

KHSAA Wrestling Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2015

The Wrestling Advisory Committee met at the KHSAA office in Lexington on October 16, 2015. Members present were: Christopher King, Bob Davis, Chris McCoy, John Griggs, Tim Ruschell, Philip Dettwiller, Jim Shaw, and Mark Shumate. KHSAA representatives present were: Commissioner Julian Tackett, Assistant Commissioner Mike Barren and Administrative Staff Support Jeanie Molloy

The meeting was called to order by Mike Barren followed of introductions by all attendees.

A review of the procedural items such as expense forms, committee membership updates and an overview of the agenda handouts was conducted.

Todd County and Bardstown are the newest schools to add the sport of wrestling. This brings the school participation total to 100.

A reminder that the KHSAA rules clinic is now available online, as of 10/6/15. All coaches must complete it, head coaches as well as their assistants.

Recruiting and training officials was discussed. Kentucky Wrestling Officials Association reports as of today there have been 15 officials signed up, 7 have taken the test and 3 have joined. There was a brief discussion on the importance of connecting Assigning Secretaries and KWOA. All regions have an assigner except for region 8. There were suggestions that assigners get together and set a date to "borrow" officials to fulfill positions. Everyone agreed on the importance of using Kentucky Officials. Several things were discussed about the official's evaluations.

A suggestion to have a meeting between coaches and officials at regional and state tournaments would help to have everyone start on a good note.

With the regular season about to begin, Mike Barren will be sending emails to assessors with log-in information for www.trackwrestling.com. Assessors will be given a temporary username and password. This can be changed by the account holder at a later date. It was discussed how important it is to use the system for weigh in sheets. There is a large liability if the athlete is not eligible, therefore there will be no write-ins allowed, all information must be entered into trackwrestling.com.

Mr. Tackett suggested there be some type of partnership between coaches and officials to both retain officials and to keep coaches involved but not "running off" officials. He also suggested there be a mentor to the new coaches each year to assist them.

There was a brief review of Region Tournaments. The Regional Site Selections were reviewed and Mike Barren asked for any corrections to be addressed as soon as possible. The current year sites are posted on the KHSAA website.

The use of the NWCA software to do the seeding was discussed. It would be helpful if there was a standard across the board. Committee members will report back with suggested variables at the next meeting. Mr. Barren reminded everyone that we must use the school abbreviations on the KHSAA website for consistency.

The 2016 State Championship will again be at the Kentucky Horse Park. There will be a charge for parking this year and there is construction in progress around the arena.

A review of the time schedule and discussion about concerns of the Saturday schedule. Much discussion ensued on restructuring the medal events to increase fan base and have more athletes recognized in that final round. There was a suggestion to run them simultaneously in an effort to spice up the events to help celebrate wrestling as a sport. Mr. Davis proposed an alternate schedule with 3-5-7 matches followed by 1-2 in each class that was recommended by the committee

There was much discussion about the importance of increasing the audience at the State Championship. Getting students excited about the sport may help increase attendance.

There were several suggestions on how the State Championship event could be distinguished and made special. Raising the middle/championship mat, add spot lighting to championship area, going back to 16 regions instead of 8 and the use of 8 mats. All had pros and cons concerning cost and safety. There was no committee sentiment for further change.

A change of venue was addressed and options were discussed and tabled for further discussion at a later date if necessary.

In other business, a brief discussion of the comparison of a 2-piece uniform (shirt and fight shorts) vs. the singlet was brought up. Immediate thoughts were that the 2pc may be too loose. Any uniform change must be approved by NFHS.

In new business Mr. Davis brought up the possibility of an all girls' team event. This would give girls a chance for a college scholarship or chance to participate in the college sport. No action was taken at this time. This will most likely be addressed again at a later date.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 PM.