

South Jersey Youth Wrestling League

Bylaws

Adopted 07/13/2005

Updated 9/22/08

Mission Statement

The Mission of the South Jersey Youth Wrestling League (SJYWL) is to promote a safe competitive and instructional environment for area youth wrestling clubs to participate in where every athlete can compete. The intent of this league is to promote the sport of wrestling while encouraging good sportsmanship and proper conduct of its athletes, coaches, and parents.

Article I Name:

The name of this organization is the South Jersey Youth Wrestling League (SJYWL).

Article II Purpose:

The purpose of the league is to provide a competitive wrestling league for member teams in South Jersey and provide rules and guidelines to follow. The intention of this league is to create an atmosphere which will aide in teaching of skills, sportsmanship, how to compete as a team, and encourage continued participation in the sport.

Article III Membership

The SJYWL consists primarily of, but is not limited to, teams from the South Jersey Area. Membership is open to any South Jersey team in which has demonstrated good sportsmanship, ethical conduct and financial responsibility. Any team in which petitions the league and demonstrates these characteristics may be voted in by a two-thirds majority vote of the leagues members. All approved teams will be for the next following season.

Each member team must declare one representative. That representative shall attend all league meetings and is responsible for the distribution of all league information to their member team. If any representative cannot make a meeting they must appoint someone to attend for them. Any new teams to the league will be required to pay the dues plus the league entrance fee.

Current team members will be called Full Charter Membership Team who has the option to fields both a Varsity and Junior Varsity team which must be determined prior to the current season's scheduling meeting. Associate Membership Team will only field a Junior Varsity team with no Varsity team. Associated Membership team has no league voting rights.

Disbandment:

In the event the league should have to fold, all funds currently maintained by the league will be held for 6 months following the end of the season. After that time and with no reformation of the league, all funds will be distributed evenly to the teams participating in the league at the end of the previous season.

Article III Membership (continued)

Unless part of these bylaws all- applicable rules governing the competition of the league will be in accordance of the latest Wrestling Rules Book from the NJISAA.

Article IV Administration

Section 1 Organization and Election of Officers

The SJYWL will be composed of one administrator from each team. Each team is entitled to one vote. League officers will be elected by a simple majority vote at the last meeting in March and will serve for one year. The elected positions will be: President, Vice President, VP/League Coordinator, Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 2 Duties of Elected Officers:

President - The President is responsible for overseeing and coordinating the operation of the league. He will chair all meetings and call for votes of approval on all issues. He will delegate authority, assign specific functions and create special committees as needed. The President will have signature authority on all league issued checks. The President will conduct all league meetings in his absence the Vice President or Treasurer shall conduct the meeting.

Vice President - The Vice-President will assist the President in his duties and will assume the President's responsibilities in his absence including conducting the league meetings. The VP will have signature authority in the event the President is unavailable.

VP/League Coordinator- The VP/League Coordinator will assist in setting up league matches with all members of the SJYWL. He will be responsible for ensuring all member teams receive the season schedules and to coordinate referees for all league matches.

Secretary - The Secretary will prepare minutes of all League meetings and distribute them to all members. He will prepare, maintain and distribute a current directory of names, addresses and telephone numbers of all League members. He will maintain files on all correspondence and insurance policies. He will maintain accurate attendance records of each League meeting. He will aid the president in the preparation of League meeting agendas.

Treasurer - He will collect, disburse and maintain records of all financial transactions of the League. He will account for all receipts and disbursements and make these records available when requested by League members. He will provide a financial report at each League meeting. The treasurer has signature authority on all league issued checks. All league checks will require 2 signatures, however 3 people will have authority: The treasurer and the President will be primary and the VP in the event of Presidents absence. In the event the President and the VP are absent the Treasurer will conduct the monthly meetings.

Article V Meetings

The President shall conduct all meetings and is responsible for ensuring all meetings are conducted in an orderly fashion. In his absence the Vice President shall assume this responsibility. In the event the President and the Vice President are absent the Treasurer will conduct the meeting.

