

# **AAU/Team Tennessee Handbook**

**2024 – 2025 SEASON**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. GENERAL INFORMATION.....	3
II. POLICY ON ABUSE.....	3
III. EVENT STAFF CODE OF CONDUCT.....	3
IV. TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE.....	3
V. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION.....	3
A. AAU REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS .....	3
B. INSURANCE.....	4
C. CONTROL OF THE FLOOR .....	4
D. COACH MISCONDUCT .....	5
E. EJECTIONS.....	5
F. REGISTRATION.....	6
G. ENTRY AND ADMISSION FEES.....	6
H. OFFICIALS.....	7
VI. MEDICAL POLICIES DURING EVENTS .....	7
A. MEDICAL SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE .....	7
B. BLOOD AND BLEEDING POLICY .....	7
C. SKIN CHECKS WILL FOLLOW NFHS RULES.....	8
D. INHALERS.....	8
E. HEAD INJURIES.....	8
F. INJURY TIME OUT.....	9
G. CRY RULE.....	9
VII. ELIGIBILITY AND QUALIFICATION FOR COMPETITION.....	9
A. PROPER ATTIRE.....	9
B. PROOF OF AGE.....	9
C. BIRTH YEAR DIVISION ELIGIBILITY .....	9
D. WEIGHT CLASS ELIGIBILITY BY DIVISION .....	10
E. SATELLITE WEIGH-INS.....	11
F. OTHER GENERAL WEIGH-IN PROCEDURES .....	12
G. OUT OF STATE WRESTLERS .....	13
H. CLUB TRANSFERS.....	13
VIII. MATCH TIMES .....	13
A. OVERTIME (OT) CRITERIA: .....	14
B. COMPLETION OF MATCHES .....	14
IX. COMPETITION EVENTS .....	14
A. NOTES.....	14
B. PRELIMINARY COMPETITIONS.....	16
C. REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS.....	16
D. STATE CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS.....	17
E. NATIONAL COMPETITIONS .....	17
F. MIDDLE SCHOOL DUAL MEETS.....	18
G. COACHING PASSES.....	18
X. TN AAU TOURNAMENT RULES AND PROCEDURES.....	19
XI. TN TOP 100 BELT SERIES RULES.....	20

## **I. GENERAL INFORMATION**

The goal of AAU Wrestling is to provide youth the opportunity to compete in the sport of wrestling. This competition is intended to develop the principles of good behavior, sportsmanship, and character in all of the participants.

All references to Middle School Dual Meets, Preliminary, Youth, District, Regional, State, and National competitions are TEAM TN and/or AAU sanctioned and sponsored events. All athletes and coaches must be registered with the AAU as demonstrated by the possession of an AAU Membership Card. Officials must be sanctioned by NFHS or AAU. (TSSAA Officials are covered only while competing in event under the jurisdiction of the TSSAA.)

## **II. POLICY ON ABUSE**

THE AAU WRESTLING COMMITTEE (THE COMMITTEE) WILL NOT TOLERATE ANY FORM OF VERBAL OR PHYSICAL ABUSE DIRECTED TOWARD ANY ATHLETE, OFFICIAL, OR MEMBER OF STAFF PARTICIPATING IN AN AAU-SANCTIONED EVENT. THIS APPLIES TO PARENTS, SPECTATORS, COACHES, OFFICIALS, AND ATHLETES. THE OFFENDING PARTY WILL BE SUBJECT TO ONE WARNING. ON THE SECOND VIOLATION OF THIS CODE, THE OFFENDER WILL BE DIRECTED TO LEAVE THE COMPETITION FACILITY. (NOTE: THE LEAD HOST OF THE TOURNAMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO OMIT THE WARNING AND EJECT THE OFFENDER ON THE FIRST OFFENSE BASED ON THE SEVERITY OF THE OFFENSE SPECIFIED IN THIS CODE.) THE OCCURRENCE OF ANY SUCH BEHAVIOR SHALL BE REPORTED TO THE COMMITTEE. THE COMMITTEE WILL REPORT ANY SUSPECTED OR REPORTED ABUSE TO THE PROPER AUTHORITIES.

## **III. EVENT STAFF CODE OF CONDUCT**

All AAU referees, judges, mat chairs, Pairing Masters, and hosts shall conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. It is essential that each staff member exhibit good citizenship and high moral conduct in their relationships with athletes, parents, coaches, fans, and fellow staff members. Each staff member must, at all times, maintain the highest degree of personal integrity.

## **IV. TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE**

A tournament committee will be established prior to the beginning of a tournament. The minimum membership of the committee will consist of the Lead Host, Tournament Director, Lead Pairer and Head Official. Additional members may be designated to be part of this committee. The committee will help control the event and make formal decisions in the case of any error (e.g., bracketing, improper advancement), disagreement regarding the conduct of the tournament, or formal protest. A formal protest must be in writing, signed, and dated. This committee will not be convened to overrule decisions made by the official(s) overseeing any match wrestled.

## **V. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

### **A. AAU REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS**

All AAU athlete registration cards can be available for immediate issuance. The AAU Youth athlete cards are \$14.00 / \$16.00 and are acceptable for any sanctioned AAU Youth sports event. All AAU Coaches registration cards can be available for immediate issuance. The AAU Coaches cards are \$16.00 / \$18.00 and are acceptable for any sanctioned AAU Youth sports event. Officials for AAU Events must be registered with the AAU by obtaining an AAU Coaches card or by having a current NFHS Membership.

