



Reconsideration of Girl Weight classes

1 message

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Sun, Oct 23, 2022 at 5:18 PM

To: "jangolia@khsaa.org" <jangolia@khsaa.org>, "jtackett@khsaa.org" <jtackett@khsaa.org>

Dear KHSAA

Hello, My name is Kohl Dodd. I am a Head Wrestling coach from Louisville, Kentucky. I am beginning my third year as a Head Coach for my high school Alma Mater, Fern Creek High School where I coach both boy's and girl's wrestling. I have been a part of Wrestling for Over 15 years. I wrestled at Lindsey Wilson College in Columbia, Kentucky under Coach Corey Ruff. While at Lindsey, I qualified for the NAIA national tournament and was a part of two NAIA national runner-up teams. While in high school I won an individual State championship and a team state championship.

Upon graduating from College, I moved back to my hometown with the vision of growing wrestling and building my school into a state powerhouse. An opportunity in my first year to coach girls presented itself and we had one come out. By my second year, the success and courage of this one particular girl wrestler caused four more to come out. We want to add that number this year and grow our girls' team.

The wrestler that came up to me one random afternoon after school and told me she would come out, is now a Two-time KYWCA State Champion. She is a junior this year and her dream of being a four timer and possibly wrestling in college is at odds. Attached is her news story. Girls' wrestling has yet to be sanctioned and a vote in November decides if it will be this year or next. However, one issue that coincides with my wrestler and her dreams is an elimination of a weight class. This issue presents a conversation that must be taken seriously when we discuss the inclusion and growth of girls' wrestling. High school, College, and Olympics wrestling exclude heavyweight women/girls and I hope to spark a conversation for more inclusion.

The Kentucky Wrestling Coaches Association (KYWCA) announced it's cutting Fern Creek Junior Gabby Wilson's weight class, 285.

The KYWCA posted on Facebook about a month ago that there will no longer be a 285 girl's weight class. It's a move toward the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) sanctioning wrestling programs throughout the state, which would bring them in line with other schools across the country.

I have talked to Gabby since and have encouraged her to stay positive and focus on what she can control, her attitude and effort. She does have goals of dropping to the appropriate weight class, but this decision comes at an inappropriate time with the season right around the corner. It's a discussion that I think is warranted. Adeline Gray discussed this in the last Olympic cycle. Women compete in college and in the Olympics where the highest weight classes are 191 and 167, respectively.

I ask you to please take time out of your day to watch the news story. Thank you for your time and I hope to hear from you soon.

<https://www.whas11.com/article/news/local/high-school-fern-creek-wrestling-champion-gabby-wilson-cutting-weight-class-louisville-kentucky/417-d5ff7368-df0d-4954-889c-1b19d7b23c6b>



Louisville high school female wrestler questions cutting of weight class

The KYWCA posted on Facebook Wednesday that there will no longer be a 285 girl's weight class. It's a move toward the KHSAA potentially sanctioning the sport.

<https://onherturf.nbcsports.com/2021/08/03/wrestling-weight-classes-exclude-larger-women-2021-olympic-trials/>



Where are the heavyweights? Wrestling weight classes exclude larger women - On Her Turf

Originally Published: April 1, 2021. Adeline Gray: The 167-pound "heavyweight" champion of the world. U.S. wrestler Adeline Gray often jokes about being the "heavyweight champion of the world.". To be clear: Gray is, technically, the heavyweight champion of the world. The 30-year-old has won five world titles – more than any other American wrestler (male or female) –

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