The league shall conduct a minimum of 12 meetings per year and a seeding meeting. Other meetings may be called at the discretion of the officers.

Article V Meeting (continued)

All teams are required to have a representative present at all league meetings. Failure to send a representative will result in fines. All fines and penalties are covered in Article VIII “Fees and Penalties”.

A quorum for a League meeting will be one half (1/2) of the current League voting members. A quorum is required in order to vote on any issue.

Article VI Amendments

To amend the Constitution and Bylaws of the League, the amendments must be presented, read and discussed at one meeting and voted for and approved by a three quarter majority of the voting members attending the following meeting. All changes to the bylaws should be made during the off-season.

Article VII Insurance

Each member team shall carry insurance covering their team, coaches and referees when at a SJYWL function. Each Member team must provide the league secretary with a copy of their insurance by the November meeting each year.

Article VIII Fees/ Penalties

Membership fees and penalty fees will be voted on annually at the first meeting of the new season. All fees will be due prior to the start of the first meet. Penalty fees may be assessed for forfeiting league matches, or missed league meetings by the executive board.

Missed Meetings

Penalty fees will be on an escalating scale. \$50.00 for the first missed meeting. The fine will increase to \$100.00 for the next 2nd missed meeting and \$200.00 for a third. Associate Member Team’s penalty fees for missed meetings will be set at 50% of the fees assessed to charter member teams. The team will be placed on probation and given written notification from the league stating that Probation will last for 1 year and in which they will not allowed to vote on league matters, and if they miss a 4th meeting the member teams will meet to discuss potential expulsion from the SJYWL.

Forfeiture of Team Match- When a team forfeits a League match without 24 hours notice will be subject to fine of \$100.00. Also, the opposing team will receive the forfeit win and team points for that win.

League Entrance Fee- League Entrance Fees for a new Charter Membership team will be set at \$500.00. The Associate Membership teams League Entrance Fees will be set at 50% of the Charter Membership Fees.

Article VIII Fees/ Penalties (continued)

Annual Dues- Annual Dues for Charter Membership teams will be set at \$250.00 and Associate Membership Annual Dues Fee will be set at 50% of the Charter Membership's Annual Dues. Annual Dues will be determined and set annually prior to season start.

Article VII Fees/Penalties (continued)

League Annual Dues must be paid to the league on or before January 1st for the current season. A 10% fine will be added to the Annual Dues if fees are paid after January 1st.

Article IX Team Rosters

Member teams shall use the official SJYWL roster sheet (Attachment II). The secretary will provide a standard format to use when submitting the roster. This roster will become the official roster and will be retained by the secretary until copies are made and returned to each team. Each team must certify that each of their roistered wrestlers meets the following minimum requirements.

- The wrestler must be listed on the team roster before the first League meeting in January or attached to an amended roster.
- The wrestler must be available to wrestle at 50% or more of the league matches of that season. “JV” matches count as league matches.
- All wrestlers must be residents from a team’s geographic boundary, which is described as the local high school sending district for that town. Any wrestler not from that district must have an approved SJYWL waiver (attachment III). Report Cards or official school document will be considered proof of geographic boundary. If geographic residency is a question with any wrestler a current utility bill will be required as proof of residency.
- All wrestlers must be age and weight certified. The league will hold three weigh-ins dates as follows:
 - A team may adopt membership requirements that exceed the league requirements.
 - a) **Preseason-** Age and weight certification to be held at a centralized location that will be decided at a league meeting. Each team will be given a standardized weigh in sheet. The wrestlers should be listed according to their approximate weight, starting from the lowest.
 - b) **Varsity duals-** weigh ins will open thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of match time and the scales will stay open until the start of the first match. Under the event of an emergency situation where a wrestler cannot meet the required weigh in time schedule an exception to allow the wrestler to weigh in late may be granted provided notification was made to the opposing team head coach prior to the closing of the weigh in time period. The exception to allow this wrestler to weigh in late must be agreed to by the to head coaches who are competing in that dual meet.

