LEAGUE WEBSITE

1. Teams will email or upload match reports via the website.
2. Wrestlers not on a roster of the opposing teams' roster will be considered forfeits.
3. The league will designate a website administrator for the season. Any problems with functionality should be reported to the administrator immediately. If there is no movement in remediation of the problem, then the issue must be reported to the league president who will have the authority to determine a course of action.
4. It is the responsibility of the Home team in the match to enter results of every bout into the website. If the teams in the contest are at a facility away from their home facility the home team is the team that is considered green by the referee.
5. Each team is responsible for posting all matches they are hosting at their facility on the website calendar. The start time is considered the weigh-in time. The meet type Dual, Tri, Quad etc is to be followed by the location and the teams contesting that day. Additional information may be listed, but it should be below the basic information.
6. Matches are to be entered into the league website within 4 days of the match. Teams that fail to do so without contacting the league commissioner with a reasonable explanation are subject to a \$25.00 fine for each match not entered.

ARTICLE 13: OFFICIALS

1. Gold & Silver Varsity matches must use N.J.S.I.A.A., NY or PA officials. No cadets unless agreed to by both teams' coaches.
2. At minimum, one official will preside over all matches. The hosting team is responsible for providing an official. In the event an official fails to appear for a match, the coaches may agree on an official from the gallery. If there isn't a suitable replacement, the visiting team has the right to request a rematch at a later date.
3. The host team shall be responsible for providing the match official. The visiting team shall provide at least one (1) scorekeeper.
4. Should a referee eject a head coach or assistant coach from a match, the team coached by the ejected individual is subject to a \$25.00 fine payable to the league. The league Board of Control prior to the levy of the fine must review the situation.

ARTICLE 14: COACHES

1. Coaches are required to shake hands after a match.

2. Coaches are required to avoid running feuds with the officials working a match. Complaints with officials should be aired during a time out. All coaches reserve the right to approach the head table in a professional manner, as per federation rules.

ARTICLE 15: DUTIES OF THE HOME TEAM

1. A home team must furnish guardians to keep order and protect the officials working a match and the visiting team. Failure to do so may result in a fine or forfeit.
2. The home team shall provide a bench for the visiting team.
3. The home team shall provide a time clock, timekeeper and scorekeeper. Visitors must approve.
4. In the event of cancellation, every attempt should be made to make up the match prior to the end of season seeding meeting.

ARTICLE 16: ADMISSIONS

1. Admission charge to matches is left up to the home team, but shall not exceed \$3.00 per adult and \$1.00 per child (12 and under).

ARTICLE 17: PLAYOFFS

Dual-match Playoffs will be conducted if time/space permits allowing the number of team participants voted upon by the league.

ARTICLE 18: INJURIES

The league or the host team is not responsible for any injury incurred while participating in the wrestling program or the end of the year tournament. This is the responsibility of the individual's team. Wrestlers with skin issues are required to bring the official NHSCA skin form filled out by a doctor clearing the individual for participation, prior to being allowed to wrestle. Wrestlers with pre-existing conditions such as eczema can use the form for the entire season. Form is located on our league website.

ARTICLE 19: AMENDMENTS

Any amendments to these by-laws shall be brought before the league at the end of season meeting. Such amendments shall be in writing. The proposed amendment shall be read and acted on at the September kickoff meeting. A two-thirds majority of the combined vote of the league officers and the representatives present is necessary for passage.

ARTICLE 20: DISBANDMENT

Should the league ever disband, the officers shall hold all moneys and properties accumulated by the league for a period of one (1) year. If the league is not reorganized within this time, all moneys and property shall be divided among member teams during the year of operation.

ARTICLE 21: ORGANIZATION

1. Said organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational and scientific purposes, including for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or the corresponding Section of any Federal

Tax Code). All matches of the NNJYWL shall be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations currently in force for the New Jersey High School competition as formulated by the NJSIAA except as outlined in the bylaws.

2. No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, directors, officers or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distribution compensation for services Section 501 (c) (3) purposes. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office, notwithstanding any other provision of these articles. The organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization except from Federal Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax Code) or (b) by any organization, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax Code).
3. Upon the dissolution of this organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more except purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax Code, or shall be distributed to the Federal Government, or to a state or local government, for public purposes.
4. However, if the named recipient is not in existence or no longer qualified, or willing or unable to accept distribution, then the assets of this organization shall be distributed to a fund, foundation or corporation organized and operated exclusively for the purposes specified in Section 501.

ARTICLE 22: LEAGUE STRUCTURE

The New League will comprise 4 Levels: Novice, JV, Silver, and Gold. Participation in all Levels is optional.

1. The Novice Division will be the existing KOM Novice League.
2. The JV Division will be the existing Future Stars League
3. The Silver Division will be governed by Article 23 below
4. The Gold Division will be governed by Articles 1 through 21 above.

