

Assistant Commissioner Joe Angolia

Topic

Sports Report

Sports Report

Sport

Winter Wrestling

**Positive Developments
and Highlights**

The state wrestling championships would not be possible without the efforts of the Kentucky Wrestling Coaches Association, who help arrange and provide the awards podium, mats, carpets, scales, mops, etc. Thanks to the generosity of Taylor County High School, we were able to incorporate their fog machines and cold sparklers into the championship finals. The extra production touches were well received by participants and spectators. The Kentucky Wrestling Officials Association (KWOA) should also be commended for their assistance with the setup and teardown of the event, which cannot be understated in its importance to a well-executed championship.

**Officials
Update/Review**

The KWOA and wrestling coaches continue to do an outstanding job of getting junior officials registered. There were 168 licensed wrestling officials during the 2024-25 season and 43 junior officials. Chloe Gallahue of South Oldham was recognized at the 2025 State Wrestling Championships as the KWOA's Mark Shumate Junior Official of the Year.

**Fiscal and Budget
Issues and Review
(attendance, etc.)**

An additional 682 tickets were sold to the 2025 State Wrestling Championships to bring the total to 4,466 (up from 3,784 in 2024). In 2024, the girls' championship took place on Saturday (with the boys'/coed competition on Thurs.-Fri.) and sold 933 tickets. In 2025, the girls' championship was held on Thursday (with the boys'/coed competition on Fri.-Sat.) and sold 934 tickets. Ticket sales for the 2025 boys'/coed championship were 1,347 for the two-day pass (Fri.-Sat), 1,000 for the Friday-only ticket and 773 for Saturday's event.

**Noteworthy Changes /
Anticipates Changes**

Questions about the future format and location of the state championships were common this year, along with requests for realignment due to growth of the sport.