***SUFFOLK WRESTLING OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION, INC.*** ***2025-26 Meeting Summaries***

**1/5/26 Membership Meeting -Summary**

- **Ethics Committee**
  - **Purpose – address any SWOA Constitution issues and submit recommendation(s) to Executive Board**
  - **Greg Isgro appointed, chair**
  - **Greg will appoint two non-executive board members**
- **Constitution/Policy Manual - Executive Board review underway**
  - **Assimilation of 'girls' component into SWOA - Article XIII**
  - **Technical corrections**
- **Candidate school - planning (goal 15-20 candidates)**
  - **Site: Fifth Avenue School, Bay Shore**
  - **Dates - TBA March**
  - **Recruitment - flyers at tournaments/word of mouth to B&G coaches**
- **Elections - scheduled for 1/20/26**
- **Injury/Accidents reports - primarily for wrestlers requiring special assistance/removal from site.**
- **Rules Interpretations – Chad Smith**
  - **Stalling**
    - **'Step-out' - NOT defending against TD attempt = STALLING**
    - **'Step-out' - DEFENDING against TD attempted = NOT stalling**
  - **Fleeing the mat = AVOIDING an imminent scoring maneuver = TV**
  - **Verbalize to wrestlers**
    - **'SET' - just prior to referee's position start**
    - **'Return to Center'(following out-of-bounds) 'herd' wrestlers to center to prevent 'lagging back'**
    - **Chicken wing - 'Keep it legal'**
  - **No significant action - 'STOP' match a permissible call, Rule 6, article 5c (page 35)**

## <u>12/15/25 Membership Meeting - Summary</u>

- **Rules Interpretations - Chad Smith**
  - **Near Falls**
    - **Verbalize count**
    - **Criteria review (Rule Book: Sec11, Article 2, pages 24-25)**
      - **High bridge (head on mat) may exceed 4 inches**
      - **Both shoulders 4 inches or less**
      - **45 degrees or less (one shoulder on mat)**
      - **Both elbows**
    - **Scoring (defensive wrestler: grabs headgear, illegal hold, unnecessary roughness or unsportsmanlike conduct)**
      - **NF held 2 seconds: award 3 NF points + one infraction point = 4 points**
      - **NF held 3 seconds: award 4 NF points + one infraction point = 5 points**
      - **NF held 4 seconds: award 5 NF points + one infraction point = 6 points**
  - **Dual meet - record time of day when signing scorebook to allow 30 minutes for team score mathematical correction**
  - **Once bout concludes only wrestler infractions are unsportsmanlike or flagrant misconduct**

- Ultimate Tie-breaker - quick stalemate
  - Side headlock
  - Pick-up and carry
  - Dropping to 1 or 2 ankles
- No mouth-piece discovered once match begins;
  - TV for opponent
  - Contestant may insert new mouth-piece; using injury time
  - No replacement , after injury time = Disqualification
  -

## 12/4/25 Membership Meeting – Summary

- Membership 2025-26
  - 48 active members (8 B&G, 2 G/O); three members chose to be 'inactive'
  - 8 members chose to discontinue their membership or resigned
- Zebraweb transition successfully continues as members adapt
- SWOA
  - Website; all docs, forms, interpretations updated
  - Treasury
    - Revenue marginally exceeds current and anticipated expenses
    - Membership to participate in multiple scholarship fund revenue generating initiatives; information to follow.
  - Constitution needs technical corrections; membership to receive draft amendments for their approval. Suggestions welcome.
  - Contract (2026-2029) negotiations nearly complete with general improvements in member fees and simplification of late fee rules.
    Special thanks to Len Barone for his leadership on behalf of membership

- Section XI
  - All assignments/adjustments to be updated via Zebraweb
  - Contact Carla only for accepted matches you are initiating cancellation
- Rules Interpretations - Guy Leggio
  - Green Book ( 2025-26 version) updated, distributed and posted to website
  - Reviewed NFHS exam analytics; questions with most incorrect answers.

## 11/18/25 Membership/Rules Interpretation Meeting – SUMMARY

- SCWOA officials' bags, compliments of Jumper Leggio Foundation distributed to members
  - Each bag contains folder of essential documents/forms for member use
  - All documents/forms to be posted to website
- NYSPHSAA Tournament nominees; (*correction from prior meeting announcement*)
  - Dual Meet Championships Official: *no SWOA nominee*
  - Individual Championships mat Officials: *Bobby Kizis, Greg Mazzola, Chad Smith*
    Evaluator- Sean Brocking
- SWOA website
  - Updated periodically with the most current information, forms, links, etc.
    http://www.scwrestlingref.com/swoa
  - USERNAME: *takedown* PASSWORD: *threepoints* (changed from twopoints)
- Section XI
  - Zebraweb transition/reconciliation continues – technical support (610.458.8950 )
  - 2025-26 assignments to be emailed week of 11/17/25 for members to accept/decline
- Rules Interpretations (girls/freestyle) session led by Umberto Fasolino
- Rules interpretations (boys/folkstyle) session led by Chad Smith - **HIGHLIGHTS BELOW**

