

Wisconsin Wrestling Federation Chairman's Newsletter

The State Chairman's Newsletter is a monthly publication written by the current Wisconsin Wrestling Federation (WWF) State Chairperson. Each newsletter will keep members up-to-date on the business and events of the Wisconsin Wrestling Federation.

February 21, 2012

The WWF Folkstyle Regionals are closing in for us all, so be sure to check the registration form as there are a few changes this year. One notable change is that there will be one weigh-in on Friday evening at each regional host. There will be NO weigh-ins on Saturday morning at any regional location, and there will be no changes allowed after the close of weigh-ins on Friday at 8:00 PM. Please check the registration form for more details on locations of satellite weigh-in sites. Once wrestlers have weighed in at their chosen regional location, including satellite weigh-in sites, wrestlers are not allowed to change weight classes or regionals for competition.

This year at the WWF State Folkstyle Tournament, all individuals wishing to coach matside must be current coach members of USA Wrestling. These memberships can be purchased at <http://www.usawmembership.com>. For everyone 18 years of age and older, a mandatory background screening is required to purchase USA Wrestling coach membership. The background check can be done in advance of the card purchase online for \$15.00 - this is good for two membership years. I encourage all to complete this as soon as possible, as this should ensure that you're able to purchase a coaches card after regionals to be matside at the state tournament. If individuals encounter any difficulty in this process, please call USA Wrestling at 719.598.8181.

The WWF will make every effort to accommodate this change for coaches. An example of this is that there will be college athletes from the regional training sites available to assist with coaching. Another example is that there will be an area on the perimeter of the arena floor for parents that do not have a coach's membership card to be close to the mat but that will not allow for matside coaching. The WWF has had numerous discussions about this change over the past few years. It has been a subject discussed at regional meetings and described at our annual meetings. The board feels strongly that this is the next step to making this event better and will allow us to move forward with coaches' education and training in the future. This change was not a directive from USA Wrestling; the WWF Board of Directors made this decision and are confident that this will be a positive change as we move forward.

This year, the WWF has added a new event on March 18th called "March Matness" at the Wisconsin Dells Center at Chula Vista Resort. This tournament is for those who competed at the Folkstyle Regionals and did not qualify for state (anybody who was third place or lower is eligible to enter this event). If you are called as an alternate to the state tournament, you are not eligible for March Matness as you can only compete in one of these two events. This tournament will be limited to 800 competitors and registration can be done online at TrackWrestling.com or via mail with a post mark deadline of March 12th. The WWF feels that this gives the members an opportunity to compete at a state-wide level amongst comparable competition. This event follows the Dominate in the Dells, a national-level event hosted by the WWF, which will be held on March 17th.

Dave Black, Wisconsin Wrestling Federation Chairman