

# **News** from the **N.Y.S. Wrestling Coaches Assoc.**

Contact: Rich Romeo (585) 396-1654  
Dick Farfaglia (315) 593-6017

## **Coaches Association Addresses State Wrestling Committee**

*They argue multiple entry state tournament proposal would be fairer to the athletes, improve the tournament and showcase the sport .*

On Monday, October 6, at the NYSPHSAA offices in Delmar New York, NYSWCA president Rich Romeo, accompanied by vice-president John Leone and executive director Dick Farfaglia, presented the coaches association proposal for a multiple entry state wrestling tournament to the state wrestling committee and Nina VanErk, the executive director of the state association.

The NYSPHSAA Wrestling Committee makes recommendations to the Championship and Executive Committees about the state championship tournament and other scholastic wrestling issues. Each section is represented in the committee and has one vote. The committee's support is important to winning final approval of the proposal.

The multiple entry proposal, developed by the coaches association and Assemblyman Joseph Morelle, Chairman of the New York State Assembly Committee on Sports, is being advanced for consideration for the 2006 state tournament when the current experimental two-class system expires. It calls for a single-class 32 man bracket tournament with each of the existing 13 sections guaranteed their one entry and the remaining 19 entries to be apportioned based on the number of schools with wrestling programs in the section. The proposal would increase the number of athletes who would get to participate in the state tournament. Furthermore, it addresses the inequity of the current system which does not give all wrestlers an equal or similar opportunity to qualify for the tournament.

“There was a lot of interest and I think that a lot of support already exists for the multiple entry proposal,” said Romeo. “This proposal is more fair to the wrestlers, and would improve the New York Wrestling Tournament tremendously”.

No formal vote or poll of the wrestling committee members was taken but it was put on the agenda for further review at their next meeting in January.