- Re-read 2024-26 Meeting Folder
- OUT OF BOUNDS - 'point of contact'
  - ON MAT use 'in the cylinder' criteria
  - ON FEET use actual mat contact criteria, at least one foot must be 'in-bounds', touching the mat. When they are on their feet, it's still cylinder, but only feet.
- Re-read use of rules
  - 6.5c - permissible to STOP match if no action
  - 5.11.2e - offensive wrestler must restrain defensive wrestler in nearfall criteria, they are in control if they are the offensive wrestler.
  - Assassin hold - should be stopped before it occurs; POTENTIALL DANGEROUS
    - By definition ASSASSIN is ILLEGAL upon application.
    - Hands unlocked is OK
    - Hands locked, STOP, unless he steps over, then it's illegal IMMEDIATLY
- Near-side Blair hold - POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS; use verbal warning for repeated use
- Shoe off
  - In takedown attempt, takedown can be scored, then
  - Stalling infraction can be called
- Neutral starting position - wrestlers must be stationary prior to start whistle
- Use of precise rule book signals/hand position encouraged
- HOME team chooses 'random' draw or '103 lbs' as weight class starting point. (*This is a PENDING interpretation*)
- Leg sleeve(s) permitted; must 'roll down' for pre-meet skin check
- Wrestler accepting FORFEIT should be in uniform; T-shirt, shorts, warm-ups permitted
- DEFAULT can be called wrestler or by coach.
  *NOTE*: 'TAP OUT' *is an immediate indication of* INJURY TIME,
- Head/Neck/Cervical Column – HNC 'time-out' must be initiated by appropriate health care professional (AHCP) or referee. If no AHCP present, HNC time out not available.
- Technical Fall - wrestling continues until NEAR FALL criteria no longer exists, then STOP MATCH/ MATCH OVER; defensive wrestler cannot score points

## 11/5/25 Membership Meeting- SUMMARY

- Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence for Barbara Gathard and Paul Brodmerkel
- Executive Board Members introductions; Jovan Ayoub
- Varsity official designations; Greg Amendola, Jovan Ayoub, Steve Kalogeras, Doug Lotten
- Candidate class (2026-27 season) re-scheduled for late March 2026
- NFHS exam
  - Scores (screenshots) to be submitted to J. Gathard; 80 or better is required.
  - Closing date November 30, 2025
- Zebraweb issues
  - Section XI availability being prepared; all members advised to re-check their profile/calendars.
  - Dedicated technical support available - 610.458.8950 (Austin O'Neill)
- NYSPHSAA Tournament nominees;
  - Dual Meet Championships Official: Guy Leggio
  - Individual Championships Officials: Bobby Kizis, Greg Mazzola,Shaun McGowin, Chad Smith
    Evaluator- Sean Brocking
- SWOA Organization Structure
  - Girls/freestyle officials to become parallel component and to be fully absorbed by SWOA
  - All officials to be become members of SWOA
  - Membership fee structure (2025-26);
    - Boys/folkstyle $175
    - Girls/freestyle $175
    - Boys & girls $225
    - Inactive $100
- Payment options

- **Zelle:- enroll on your cell phone; locate Suffolk Wrestling Officials Association, Inc.**
  - **Enter cell phone number 631.697.4571**
  - **If using other than your own account/payee name, NOTIFY me, via email, at: jimgathardncs@aol.com**
- **Check payable to *Suffolk Wrestling Officials Association* send to:**
  **Jim Gathard c/o SWOA 255 Helm Lane Bay Shore, NY 11706**
- **Cash payments will not be accepted**

- **Payment received after November 18, 2025 is subject to penalty fee, per SWOA Constitution**
- **Any member experiencing financial hardship should contact Jim Gathard for special payment arrangements consideration.**
- **Interpretations meeting (11/18/25) BSHS wrestling room**
  - **Executive Board 6:00PM**
  - **Girls/freestyle 6:30PM**
  - **Boys/folkstyle 7:30PM**
- **Girls/freestyle class to be offered in March; date/site TBA**
- **Presidents Council contract negotiations continue with focus on dual/tournament and late fees**
- **New officials 'mentor program' to be resurrected for 2026-27 - Greg Mazzola coordinator**
- **SWOA website**
  - **Updated periodically with the most current information, forms, links, etc. http://www.scwrestlingref.com/swoa**
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