



**NATIONAL FEDERATION
OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL
ASSOCIATIONS**

Mailing Address:
PO Box 690 | Indianapolis, Indiana 46206
Phone: 317-972-6900 | Fax: 317.822.5700
www.nfhs.org

Shipping Address:
NFHS Distribution Center
1802 Alonzo Watford Sr. Drive
Indianapolis, Indiana 46202

November 6, 2023

Joe Angolia
Kentucky High School Athletic Association
2280 Executive Drive
Lexington, KY 40505-4808

Dear Joe,

This letter is in reply to your request to experiment in the sport of wrestling on behalf of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association. You wish to conduct an experiment by modifying NFHS girls wrestling weight classes (12 weight classes) by adding an additional weight class (12 + 1) at 285 lbs. Before adopting girls weight classes in 2022-23, girls wrestled using the boys weight classes, which included 285. This experiment will provide the NFHS Wrestling Rules Committee with data regarding the number of girls wrestling at this weight class (285 lbs.), and what their weigh-in metrics (actual weigh-in weight) reveal during each competition. Please be advised that the NFHS Rules Review Committee has granted approval of this request.

Experiments may be approved annually for up to three years. After this time, if a rules proposal is not approved, the experiment would no longer be considered. If you wish to renew this experiment for Year Two, a new Request to Experiment form would be required. It would be appropriate for your state to submit a Rules Change Proposal if you deem the experiment to be successful and worthy of being included as part of the NFHS wrestling rules code.

Thank you for your interest. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Davis A. Whitfield
Chief Operating Officer

Enclosure





REQUEST TO EXPERIMENT

Please complete and e-mail as a **Word document** to dwhitfield@nfhs.org.

Sport for Experiment	Girls' Wrestling		
State Association	Kentucky High School Athletic Association		
Staff Contact	Joe Angolia		
State Association Position	<input type="checkbox"/> Executive Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sport Administrator		
E-mail	jangolia@khsaa.org	Phone	859-299-5472 ext. 235
Date	10/31/23		

Initial Year for Experiment (Request must be made each year)	2023 - 2024
Request for Second Year	2024 - 2025
Request for Third Year	2025 - 2026

Rules Involved in Experiment							
Rule	4	Section	4	Article	1	Penalty	
Rule		Section		Article		Penalty	
Other							

Description of Experiment	To amend Rule 4-4-1 to use 12 weight classes (100, 107, 114, 120, 126, 132, 138, 145, 152, 165, 185, 235) plus an additional class (285) for girls' competition.
Rationale	<p>Prior to the 2023-24 season, girls' wrestling was not a sanctioned sport in Kentucky. If girls competed in the regular season at the 285-weight class it was in the boys'/coed division against boys or in the coaches association's unofficial girls' state championship.</p> <p>For the 2023-24 season, the KHSAA will adopt the NFHS' 12 weight classes for females. The experiment is to be able to CONTINUE to use the 285-weight class for those girls that qualify in that class as they have done in the past when Kentucky, like almost all other states, used the boys' weight classes exclusively before sanctioning.</p> <p>This experiment will allow us to monitor the usage and number of wrestlers who fit into the class, and perhaps allow the natural attrition of those interested in that class as we continue the transition, as well as avoiding likely litigation from those competitors if they are suddenly precluded during our adoption of the new championship exclusively for females.</p> <p>Having used the boys' weight classes, with the 285-pound limit for many years, there is no evidence of safety issues that have ever arisen, and that is not an issue at all with this request. This request will allow for transition into the new class weight for a small sample of girls who</p>



	<p>will simply be wrestling as they have in the past (whether in competition against boys as has long been done, or in the newer competition against girls). We have been blessed to have females participate alongside boys in the same events for many years with absolutely zero evidence that doing this for the girls is any more of an issue than a 237+ pound male competing against other males in the largest class.</p> <p>We would like this experiment on a year-to-year basis and realize that there is normally a limitation as to how many seasons such an experiment will be permitted.</p>
<p>Describe the Data that you will provide to the NFHS</p>	<p>The number of female participants at the 285-pound class in both the regular season and KHSAA postseason events.</p>

This experiment has been approved by the state chief executive officer. Yes No

For NFHS Office use only

Approved for 1 Year 2 Years 3 Years

Disapproved

Comments:	
-----------	--

By D.A. Whitfield Date November 1, 2023

RULES REVIEW COMMITTEE