

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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Welcome to the 2020 OHSAA State Wrestling Individual Tournament

Welcome to the 83rd Annual OHSAA Individual Wrestling State Tournament. If you have any concerns or needs, please ask Tim Stried or the media assistants on press row or at the media entrance.

The policies cited below have been developed with members of the media and in accordance with OHSAA Regulations. The media entrance opens at the following times: Session 1 (1:00 p.m.), Session 2 (8:30 a.m.), Session 3 (5:00 p.m.), Session 4 (8:30 a.m.) and Session 5 (3:00 p.m.). Press row remains open for writers between sessions.

1. Recognition of Media

- A. Last year, John Kampf from the Willoughby News-Herald was recognized with the OHSWCA/OHSAA MEDIA AWARD. This year the recipient is Chris Easterling from the Massillon Independent. Congratulations Chris!
- B. **During Session 2**, media are asked to nominate individuals for next year's media award. During Session 3, media will then vote on the Top 3 nominees. Forms will be provided by the media ushers.

2. Reporting for Matches

- A. The official program has a description of how the match board is used.
- B. Check the program for match numbers. The match number is the key. All 1,260 matches have a number.
- C. Match calls will not be made over the PA. Check the Matchboard above the center arena scoreboard.
- D. Beginning at each session, the first 10 match numbers will be called and assigned to a mat to wrestle. The next 10 numbers will then be called and assigned to a mat as "on-deck." The next 10 match numbers will be called to report to the bullpen. When a match is completed, the on-deck match begins wrestling and the next assigned match moves from the Bullpen to "on-deck" for that mat number.

3. General Policies

- A. Media credentials are for your use only. They are non-transferable.
- B. **IMPROPER USE OF A PASS WILL SUBJECT THE USER TO REMOVAL FROM THE TOURNAMENT AND POSSIBLE RESTRICTIONS PLACED UPON THE MEDIA OUTLET THAT THE CREDENTIALS WERE ISSUED. DO NOT CHEER, COACH AND/OR COMMENT DURING A WRESTLING MATCH.**
- C. Please wear your media credential at all times. Those with floor passes must also wear the designated wrist band.
- D. Use of tobacco products are not allowed in the facility.
- E. Check in at the Fred Taylor Room and with the assistants at press row prior to each session.

4. Access to the Arena Floor

- A. Only "PHOTO/TV" and "Temporary" credentials admit media to the floor and the assigned wrist band must be worn.
- B. Media with a "Press Row" credential will not be allowed on the main arena floor. However, there is a floor-level media viewing area in the northeast corner where media members may wait for the wrestler and/or coach they have request to interview.
- C. Interviews will take place in the media interview room or in the media viewing area in the northeast corner of the arena floor if the wrestler and/or coach agree to be interviewed in that location. For Session 5 Saturday night, the interview area is on the arena floor in the hallway stage left.

5. Access to Referees/Officials

John Cummings, from Miami Valley Newspapers, is the OHSAA state wrestling tournament's designated pool reporter. If you would like to ask questions of a referee or tournament official, please contact John or ask a press row assistant for help. John will be in Row 1, Seat 36. Questions will be asked by the pool reporters only at the conclusion of a session.

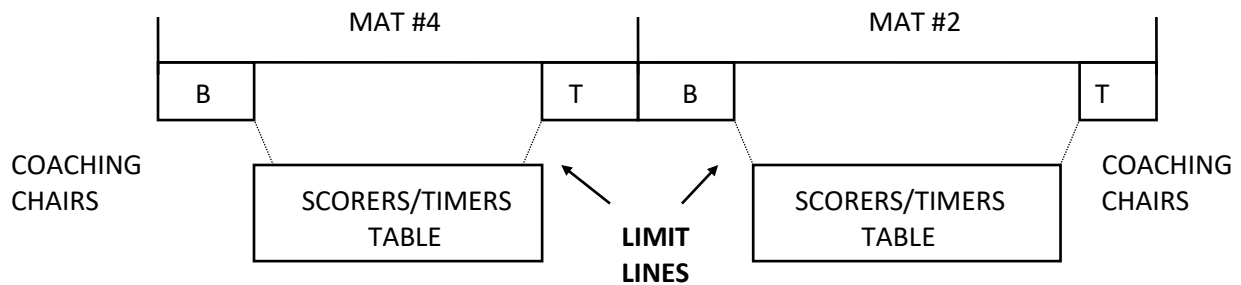
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6. Photographers

- A. Below is a diagram indicating a line drawn from the coaches' chairs to the Match Scorer/Timer table. Similar to basketball, this is a "limit line" which you can follow when sitting or kneeling to take photographs. The coaching chairs have been placed in a designated area.
- B. Please do not stand in front of the Team Scoreboards.
- C. If videotaping or taking photos from Press Row, please do not obstruct views of others.

Under no conditions can we allow you to stand or kneel in front of the limit line:

- 1. The scorers and timers must have a clear visual sight to watch matches.
- 2. The official must have room to work around the mat.



7. Match Results and Team Scores

- A. Match results citing wrestlers, high school and results will be distributed as a half page is filled. In addition, after a division is finished for that session, team scores will be listed.
- B. Brackets are updated online throughout each session. In addition, complete results are loaded into AP Exchange each night when wrestling has concluded.
- C. Occasionally there are errors in the results. If you find an error, please bring it to the attention of the head table.

8. Media Interview Request System

- A. To interview a coach or wrestler during Sessions 1-4, complete a request slip and hand it to one of the press row assistants. A runner will take the request slip to the coach. Coaches and wrestlers are encouraged to do interviews. The runner will try to notify you if the coach clearly declines your request. Once the match is finished the coach/wrestler will go to the media interview room located in the northeast corner.
- B. For the **CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES**, a runner has been assigned to each finalist and will automatically take both wrestlers and their coaches to the media interview area on the arena floor level. Please keep in mind that this process may be slowed down by the awards ceremony and/or a cool-down period for the competitors.
- C. Be sure to indicate match number, mat number and media seat number, and plan ahead – give the slip to the usher prior to the match being wrestled. This will be easy to do by following the matchboard and program. Most matches have been pre assigned to a mat number.
- D. **Members of the media are not allowed to interview a wrestler or coach on the arena floor (except in the designated area Saturday evening).** During Sessions 1-4, all interviews must be completed in the media interview room, or in the media viewing area at floor level where media members may watch the matches as they wait for the wrestler/coach. Interviews are also allowed in the auxiliary gymnasium.

9. Official's Decisions

Please help us conduct a first-class tournament by not criticizing the decision of an official. Please keep comments to yourself – especially if you are on the floor.

10. Media Refreshments:

The OHSAA provides media with soft drinks, water and snacks throughout the tournament in the "Board Room," which is located in the NE corner on the right side of the hallway. Also, an early dinner for the media will also be served once per day. Additional food items can be purchased at concession stands located on the Entry Level.

OHSAA