Article IX (Team Roster Continued)

- c) **SJYWL Dual championships-** all wrestlers competing in the SJYWL Dual championships will be weighed in at the host site of the number one seeding team prior to the team championship competition. Weigh ins will open forty-five (45) minutes prior to the start of team championship match time and the scales will stay open until the start of the first match. Under the event of an emergency situation where a wrestler cannot meet the required weigh in time schedule an exception to allow the wrestler to weigh in late may be granted provided notification was made to the opposing team head coach prior to the closing of the weigh in time period. The exception to allow this wrestler to weigh in late must be agreed to by the to head coaches who are competing in that team championship match. Under the event an agreement cannot be reach to allow the wrestler to weigh in late the host team's head coach makes the final decision in the matter.

If the number one seeded team cannot host the Team Dual Championships at their facility then the second seeded team has the opportunity to host the dual Team Championships at their facility.

If the second seeded team cannot host the Team Dual Championships at their facility then the third seeded team has the opportunity to host the Dual Team Championships at their facility.

If the third seeded team cannot host the Team Dual Championships at their facility then the fourth seeded team has the opportunity to host the Dual Team Championships at their facility.

- d) **SJYWL Individual League Tournament-** All wrestlers competing in the tournament will be weighed in prior to league Tournament. All wrestlers must be weighed in **for** the tournament and there will be satellite weigh ins.
- At the official weigh in, all wrestlers will step on the scale stripped to their undergarments (underwear, or singlet) and the league official will assign their certified weight. Female wrestlers are to wear t-shirts, shorts, or singlet.
 - A 2 tenths of a pound allowance will be allocated to all wrestlers stepping on the scale wearing undergarments. 4 tenths of a pound will be allowed for wrestlers wearing a singlet. This rule pertains to all league weigh ins (Certification, Dual Championship, and League Tournament). **Female wrestlers will be allowed a .6 lb. Allowance for singlet and t-shirt.**
 - A wrestler will be allowed to wrestle only in his/her certified weight class and only bump up one weight class during dual meets.

A wrestler must meet the requirements listed above to be eligible to participate in the league tournaments unless the team representing the wrestler requests a waiver of these requirements for that wrestler at a league meeting.

The age of the wrestlers is determined by their age of December 31 of that season.

Article X Conduct

It is the responsibility of the team's administrator, coaches, and parents to demonstrate good sportsmanship and behavior at all times. Abusive behavior towards any wrestler, coach, parents, or official will not be tolerated.

Any action, which conflicts with the rules of the CONSTITUTION and BY-LAWS of the league, will not be tolerated. It is the duty of each team administrator or his representative to control the conduct of their team. Each team must have all parents and coaches fill out the league "Code of Conduct" form (see attachment I). Each team is required to keep a copy of all forms with their rosters.

If a wrestler is disqualified from a league-sponsored match or tournament for un-sportsmanlike conduct by the wrestling official he/she will not be able to participate in the next (1) league sponsored match or league sponsored tournament.

Complaint Procedure:

The procedure to address a formal complaint is as follows:

1. The complaining team or teams must submit the complaint in writing to any league officer.
2. A executive meeting will be held within 7 days to discuss the complaint and send a letter to the president of the team or teams in which are the subject of the complaint requesting an response to address the complaint. This letter must be sent to all member teams. The complaint letter will list each alleged infraction of the Constitution and By-laws and the complaining team.
3. The complaints will be discussed at the next league meeting or at the discretion of the "Board of Officers" at a special league meeting. All teams involved in the complaint must be present.
4. After the complaint has been discussed, the complaint must be closed by one of the following motions:
 - (3/4 majority is required)
 - a) Withdrawal of the complaint by the teams that lodged the complaint
 - b) Dismissal of complaint
 - c) caution- league will issue a verbal and/ or written warning
 - d) Expel- offender will be expelled permanently for all league functions.

The presiding league officer will rule the complaint as closed if none of the above motions are approved.

