

Clarification of Massachusetts Wrestling Postseason Seeding Criteria

#2 – Superior Record Against Strong Opposition

Last Updated: 11/21/17 - This document has been created to help clarify and streamline criteria #2 for coaches in Massachusetts. The need for such a document was recognized by the Coaches Association Executive Board after seeing that every section was defining and handling this criteria differently, or in some cases, not using it at all. It was created after seeking input from the executive board members and consulting similar point systems used in Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland, and Connecticut. *The Coaches Association Executive Board approved these changes 11-0. The MIAA Wrestling Committee approved this updated document with an 11-0-5 vote on October 6, 2016. 11/21/17 updates were strictly to detail what constitutes placing in other states (see page 2).*

It is understood that the following point system is:

- 1) Tabulated by the head coach and written on the individual record form for each postseason wrestler upon being submitted to the sectional rep at the sectional seeding meeting.
- 2) Not set up to reward wins over opponents who place 6th at Sectionals, 8th at States, or 8th at All-States. These placements are not recognized by the MIAA and do not count as postseason paperwork for those wrestlers, so they do not count towards the point system below.
- 3) Meant to take in account quality of wins, so beating an All-State champion counts for more than beating a handful of low sectional placers, and so on.
- 4) Meant to best compare two wrestlers without head to head or common opponents, but is not an exact science. If two wrestlers are within two (2) points of each other, then no superior record has been established and the seeding committee should move on to the next criteria. **Exactly 2 points does not equal superiority.**
- 5) **Fractions should be rounded to the nearest whole number.**
- 6) A required part of our post season paper work. Any coach who does not fill out this part of the postseason paper work forfeits the criteria when matched up against an opponent whose paper work is complete.
- 7) **A tool used to help seed wrestlers correctly when Head to Head and Common Opponent cannot come into play. Coaches may appeal to the sectional rep to discuss a seed if they feel there is an extenuating circumstance not accounted for by Criteria 2.**
- 8) **For the sake of sportsmanship and reducing work for our fellow coaches, you are encouraged to provide all previous placings of your own wrestlers for an opposing coach at the conclusion of the dual meet if requested.**

Step One: Add the following point totals together based on wins by your wrestler against other wrestlers with previous season postseason paperwork. Brackets for all Massachusetts post season tournaments are available through the MIAA website or Masswrestling.com

Important:

- **Wrestlers begin the season with the amount of points earned from placing themselves the previous season (a wrestler who placed 4th at divisional states the previous season would start with 12 points)**
- No points are given for youth paperwork.
- Points are only awarded for the highest tournament placed at, so if your athlete beat "Wrestler A" who placed 1st at Sectionals, 3rd at States and 6th at All-States, the win would be worth 16 points, or only the points for 6th at All-States.
- Wrestlers can only earn points twice for wins over the same sectional placer. So if Wrestler A beat Wrestler B (who placed 4th at sectionals) four times during the season, Wrestler A would only get 4 points for the first two wins. *There is no limit to the points that can be scored against State placers and higher.*

Massachusetts

Sectional Placement 5th: **1 point**

Sectional Placement 4th-3rd: **2 points**

Sectional Placement 2nd- 1st: **6 points**

Divisional State Placement 7th: **8 points**

Divisional State Placement 6th – 5th: **10 points**

Divisional State Placement 4th- 3rd: **12 points**

Divisional State Placement 2nd-1st: **16 points**

All-State Placement 7th: **18 points**

All-State Placement 6th- 5th: **20 points**

All-State Placement 3rd – 4th: **22 points**

All-State Placement 2nd-1st: **25 points**

New England Placement 6th-3rd: **28 points**

New England Placement 2nd-1st: **34 points**

Other States

Divisional States 1st-3rd (NH), Regionals 1st-3rd (ME)

States 1st-3rd (VT), Districts 1st-5th (NJ), Leagues 1st-4th (NY) Placement: **6 points**

Districts 1st-5th (PA): **8 points**

Classes 1st-6th (CT), Sectionals 1st-5th (NY): **10 points**

Opens 1st-6th (CT), MOCs 1st-6th (NH), States 1st-6th (RI), NE Qualifier 1st-4th (ME): **12 points**

Regionals (NJ) (PA): **24 points**

States (NY) (PA) (NJ) Placement: **34 points**

Any other states not listed above should be counted as **8 points** for pre state tournaments and **24 points** for state tournaments.

Step Two: Losses – For each loss to strong opposition, multiply point total by an additional .020. For each loss to non-strong opposition, multiply point total by an additional .050.

Example: Wrestler A has a point total of 15. He has eight total losses – 5 to strong opposition and 3 to non-strong opposition. 5 strong losses = .1 and 3 weak losses = .15 for a total of .25. Take away .25 for losses. $15 \times .75 = 11.25$ final point total.

Notes

- **Points** should be added during the postseason continuing to use the previous season's paperwork. For example, if you have a sectional champion who beats a wrestler who placed 4th at sectionals last season in the finals, he should 2 points added onto his total for the divisional seeding meeting, not 6 for beating a sectional finalist. Coaches of champions should tell their rep what points need to be added before the seeding meeting.

- **Defaults:** These matches count as a loss on the wrestler's record, even if the wrestler doesn't step on the mat according to NFHS rules. Likewise, they earn points for this regardless of the reason for the default. The only situation in which a win and points should not be counted is missing weight for day two of a tournament. According to the NFHS rules, this wrestler is now out of the tournament and any potential matchups should be treated as byes, therefore, not a win and no points.