

NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION WRESTLING MINIMUM WEIGHT ASSESSMENT PARENTAL AWARENESS FORM

The appropriate and healthful control of body weight for wrestlers has been a concern of athletes, coaches, athletic trainers, school physicians, and parents for a number of years. Approximately one-third of wrestlers have used inappropriate weight loss procedures to obtain a lower body weight for wrestling. Regardless of the educational information from national, state and local athletic organizations, unhealthy weight loss procedures continued. Medical concerns for the wrestlers, and the success of other state associations' programs to determine minimum wrestling weight, resulted in the NYSPHSAA governing board approving a Wrestling Weight Certification Program in April 1996. This action was taken after fifteen years of review and study by the Association, which involved the Safety and Research Committee and the NYSPHSAA Wrestling Committee.

The NYSPHSAA Wrestling Minimum Weight Certification Program became mandatory for all member high school wrestling programs, commencing with the 1997-98 wrestling season. The Program is based on two components, assessment of wrestlers to establish a minimum weight at which each athlete will be allowed to compete and nutrition education to promote healthy eating patterns and improved athletic performance.

Schools must follow the provisions of the Wrestling Minimum Weight Certification Program for all wrestlers in varsity and junior varsity programs. Minimum wrestling weight is based upon 7% body fat for males and 14% for females. **The minimum wrestling weight is not established as the athlete's best weight, but rather the minimum weight at which the athlete will be allowed to compete.**

STEPS OF PROCESS: Urinalysis, Body Weight, Skinfolts

1. Wrestler will provide a sample of urine to test for hydration. If the specific gravity of urine is above 1.025, testing cannot continue and testing must be rescheduled after 24 hours has lapsed.
2. Wrestler will be weighed on a digital scale.
3. Wrestler will have sites marked on his body with a marker and have skinfolts raised to determine body fat percentage.

Minimum weight assessment, including urinalysis, may be completed only by health care professionals who have successfully completed the NYSPHSAA's Wrestling Minimum Weight Assessor's Workshop. An athlete found to have cheated in the hydration test process will be ineligible to compete in wrestling for the season.

APPEAL PROCEDURE:

A wrestler may appeal his/her skinfold measurements or calculations. Appeals may not be done on the same day as the original assessment. They are to be conducted on day one, two or three after the original assessment - three consecutive calendar days (count Sundays, holidays and days school is closed). Appeal procedures must be completed prior to any competition. ALL COSTS INCURRED ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT/ATHLETE. Step 1 must be completed three days after the date of the original assessment. Step 2, hydrostatic testing, must be completed within five days of Step 1. If Step 1 is bypassed, Step 2 must be completed within five days from the original assessment.

I, the parent/guardian of _____, have read the information above and I am aware of the minimum weight assessment process.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Student-Athlete Signature _____ Date _____

Failure to have a signed copy on file does not excuse the student-athlete from the assessment process and/or related penalties.

The School's Athletic Director is to keep a copy on file until the season is completed.