

Valley Elementary Wrestling League
By-Laws
As Amended October 2009

Article I. Name

This organization shall be known as the Valley Elementary Wrestling League.

Article II. Purpose

Purpose of the organization shall be to promote amateur wrestling and good sportsmanship among member teams.

Article III. Fiscal Year

The organization's fiscal year shall run from September 1 to August 31 of each year.

Article IV. Officers

A. The organization shall consist of the following officers:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. League Commissioner

B. No two (2) officers shall be from the same team if possible.

C. The president shall preside at all meetings. The president shall have the power to enforce the terms and provisions of the by-laws and all other rules and regulations passed by a majority of the representatives in attendance. In the event that the president cannot attend a meeting, the vice president shall preside, with the same powers.

D. The secretary shall keep accurate records of the proceedings of the meetings, and attend to all correspondence pertaining to league business. The secretary shall maintain minutes per year as permanent records.

E. The treasurer shall sign all league checks. The treasurer shall maintain a bank account for all league funds. The treasurer shall give a financial report at each meeting so the treasurer's balance is in the minutes.

F. The league commissioner shall oversee all league activities, and shall serve as tournament chairperson.

Article V. Board of Control

The Board of Control, comprised of the officers of the league, shall review and decide on any controversial issues not covered by these by-laws. The Board of Control can be over-ruled by a majority of the member teams present and voting at the next regular scheduled league meeting.

Article VI. Committees

All committees will be appointed by the president and shall include one (1) officer.

- A. Grievance
- B. By-laws and rules
- C. Tournament and Publicity: This committee will consist of a minimum of one (1) member from six (6) league teams, on an annual rotating basis. Any team refusing to comply with this by-law will be subject to a \$100.00 fine.

Article VII. Membership

- A. Membership in the league shall be open to an affiliated or sponsored community organization on a first come first served basis, accompanied by the necessary fees.
Note – Teams will be accepted when keeping the total number of teams in the league on an even basis.
- B. At no time shall the league membership exceed thirty-two (32) teams.
- C. All members must participate in all league competitions provided for by the by-laws. Failure to do so is subject to a \$100.00 fine with the first offense, automatic probation with the second offense, and revocation of membership by a majority of the member teams present and voting with the third offense.
- D. All member teams must have a varsity team in order to participate in the league.
- E. Each team shall be on probation for a period of one (1) fiscal year, and at the end of that fiscal year a majority vote of the member teams present and voting is necessary for final acceptance. Except for the charter year.
- F. Team on probation shall have no voting rights.
- G. Every team will be subject to an annual league fee to be recommended by the league commissioner and approved by a majority vote of the member teams present at the February meeting. This fee must be paid in full by the March meeting. A \$25.00 per month fine will be levied with the past due amount. NOTE: This fine will accrue each month until the fine is paid; summer months are included due to the fiscal year's running time.
- H. Proof of a team's liability insurance must be submitted to the league secretary by the November meeting, a \$25.00 per match fine will be levied for pas due insurance certificates.
- I. Member teams may be placed back on a one (1) fiscal year probation period by a majority vote of the member teams present and voting. At the end of the fiscal period, the team must be removed from probation by a majority vote of the member teams present and voting or have their membership automatically revoked.

Article VIII. Meetings

- A. The regular meetings shall be held monthly from September through March, on the third Tuesday of the month, at 8:00 PM.
- B. The meeting in September shall be called the Annual Meeting at which time the officers for the wrestling year will be elected.
- C. Each organization or sponsor of a team or teams shall submit two (2) names to the league each year as team representatives.
- D. Each member shall send a minimum of one (1) representative per team with a maximum of two (2) per team, to attend meetings. Failure to do so will result in a fine to the sponsor or organization involved. The fine shall be \$10.00 for the first offense, \$25.00 for the second, \$50.00 for the third and automatic probation for the fourth missed meeting.
- E. Only an attending representative from each team's organization shall be allowed to vote or make motions for that team.
- F. A majority quorum is required for a meeting. NOTE: A quorum is defined as two-thirds (2/3) of the member teams.
- G. The president shall have the tie-breaking vote at any time a tie appears from team voting.
- H. There shall be no smoking during the regularly scheduled league meetings.