ARTICLE 23: SILVER DIVISION

1. The New League will include a Silver Division intended to comprise programs' 2nd-team Varsity wrestlers, or the 1st Team of programs expecting less competitive line-ups due to graduation, poor numbers, or programs early in their development.
2. Silver Ages: Wrestlers in the Silver Division will be Kindergarten through 8th grades.
3. Silver Weight Classes: The weight classes for the Silver Division will be 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 96, 102, 109, 116, 123, 130, 137, 147, heavy weight and super heavy weight. The heavyweight class will have a minimum weight of 140 lbs and a maximum weight of 165 lbs. A

team will forfeit a bout if they do not have a heavyweight. There will also be a super heavyweight class (above 165 lbs). This is an optional weight class. The results of the super heavyweight bout will not count toward the team score unless this is mutually agreed upon by the opposing coaches at the time of the weigh in. A 1lb weight allowance will be given as of January 1st and February 1st.

4. Silver Match Length: Match length for the Silver division will be (3) 1.5 minute periods.
5. Entering a Silver Team: Teams entering a Gold Division team may enter a Silver Division Team without question. With the exception of year one, teams that do not enter a Gold Division team must submit a request in writing to the Board to enter just a Silver Team. The request must be submitted by September 30th, and should include assurances that the program will be entering a Team of an appropriate competitive Level for the Silver Division. It is expected that the written request be no more than one or two paragraphs. The Board will then approve or reject the request by the end of September.
6. Gold/Silver Crossovers: Wrestlers competing with their Gold Team but wishing to cross-over and wrestle on the Silver Team can do so if they satisfy one of the following criteria:
 7. They have no more than 2 Gold League wins, excluding forfeits
 8. If both coaches agree to allow the Gold wrestlers to compete in the dual match
 9. If the Board approves the wrestler to compete in both divisions regardless of a and b above.
10. Wrestlers with only 1 or 2 Gold wins may enter the Silver Tournament. Wrestlers with 3 or more Gold wins may not enter the Silver Tournament without approval of the Board.
11. The top 2 finishers in each weight class in the Silver year-end Tournament will be expected to compete in the Gold Tournament.

ARTICLE 24: DECLARING TEAMS

Programs must declare which Teams they intend to enter in the League by the last day in September. For Teams intending to enter just a Silver Team, see Article 23, number 5.

ARTICLE 25: YEAR-END TOURNAMENTS

1. Five year-end tournaments will be held: Team Dual Championship, Novice, Future Stars, Silver, and Gold. Depending on the number of Teams in the NNJYWL, Gold Division Regional Tournaments may be scheduled.
2. The Dual Meet Championship Tournament structure will depend on the number of Teams in each Division. If a suitable facility is available, both the Gold and Silver dual tournaments will be held at the same facility on the same weekend. Participating wrestlers will be permitted to wrestle more than (4) bouts per day, if required. No more than 8 Teams will qualify for the Dual meet championship Tournament.
3. The top 2 finishers in the Future Stars Individual Tournament will be invited to compete in the Silver Division Tournament. Future Stars weight classes do not match with Gold/Silver, so Future

Stars Tournament finalists can choose to enter the Silver Tournament at the Silver weight class immediately above or below their Future Stars weight class.

4. The top 2 finishers in the Silver Individual Tournament will be expected to enter the Gold Division Tournament; if the Silver Division weight class is not identical to the Gold Division weight class, the Silver Division qualifier can choose to compete in the Gold weight class immediately above or below their Silver weight class.
5. The Gold Division Champions will be invited to compete on the NNJYWL All-Star Team.

ARTICLE 26: OUT OF TOWN PETITIONS

A maximum of (2) additional wrestlers may be added to a team participating in the Gold Division, subject to committee approval and based on the following criteria:

1. General Criteria
 1. Directors and Coaches of their respective program must submit, for consideration, a list of out-of-town wrestlers by November 15th each year
 2. Each year all outside wrestlers must receive committee approval prior to wrestling
 3. There is no grandfather rule. Each outside wrestler must be approved each year prior to the season starting. At the end of each season, outside wrestlers are no longer considered members of the NNJYWL, and must reapply the following season
 4. Out-of-town wrestlers who participate with another recreational team may not practice with the NNJYWL team, unless approved by the wrestler's recreational team
 5. If a team has a qualified wrestler for a specific weight, they cannot substitute that weight class with an outside wrestler
2. Acceptable Criteria
 1. A wrestler has no program for which to compete within his/her sending district
 2. A wrestler has siblings that already participate in an out of town program
3. Debatable Criteria
 1. Outside wrestlers cannot be pulled from their local recreational program to wrestle for a NNJYWL team (unless approved by that local team and the NNJYWL committee)
 2. An outside wrestler cannot be recruited from another NNJYWL team without both the committee and the NNJYWL team's approval
 3. A wrestler has a long-standing history of competing with a team
 4. A wrestler has parents that are separated and live in two different sending districts
4. Unacceptable Criteria

1. A wrestler is from out of state and has never wrestled for a team in the NNJYWL previously
 2. A wrestler is leaving his recreation program due to personality conflicts with a coach
5. Renewal Clause
- The Out-of-Town Petition Rule will expire in (2) years upon completion of the 2015-2016 season, unless a league-wide vote of at least 2/3rds 'in favor of renewal' is passed. Upon expiration, all participants in the NNJYWL must reside within the approved sending district for their respective program.
6. Out-of-Town Petition Steering Committee
- The Out-of-Town Petitions will be submitted to a steering committee comprised of (5) members. Two members from the former North Jersey League, two members from the former Passaic County league and the President of the league. This steering committee has final discretion over each petition.