Article XI Match Rules

- A. All matches of the SJYWL 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.
- All JV matches shall consist of three 1 minute periods; all Varsity matches shall consist of one 1 minute first period and two one and a half minute periods.
 - All matches are officiated by a certified referee.
 - Officials have the authority to eject any wrestler or coach for unsportsmanlike conduct.
 - Officials must be certified by the NJISAA.
 - Proper conduct of each team's wrestlers, coaches and fans will be the responsibility of their organization.
 - The **home** team shall report the match results to the League Coordinator on the following Monday after the match. Failure to do so will result in a team fine of \$25.00.
 - Team Scoring shall be as follows:
 - **Junior Varsity**- No team score will be kept
 - **Varsity**- NJSIAA team scoring will be used:
 - Decision -3 team points (winning by less than 8 points)
 - Major decision- 4 team points (winning by 8-14 points)
 - Technical Fall- 5 team points (winning by 15 points and match ends)
 - Fall- 6 team points
 - Forfeit- 6 team points
 - Each SJYWL team will accrue points for league scheduled meets during the season. Point accrual is as follows:
 - a. Win= 2 points
 - b. Tie= Referee will use NJISAA criteria to determine winner
 - c. Loss= 0 points
 - Seeding will for the Championship Duals will be as follows:
 - a. Head to head competition
 - b. Total points scored for team during season (match scores)
 - c. Total points scored against during season (match scores)

Article XII Divisions and Weight Classes

Junior Varsity - Member teams will include each wrestler's rating on the roster. The purpose of this rating is to help assure fairness and competitively when pairing for competition. The rating will be on a scale of one to six using the following guidelines:

Level 1 – First year inexperienced, not athletic wrestler.
Having difficulty learning basic skills.
Must be protected from level 3 wrestlers

Level 2 – First year average wrestler
He is able to learn basic skills but has not mastered any.
Average aggressive and competitive nature
Coaches must monitor and adjust his level to 3 as he gains experience
This exception must met the following criteria:
1. He can not compete against level 4 wrestlers
2. Has not had a competitive match in his last 3 bouts while rated as a level 3 wrestler.

Level 3 – A veteran wrestler with below average athletic ability and /or competitive nature, or A first year wrestler, who has above average athletic ability, is aggressive and / or has a very competitive nature. This first year wrestler has been able to learn and master a number of basic skills.

Level 4 – Average veteran wrestler or exceptional first year wrestler.

Level 5 – Above average veteran wrestler.
He has mastered basic skills and some advanced skills.
He is capable of wrestling in tournaments.
He can compete with level 5 and 6 rated teammates at practice.
He must be rated a level 5 wrestler if he has placed (novice and forfeit placing excluded) in any open tournament during the current season.

Level 6 – Experience / exceptional veteran wrestler.
Capable of wrestling competitively in any tournament and places first or second consistently.

Pairing: pairing at meets must be done with the object of setting up matches which are as competitive as possible. Every effort must be made to keep ages within +/- one year, weight difference within 10 percent and a rating within +/- one level. The head coach of the relevant teams must approve any match that does not meet these guidelines and the assigned referee must be advised of the situation prior to the match.

Any varsity wrestler may participate in a J.V. Match provided the wrestler is matched according to the J.V. Pairings Guide lines. Both Teams Head Coaches must agree prior to the match.

Article XII Divisions and Weight Classes (Continued)

Varsity (No age restriction, No High School Wrestlers) Team scoring same as High school 60, 64, 68, 72, 76, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 107, 114, 122, 130, 140, 150, 160, Hwt. (Min weight 160 max weight 220 wrestlers must be within 30 lbs. of each other. In the event both teams have heavyweights that are not within the allotted weight difference it will be declared a double forfeit.)