Article IX. Rules

- A. P.I.A.A. wrestling rules shall be followed, except for the following:
 - 1. Time periods:
 - a) Varsity:
 - 1) First Period – 1 minute
 - 2) Second Period – 1.5 minutes
 - 3) Third Period – 1.5 minutes
 - 4) Overtime:
 - a. First Period – 1 minute
 - b. Second Period (Tie Breaker) – 30 second ride out
 - b) Junior Varsity:
 - 1) First Period – 1 minute
 - 2) Second Period – 1 minute
 - 3) Third Period – 1 minute
- B. Weights: (in pounds) as amended in October 2006.
 - 1. Weight division changes for future seasons are changed to:
46, 50, 54, 58, 61, 64, 67, 70, 73, 76, 80, 85, 90, 95, 105, 120, 160
 - 2. Participants in the heavy weight bracket must weigh a minimum of 120.1 (or 121.1 after the weight allowance) to ensure that excessive weight differentials do not exist that could jeopardize the safety of the participants.

- C. Ages:
1. Minimum – None
 2. Maximum – 13 years of age after September 1st of each season.
- D. Grade:
1. Minimum – None
 2. Maximum – 6th (sixth) grade.

Article X. Eligibility

- A. Rosters – Team rosters shall consist of the participant’s name, date of birth, age, grade, approximate weight and attending school. The team’s name and coach’s name(s) should also appear on a team’s roster.
- B. Team rosters must be entered on the official website of the VEWL by midnight of the Sunday of the 3rd weekend of November. Copies of the rosters will be e-mailed to the league secretary and the commissioner. If rosters are not entered by specified time, 1st match will be forfeited and each subsequent match after that will be forfeited for each weekend that passes. A wrestler must appear on a team’s roster on the League website by 9:00 PM Friday night in order to earn any team points or tournament seed points for that weekend. In the event that the match for that weekend is postponed, the roster in effect for that weekend continues to apply on the rescheduled date. No wrestler may be on two (2) rosters (league or non-league) in the same season.
- C. A wrestler must participate with a team which represents a high school sending district, where he lives or attends, to be eligible to wrestle varsity or junior varsity for that team in the Valley Elementary Wrestling League.
- D. A wrestler whose parent is a genuine member (school board appointed and approved) of a high school or junior high school wrestling coaching staff shall have the option of wrestling for a team whose roster is restricted to students from the school district where the parent coaches high school or junior high, or a team whose roster is restricted to a students from the school district where the student resides or attends school. Any and all disputes regarding this section of this by-law shall be resolved by a majority vote of the Board of Control of the VEWL.
- E. Any wrestler that is on a roster for a team in the league cannot wrestle varsity or junior varsity for another team in this league, unless the wrestler changes jurisdictional area. Any sending district that has two or more teams in this league may change wrestlers from one of their teams to another only before the first match of the season.
- F. A wrestler cannot wrestle varsity and junior varsity in the same match and must choose between the varsity and junior varsity tournaments, if so qualified.
- G. Eligibility Rule to declare a team eligible for waiver of membership rule. NOTE: Full by-law is attached to the end of these by-laws.

Article XI. Officials

- A. Varsity and junior varsity matches must be officiated by P.I.A.A. officials.
- B. In the event that an official fails to appear for a match the coaches may agree on an official from the gallery.
- C. Officials are assigned by a designated person and the home team should notify the official if the match will be cancelled at least two (2) hours prior to the scheduled time. If not notified, the home team will cover the wage that is average and customary for that year. NOTE: Prices are set at:
 - 1. \$75.00 - per dual match
 - 2. \$150.00 - per quad
 - 3. \$160.00 - for 8 hours of tournament work
 - a) \$20.00 per hour for any time
- D. Should a referee eject a head coach or assistant coach from a match, the team coached by the ejected individual is subject to a \$25.00 fine payable to the league. The situation must be reviewed by the league grievance committee prior to the levy of the fine.

Article XII. Coaches

- A. Coaches are encouraged to require their teams to shake hands after a match.
- B. Coaches are required to avoid running feuds with the officials working a match. Complaints with officials should be aired during a time out. NOTE: This league has been warned that if any coach touches a referee there is a \$10,000.00 fine and jail time will be required.

Article XIII. Duties of the Home Team

- A. The home team must furnish guardians to keep order and to protect the officials and visiting team. The home team is responsible for officials. Failure to do so may result in a fine or forfeit.
- B. The home team shall provide a bench and drinking water for the visiting team.
- C. The home team shall provide a timekeeper, time clocks and a scorekeeper for both home matches and quads. Visitors must approve.
- D. In the event of cancellation, the match must be made up before five (5) days prior to the league tournaments.

Article XIV. Admissions

- A. Admission charge to matches is left up to the home team, but shall not exceed \$3.00 per adult and \$2.00 per child, ages 5 and older. Children under 5 are to be admitted free of charge.
- B. Admission charge to the varsity and junior varsity tournaments shall be voted upon at the meeting prior to the tournaments.

