

New York State Wrestling Officials Association

Girls Wrestling Officials “Pathways” document

Adopted by NYSWOA 05/16/24

This document groups together 4 types of individuals who may be interested in officiating girls freestyle wrestling and identifies the requirements/pathways for them to become certified to officiate NYSPHSAA girls freestyle wrestling events. The 4 groups are comprised of individuals who are: (1) current NYSWOA members who are in good standing and are USA Wrestling (USAW) certified, (2) current NYSWOA members who are in good standing and are not USAW certified, (3) individuals who are not a member of the NYSWOA and are USAW certified, and (4) individuals who are not a member of the NYSWOA and are not currently USAW certified.

1. Current NYSWOA Folkstyle Varsity Official, current USAW Certification

- NYSWOA boys varsity official who is a member in good standing of a local NYSWOA chapter (passed NFHS exam, met NYSPHSAA 5-point program, met financial obligations, etc.)
- Take and pass a Freestyle written exam annually.
- Qualified to officiate freestyle wrestling by USAW at the M3, M2, M1C, or M1 level, and has current USAW Leader Member Certification.
 - An active varsity folkstyle official who is a M3 level freestyle official may officiate girls wrestling events at the local level during the regular season.
- The Girls Wrestling Rules Interpreter designated by the NYSWOA will submit the names of those qualified officials to the NYSWOA Secretary by October 1st of each year. The NYSWOA secretary will send those names to the local chapters and those chapter’s assigners will assign all girls freestyle contests to any officials in their chapter who have USAW girls freestyle certification.

2. Current NYSWOA Folkstyle Varsity Official, not USAW Certified

- NYSWOA boys varsity official who is a member in good standing of a local NYSWOA chapter (passed NFHS exam, met NYSPHSAA 5-point program, met financial obligations, etc.)
- Take and pass a Freestyle written exam annually
- Attend USAW clinic(s) and become qualified to officiate girls freestyle wrestling by USAW at the M3, M2, M1C, or M1 level and obtain USAW Leader Member Certification.
 - An active varsity folkstyle official who is a M3 level freestyle official may officiate girls wrestling events at the local level during the regular season.
- The Girls Wrestling Rules Interpreter designated by the NYSWOA will submit the names of those qualified officials to the NYSWOA Secretary by October 1st of each year. The NYSWOA secretary will send those names to the local chapters and those chapter’s assigners will assign all girls freestyle contests to any officials in their chapter who have USAW girls freestyle certification.

3. Current USAW Certification, not a member of NYSWOA

- Join a NYSWOA chapter, pay all dues (including insurance), pass background/fingerprinting, meet all other requirements of the local chapter to be in good standing.
- Take and pass a Freestyle written exam annually.
- Meet requirements for the 5-point program. This may include NYSWOA and/or chapter business meetings and specific girls freestyle meetings or clinics set up by the girls freestyle chapter interpreter, regional interpreter or state interpreter, or USAW. Attendance at those meetings must be documented in writing to the chapter secretary.
- Will only be eligible to officiate NYSPHSAA girls freestyle events. If member also wants to officiate boys/mixed competition wrestling they will need to meet the requirements of the local chapter to be eligible.
- Certified to officiate girls freestyle wrestling by USAW at the M3, M2, M1C, or M1 level, and has current USAW Leader Member Certification.
 - An active varsity folkstyle official who is a M3 level freestyle official may officiate girls wrestling events at the local level during the regular season.

4. Not a member of NYSWOA, not USAW certified

- Join a NYSWOA chapter, pay dues, pass background/fingerprinting, meet any other requirements of the local chapter to be in good standing.
- Take and pass a Freestyle written exam annually.
- Meet requirements for the 5-point program. This may include NYSWOA and/or chapter business meetings and specific freestyle meetings or clinics set up by the girls freestyle chapter interpreter, regional interpreter or state interpreter, or USAW. Attendance at those meetings must be documented in writing to the chapter secretary.
- Will only be eligible to officiate NYSPHSAA girls freestyle events. If member also wants to officiate boys/mixed competition wrestling they will need to meet the requirements of the local chapter to be eligible.
- Minimum of 2 consecutive years of freestyle officiating to be eligible to officiate girls freestyle varsity matches
- Certified to officiate girls freestyle wrestling by USAW at the M3, M2, M1C, or M1 level, and has current USAW Leader Member Certification.
 - An active varsity folkstyle official who is a M3 level freestyle official may officiate girls wrestling events at the local level during the regular season.

5. Other Items

- Officials assigned to sectional or regional wrestling events and to the Girls State Tournament shall be at the M2, M1C, or M1 level, and have current USAW Leader Member Certification.
- Two officials per mat shall be used in individual State Tournaments.
- Officials who are refereeing both NYSPHSAA folkstyle and freestyle events can meet the 5 point plan through a combination of folkstyle and freestyle meetings and clinics. Officials who are refereeing both styles will need to pass a written exam for each style annually.

NYSPPHSAA Definition of “Approved Official” and “Five Point Program”:

“Officials shall qualify through completion of the **Officials’ Five Point Program**. Each approved official shall:

1. Observe the constitutions and bylaws of their local and state officials’ organization.
2. Attend interpretation meetings and clinics of the local organization each year.
3. Give satisfactory evidence of proficiency in the mechanics of officiating and of competent performance related to the specific sport.
4. Pass the National Federation, State, or other approved rules examination.
5. Are listed with the NYSPPHSAA, Inc. Executive Director”

NYSPPHSAA Handbook (rev. 08/23)

ByLaws and Eligibility Standards, Section 4, “Approved Officials”, (Page 29)