

Dear Kansas HS Wrestling Coaches,

We hope that you have had a great start to your 2022-23 season. We as officials are in regular communication with one another from across areas of the state and are working to provide the best experience possible for all wrestlers this season.

As we move into the heart of our season, we need some help from you all to ensure that the lines of communication are clear and frustration about rules are kept to a minimum. One of the main concerns that we have heard is how to consistently enforce proper uniform requirements for girl wrestlers. It is important that we have these conversations in a way that moves us forward despite any one person's comfort level. If we are consistent and straight forward, then we can also minimize or even eliminate awkward situations during weigh-ins.

Here are the rules as a reminder:

Uniforms: 4-1-1a Note, 4-1-1c note

ART. 1a. . . NOTE: Female contestants wearing a one-piece singlet shall wear a sports bra that completely covers their breasts and minimizes the risk of exposure (PlayPic A). Compression shirts worn underneath a one-piece singlet are permitted but not required for female contestants unless needed to ensure complete coverage.

REMINDER NOTE: Female contestants choosing to wear a form-fitted compression shirt, whether as part of a two-piece uniform or under a one-piece singlet, shall also wear a sports bra that completely covers their breasts and minimizes the risk of exposure (PlayPic B).

REMINDER: All wrestlers are required to wear an undergarment that covers their groin and buttocks.



There are a few points that need to be addressed. The rules are clear about what is legal and proper about these uniforms. Sports bras and full coverage underwear are part of the rule. These rules are in place for good reason. If a girl is not wearing a proper undergarment and it is clear to the official, the coach is in large part responsible for that. We as officials commit to

perform our pre-meet duties that includes verifying with head coaches that all wrestlers will be properly equipped and ready to wrestle prior to weigh-ins. One caveat to this rule seems to be girls wearing compression shorts that are similar to volleyball players. While this is an acceptable alternative, please make sure the inseam is the required 4 inches. If it is not, then it violates the rule on the grounds that it does not provide full coverage. We see this as no different than having a mouthguard for braces or a skin form for communicable skin disease. Unfortunately, far different connotations are made when enforcing this rule. Help us out and please have those conversations in your wrestling rooms. This just happens to be a concern that has been brought to us so we would prefer to get ahead of it in order to avoid any unnecessary situations that may lie ahead. If you have questions or concerns, please voice them so we can provide the best possible experience for every person involved.

This type of correspondence has been made more possible because of the efforts to communicate and collaborate between the members of the KWCA and the KWOA. We are grateful for the direction that we are moving with this partnership and hope to continue to use avenues such as this to address concerns in real time and work towards a solution quickly. Our area meetings will be held across the state during the first couple of weeks in January. We encourage you to reach out to your Area supervisor and be part of making those meetings the best they can be by either providing video, particular situations, or attending in person to provide a coaches perspective. Below are the dates and locations for those meetings along with contact information for the officials who will be leading them.

Josh Biera

- Monday/January 9, 2023 7:00 p.m. Garden City High School
- Tuesday/January 10, 2023 7:00 p.m. Colby High School

Angelo Giacalone

- Monday/January 2, 2023 7:00 p.m. Shawnee Mission Northwest Library
- Tuesday/January 3, 2023 7:00 p.m. KSHSAA Hall of Fame Room/Topeka

Jared Martin

- Wednesday/Jan. 11, 2023 7:00 p.m. Fort Scott High School Aux Gym
(Park in East Parking Lot)

Justin Thaw

- Monday/January 9, 2023 6:00 p.m. Wichita Heights High School

Mark Wallace

- Monday/January 9, 2023 7:00 p.m. Salina Smoky Hill Service Center
(605 East Crawford)
- Wednesday/Jan. 18, 2023 7:00 p.m. Hays/Fort Hays State University

Thank you all for your help and we look forward to finishing the year successfully together!

Sincerely,
Kansas Wrestling Area Supervisors