Article XV. Dual Meets

- A. Dual meets shall consist of varsity and junior varsity bouts in the weights stated. Except as specifically noted in these by-laws, all rules applying to the varsity meet shall also apply to the junior varsity meet, including making weight and keeping score. If no varsity is provided, the junior varsity weight must also be forfeited.
- B. If officials are not available, coaches are to weigh in contestants for varsity and junior varsity bouts one half (1/2) hour prior to the start of the meet.
- C. Any wrestler who is going to wrestle in any varsity bouts or in the varsity tournament must certify in the month of December at the lowest weight that he or she will wrestle before the one pound allowance will be given. (This rule also stands for JV wrestlers).
- D. Each home team is required to have match results entered into the VEWL official website no later than midnight on the Monday following the weekend matches. If the results are not entered by this time, a \$25.00 / match missing fine will be incurred. Final match results (last weekend of the regular season) must be entered by midnight of the final Sunday match of the regular season. If this deadline is not met, a \$50.00 / match missing fine will be incurred. League quad results must be entered by midnight of the Monday following the league quads. Failure to meet this deadline will result in a \$50.00 / match missing fine. The certified weight for the match being recorded must be entered for every wrestler included in the results when the results are entered.
- E. Divisions shall be aligned in such a way as to attempt to maintain parity across these divisions. Scheduling shall be done so that each team will have the opportunity to wrestle teams of equal abilities. NOTE: In the event of team cross fires, duals do not count for team placement within your division. An attempt shall be made to crossfire teams of similar dual meet strengths.
 1. If at all possible, dual meet championships shall be wrestled at the end of the regular season.
 2. All first place division teams shall meet, all second place division teams shall meet, etc. The tie breaker for division team standings shall be:
 - a) Total bouts won
 - b) Most points scored
 3. The league will always attempt to maintain four (4) divisions. Under this four division structure shall be two (2) conferences (i.e. Eastern and Western). The two teams in the same conference shall meet at the year-end quads. Then the winners from each conference shall wrestle for league first and second and the losers from each conference shall wrestle for league third and fourth.
 4. A plaque shall be awarded to each first place division team.

Article XVI. Tournaments

- A. Any team interested in hosting a Varsity/Junior Varsity/Exhibition tournament must apply to the league commissioner. The league commissioner will determine per guidelines if the site is adequate. If accepted they will be put at the end of the tournament list and hosting will be determined by rotation.

- B. In the event there are problems, due to weather, in having the tournament go on as scheduled, the host team should call the league commissioner two (2) hours prior to weigh in time. The host team and the commissioner will determine action per postponement or delay.
- C. A team award will be given at the varsity tournament, in accordance with the NFSHSA point system.
- D. An outstanding wrestler award will be given at the varsity league tournament by a vote of one (1) representative from each team.
- E. A wrestler must be certified (wrestling at that weight is also certification) fifty percent (50%) of the weigh-ins in a season by a referee or in his absence, by two (2) opposing coaches, at the weight the wrestler wants to wrestle at in the varsity league tournament. NOTE: Exception: If a wrestler does not certify 50% or more of his team's matches, a waiver may be obtained by the Board of Control.
1. Certification: League certification will take place during the month of December.
 2. All wrestlers will have their 'scratch' weight taken. That 'scratch' weight will be posted on the league web site along with that particular team's roster. The 'scratch' weight will determine the lowest that any particular wrestler is allowed to wrestle at for a particular season.
 3. In the event a wrestler is sick or an unforeseen problem keeps a wrestler from weighing in during December weigh-ins, that wrestler's certification will take place the first possible weigh-in during January at the 'scratch' weight (the 1 lb. growth allowance will not be used for this certification).
 4. If a wrestler has failed to weigh-in or make 'scratch' weight, the issue must be brought before the Board of Control for a solution.
 5. The Varsity tournament will have only 1 weigh-in on the Friday night before the start of the tournament, at the designated sites. Only in the event that Day 2 wrestling is postponed due to weather, we would have an additional weigh-in to take place the evening before wrestling is to resume.
- F. Any wrestler who wrestled in more than 50% of his team's matches at varsity will be ineligible for the Junior Varsity Tournament. NOTE: Exception: If a wrestler has zero (0) varsity wins not including forfeits and the team has no varsity wrestler he is eligible for the junior varsity tournament at the weight.
- G. Eligibility:
1. Each team should enter one (1) wrestler in each weight class that it supplied a varsity wrestler at during the dual meet season.
 2. Any wrestler on the team roster is eligible, provided he meets the criteria; however, coaches should attempt to enter the wrestler who has wrestled the most at each varsity position.
 3. Each weight class forfeited must be forfeited in the junior varsity tournament. NOTE: Refer to Article XVI Section F on exception.
 4. To be eligible for the junior varsity tournament a wrestler must be on the roster and the team must have supplied a varsity wrestler at that weight for the varsity tournament. NOTE: Refer to Article XVI Section F on exception.