Article XIII League Tournament

A championship tournament shall be held at the end of each season. Any team may apply to host it. If more than one team wishes to hold the tournament, a vote of members present will decide on the location. The SJYWL shall be responsible for all tournament financial affairs. The host team will be responsible for the cafeteria and 10% of the profits from the cafeteria go to the league. The tournament will hold divisions for novice, and experienced wrestlers. All wrestlers must weigh in on a date decided by league. There will be a satellite weigh in. The tournament format will be decided at the annual league meeting.

Eligibility

- A wrestler must have wrestled at least 50% SJYWL matches to be eligible for the tournament. Any Exceptions will be voted on by the coaches during the seeding meeting. Junior Varsity matches count as league matches.

Seeding Criteria

- Winning percentage (wins divided by total matches). If undefeated, the wrestler with the most matches prevails.
- Head to head competition. In cases where three or more wrestlers have the same record, these criteria will only apply if one of the wrestlers beat ALL of the others being considered.
- Number of pins.
- Number of technical falls.
- Number of major decisions.
- Fewest wins by forfeit.
- The wrestler placing higher in the previous year's tournament. If the same finish, the wrestler returning closer to the weight class of the previous year will prevail.
- Vote of coaches.
- If none of the above criteria are met then it will be a blind draw

Awards

- Individual awards will be given for the first, second and third place finishers for the league tournament.

Article XIII League Tournament (Continued)

Vendors

All Vendors will be coordinated through the League Coordinator and approved by the league members. All vendors will be required to give 10% of their profits to the SJYWL.

CafeteriaThe host team will be responsible for all aspects of running the cafeteria. The host team will give 10% of all profits to the SJYWL.

South Jersey Youth Wrestling League

Code of Conduct

The following athletic code of conduct is based on the NJ model of the athletic code of conduct in accordance with the provisions of P.L. 2002, Chapter 74.

Youth sports programs play an important role in promoting the physical, social and emotional development of children. It is therefore essential for parents, coaches and officials to encourage youth athletes to embrace the values of good sportsmanship. Moreover, adults involved in youth sports events should be models of good sportsmanship and should lead by example by demonstrating fairness, respect and self-control.

I therefore pledge to be responsible for my words and actions while attending, coaching, officiating or participating in a youth sports event and shall conform my behavior to the following code of conduct:

1. I will not engage in unsportsmanlike conduct with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
2. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in unsportsmanlike conduct with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
3. I will not engage in any behavior which would endanger the health, safety or well-being of any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
4. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in any behavior which would endanger the health, safety or well-being of any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
5. I will not use drugs or alcohol while at a youth sports event and will not attend, coach, officiate or participate in a youth sports event while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
6. I will not permit my child, or encourage any other person, to use drugs or alcohol at a youth sports event and will not permit my child, or encourage any other person, to attend, coach, officiate or participate in a youth sports event while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
7. I will not engage in the use of profanity.
8. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in the use of profanity.
9. I will treat any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or ability.
10. I will encourage my child to treat any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or ability.
11. I will not engage in verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
12. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
13. I will not initiate a fight or scuffle with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
14. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to initiate a fight or scuffle with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.

I hereby agree that if I fail to conform my conduct to the foregoing while attending, coaching, officiating or participating in a youth sports event I will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to the following in any order or combination:

1. Verbal and/or written warning issued by a league.
2. Offender will be expelled permanently for all league functions.

Participants Name

Town

Parent or Guardians Signature

Date

SJYWL Waiver Form

(Please Print)

I _____ hereby request a waiver for my child _____

(Parent or Guardian)

(Print child's Name)

to wrestle with _____.

(Wrestling Club)

I fully understand that the league bylaws require a Signature of my home town team and an approval from the league before I can be a member of their

program. I do not currently reside in the geographic location of this Jr. Wrestling program. I have been

explained the guidelines and understand that, if the following season I choose to return, I may do so.

Required: Please describe the reason for your request below. Be detailed as possible.

Current Coach's Signature _____

(Print and Sign)

Desired Club Coach's Signature _____

(Print and Sign)

Parent or Guardian's Signature _____

(Print and Sign)

All requests must be submitted before the second weekend of December.

