

## **NNJYWL BYLAWS AS AMENDED – 9/25/2024**

NNJYWL BYLAWS The following bylaws have been ratified and adopted by the NNJYWL on 9/24/2014 and amended as of 9/25/2024

### **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](http://www.nnjywl.com)

### **ARTICLE 2: PURPOSE**

The 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. If 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 about 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 treasurer's 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.

### **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, on the third offense.
4. All member teams must have a varsity team to participate in the league.
5. A new team shall be on probation for 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 or revocation.

### **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 at the beginning (typically September) and the end (typically April) 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 a 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 representatives 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 be comprised of two, three, or four regions. N.J.S.I.A.A. wrestling rules will apply except for the following:

1. Varsity periods shall be 1:30, 1:30, and 1:30 minutes, respectfully.
2. Varsity Division Weights: 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 70, 74, 78, 82, 86, 90, 96, 102, 110, 118, 126, 135, 147, heavyweight and super heavyweight. A team will forfeit the 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: Maximum 15 years of age after September 1st of each season.
4. Grades; Kindergarten through eighth grade (subject to maximum age restriction)
5. Weight class eligibility:

1. Certified weight will be the lowest recorded hard weight by December 23.
2. A wrestler may NOT wrestle more than one weight class above his/her recorded weight for that PARTICULAR MATCH. 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 entered into the online system by December 1st .
2. Roster additions after December 1st are permitted using this criteria:
3. Enter the new wrestler/s into the online system.
4. If a wrestler is added to your roster after December 1st they must wait the required 7 days to wrestle but may certify during that time period
5. With the exception of the temporary grandfather clause in Article 27, programs may only roster wrestlers who are attending a sending district approved by the league. 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.
6. In order for a team to be eligible to compete in the end of season tournament, they are required to adhere to the following schedule: Wrestle a minimum of (3) dual meets in December and (5) in January. Exceptions due to extenuating circumstances must be brought to the ATTENTION OF THE BOARD IMMEDIATELY. If a team does not conform to the scheduling requirements, it will be the responsibility of the NNJYWL Board to determine end-of-season tournament eligibility.

#### **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 a team singlet with arms held out for skin check. Wrestlers will receive a .2 lb. allowance.
3. Wrestlers may only wrestle in the weight class that their certification is held that night and two weights above during the season. 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 from going on as scheduled, the host team should call the league commissioner who will determine action whether it be postponement or delay.
2. Wrestlers may compete in more than 6 matches per day for tournament competition.
3. Times between matches will be at the discretion of the coaches/ tournament director.
4. Varsity Tournament eligibility:
  - a. See Article 9.4 regarding team eligibility.
  - b. A wrestler must wrestle **more than 50% of the league-scheduled matches** to be eligible for the league tournament. In addition, wrestlers must wrestle at the weight in which they had the most matches (including forfeits). If a wrestler has an equal amount of matches at two weight classes the wrestler may choose which weight they want to compete at.
  - c. Seeding criteria will be determined by entry into the league website. The information stored in the online database will be presented clearly at the league seeding meeting.
  - d. A rostered wrestler who is sidelined during the regular season can participate in the Varsity Final Tournament provided they comply with the following provisions:
    - The coaching staff requests exceptions via email to the president by Tuesday the week of the league tournament. The majority of 2/3 coaches vote to approve exceptions.
    - All exceptions will be heard and finalized at the seeding meeting. Exceptions will not be heard on the day of the tournament. No seeding will take place.
    - The wrestler is weight-certified no less than three weeks prior to the tournament date.
    - Teams will assign one (1) wrestler to each weight class for the Varsity Tournament.
  - e. 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 beats 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.
  - f. In the event there are uneven regions the seeding criteria is as follows for the #1 seed only. If wrestler A is 12-0 and wrestler B is 11-0 but wrestler B is in a region with 1 less team we will then move to criteria #4(number of pins and continue from there) to determine 1st seed.
  - g. Individual awards will be awarded to wrestlers at the discretion of the league
  - h. The Outstanding Wrestler trophy may be awarded at the league tournament by a vote of (1) representative from each team. In the event of a tie, the President will be the tiebreaker. If the President is not in attendance then the vote will be recast with only the wrestlers involved.

- i. Team champion will be determined based upon the team points in the varsity tournament.
- j. All tournament financial affairs shall be the responsibility of the Tournament Director and the President of the league.
- k. There will be a clinic and JV tournament on the same weekend of the varsity tournament.
- l. Clinic wrestlers cannot be older than 2nd grade.
- m. Varsity wrestlers with more than 3 wrestled wins are not eligible for clinic or JV tournament.

#### **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. 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 a 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.
3. 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.

### 3. Bench Limit

- a. Only two coaches will be permitted in the coaching area during a dual meet
- b. If using benches - two coaches can be on the bench and the rest of the coaches must remain behind the bench. Coaches can switch with each other but your team may only have two in the bench area
- c. If using the mat corner - two coaches on the mat corner and the remaining coaches in the designated team area. Coaches can switch with each other but your team may only have two in the corner
- d. Only two coaches will be permitted in the corner during the league tournament

### **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 during a scheduled league 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 3 Levels: Clinic, JV, and Varsity.

1. The Clinic Division will be the existing KOM Novice League.
2. The JV Division (Matches will be wrestled before Varsity matches or at a determined time and place. It is the responsibility of the coaches to arrange JV matches.)
3. Varsity Division will be governed by Articles 1 through 21 4.

## **ARTICLE 23: OUT OF TOWN PETITION**

No new out of towners may be added to your roster. If you had an approved out of towners on your roster for the 2015 – 16 season they will be allowed to remain on your team until the age out of the league.

**ARTICLE 24: TWO PIECE UNIFORM**

Teams may wear a team issued 2 piece uniform as long as it conforms to NJSIAA guidelines and is approved by the official for that evening.N