H. Seeding points will be awarded towards all league tournaments for each of the designated matches as follows:

1. Varsity win by pin, forfeit, default, disqualification = 7 points
2. Varsity win by technical fall (15 or more points) = 6 points
3. Varsity win by major decision (8 to 14 points) = 5 points
4. Varsity win by decision = 4 points
5. Varsity loss = 1 point
6. Prestige points will be awarded to each of the wrestlers who placed in the varsity tournament the previous year as follows:
 - a) 1st – 10 points
 - b) 2nd – 9 points
 - c) 3rd – 8 points
 - d) 4th – 7 points
 - e) 5th – 6 points
 - f) 6th – 5 points
 - g) 7th – 4 points
 - h) 8th – 3 points
7. All junior varsity points are half (1/2) of the varsity points awarded.
8. In cases where two (2) wrestlers end up with the same total of seeding points, the following considerations will be taken until the tie is broken.
 - a) One wrestler's record against the other in the regular season matches. Wrestler who defeated the other will be seeded higher.
 - b) The wrestler who placed higher in the previous year's varsity tournament shall be seeded higher.
 - c) The wrestler who had the stronger schedule shall be seeded higher.
 - d) Coin flip.

I. Growth Allowance: The league will allow and give a one (1) pound growth allowance on January 1st of a wrestling season (e.g. 46 lbs becomes 47 lbs).

1. This weight WILL NOT be used as a certification weight. It will only be used for a wrestler that is already certified at that particular weight.
2. No other weight or growth allowances shall be given at any time or event during the season except as provided by PIAA/NFSHSA rules.

J. Wrestling:

1. Wrestling will be conducted in accordance with official high school rules as outlined by the National Federation of State High School Associations.
2. When a match ends in a tie, the tiebreaker rules of the NFSHSA will be used to break the tie.
3. Length of bouts - NOTE: See Article IX, Section A.

K. Individual awards will be awarded to wrestlers at the discretion of the league Board of Control.

L. Team Champion: A varsity team champion will be determined based on team points in the varsity tournament as per the NFSHSA.

M. Expenses. The league will pay expenses for officials and one half (1/2) of the facilities cost. All admission fees collected will be turned over to the league, however, concession stand profits may be retained by the host team.

Article XVII. Injuries

The league is not responsible for any injury incurred while participating in the wrestling program. This is the responsibility of the individual's team.

Article XVIII. Rules Not Covered

Any rules not covered by these by-laws shall be governed by National Federation rules and / or the Board of Control.

Article XIX. Amendments

Any amendments to these by-laws shall be brought before the league at the March regular meeting. Such amendments shall be in writing. The proposed amendment shall be read at the March, September and October meetings and acted on at the October meeting. A majority of the combined vote of the league officers and the representatives present is necessary for passage.

Article XX. Disbandment

Should the league ever disband, all monies and properties accumulated by the league shall be held by the officers for a period of one (1) year. If the league is not reorganized within this time, all monies and properties shall be divided among member teams during the last year of operation.

Article XXI. Organization

- A. Said organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations under Section 501 C (3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or the corresponding section of any future Federal Tax Code).
- B. No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, directors, officers or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distribution in furtherance of Section 501 C (3) purposes. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing of distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the organization shall not carry an organization exempt from Federal Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax code) or b) by any organization, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 C (2) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax code).
 1. As agreed on in 2002, the league will pay a web hosting and domain name registration fee every 2 years of up to \$150.00 to maintain the running of the league's official website, VEWL.ORG.

2. As agreed on in 2006, the league will pay a yearly fee of \$500.00 for maintenance and administration of the league's official website to our website administrator.
- C. Upon the dissolution of this organization's assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501 C (3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax code), or shall be distributed to the Federal Government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose.
 - D. However, if the name recipient is not then in existence or no longer a qualified distributee, or willing or unable to accept the distribution, then the assets of this organization shall be distributed to a fund, foundation or corporation organized and operated exclusively for the purpose specified in Section 501 C (3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax code).

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