## B. INSURANCE

The AAU provides accident insurance for all athletes, coaches, and officials registered with the AAU. This coverage is effective as of the date and time the application is completed and payment is received. **Club contacts MUST register their club after September 1 and before their first practice, SO THEY WILL BE COVERED BY INSURANCE.**

Coverage is provided for accidents in the course of participating in sanctioned events and organized practices under the direct supervision and direct sponsorship of a REGISTERED Coach or Manager. The benefits under this plan are in excess over all other insurance coverage. There is a deductible of \$250 that may apply.

Incident report forms are available from your local AAU District office or by contacting the National AAU Headquarters in Lake Buena Vista, Florida. Claim forms can also be obtained at each wrestling site.

The AAU also provides comprehensive general liability insurance for AAU registered clubs at sanctioned events.

Certificates of Insurance for third party insurance coverage can be procured from your local AAU District Office prior to conducting a tournament. There is a fee associated with processing this form.

## C. CONTROL OF THE FLOOR

Due to the Registration and Insurance requirements in the previous sections, there will be NO coaching of a match by anyone other than a TEAM TN or AAU Registered Coach. There will be up to TWO COACHES allowed per corner of the assigned mat. There will be no additional Coaches, WRESTLERS, or spectators on any area of the mat. To help control two coaches in a corner, the following consequences apply: 1st Time- verbal warning, 2<sup>nd</sup> Time- Referee stops match until only 2 coaches, 3<sup>rd</sup> Time- Coach's wrestler will be penalized by adding one match point to the opposing wrestler.

Visibility of the wrestling matches is the key to allowing spectators to enjoy the competition in every match. Spectators and fans will stay clear of the wrestling mat area. They should sit in assigned seating areas. Visibility is also crucial to ensuring that table workers (Scorekeeper, Timekeeper, "Boppers" and Pairers) can see the entire wrestling area of the assigned mat so that the match can be controlled correctly. No one will be allowed to sit, hang, or lean on guard-rails if this position restricts the view of others. Photography or video-taping of matches will be allowed only in areas that do not interfere with the opportunity for any others to see the action. Coaches may use a hand-held camera or video device in the coach's corner of the wrestling mat. Videotapes WILL NOT be shown to officials or Head Pairers in order to influence, determine, or reverse any official decisions.

Anyone (including athletes and coaches) asked to move out of a specific area of the floor or viewing areas due to problems with visibility should do so immediately (this constitutes a Warning). Repeat offenders will be subject to being (1) assigned to a specific seating area (e.g., upstairs, away from the competition area), (2) disqualification from further competition or coaching, and (3) ejection from the competition facility.

Any questions, comments, or complaints shall be forwarded to the tournament staff through the COACH of the respective team. No one who is not a TEAM TN or AAU Coach will be allowed

to approach the Table or any member of the tournament staff for the purpose of discussing the conduct of the tournament or any individual match.

#### D. COACH MISCONDUCT

When a coach questions misapplication of a rule resulting in coach misconduct, the penalty will be as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> offense is a warning, 2<sup>nd</sup> offense will result in adding one match point to the opposing wrestler, 3<sup>rd</sup> offense will result in removal of coach from the tournament session.

#### E. EJECTIONS

##### **Unsportsmanlike Conduct - Coach:**

1<sup>st</sup> offense- One team point if team score is being kept. If team score is not kept, the offending coach's wrestler will be penalized by awarding the other wrestler 1 match point.

2<sup>nd</sup> offense-Coach is removed from the tournament session.

If a coach is ejected three times for violation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> offense, that coach is suspended for a calendar year.

Each tournament is a new start except 2<sup>nd</sup> ejection. These are cumulative.

Appeal Process: anytime a coach is ejected a 2<sup>nd</sup> time, the coach has a right to file an appeal and have the ejection reviewed by the competition committee. The coach, the referee, tournament director and the regional director of the coach that is ejected will all be interviewed and the committee will have the final say to uphold or overturn the ejection. This is due to the severity of the 2<sup>nd</sup> ejection.

##### **Unsportsmanlike Conduct - Wrestler:**

During the match, official will follow normal penalty chart (1 pt, 1pt, 2 pts, disqualification from current match only). If offense is before or after a match, wrestler will be removed from tournament session.

##### **Flagrant Misconduct**

Coach or Wrestler – Removal from tournament for the rest of the day with a referral to the Board for disciplinary action.

Flagrant Misconduct-involves physical or non-physical acts and they can occur before, during or after a match, and is any act considered by the referee to be serious enough to disqualify a wrestler for the remainder of an event. It is not limited to striking, butting, elbowing, kicking, biting an opponent. It can be continuous acts of unsportsmanlike conduct, which can include pushing, shoving, swearing, taunting an opponent, and indicating displeasure with a call, and failure to comply with end of match procedure.

##### **Parent Misconduct**

A flagrant offense by a parent will be investigated by the Board and outcomes will be anything up to or including permanent suspension.

## F. REGISTRATION

Registration for all TEAM TN tournaments including, open, developmental, Top 100, region, and state must use Track Wrestling for registration and the collection of registration fees paid to Track Wrestling. The tournament host must use TNAAU as the lead into tournament name as well as who Track Wrestling is to send the registration fees to. TNAAU will provide the current address for TNAAU to all region directors by no later than the fall board meeting each year. **All TNAAU tournament must use the Board-approved flyer that can be found on the TNAAU website or provided by a Board member.**

The TNAAU treasurer will be responsible to make sure those registration funds sent to TNAAU are to be deposited immediately upon receipt from Track Wrestling. The Treasurer will then send a check with the appropriate amount to the host within two days receipt of funds from Track Wrestling.

TNAAU pays all Track Wrestling charges for tournament fee collection and administration. If host club requests wire transfer of registration fees they will be responsible for that cost. They must also provide that information to TNAAU treasurer 10 days prior to tournament.

Club contacts **MUST** register their club **after September 1 and** before their first practice, **SO THEY WILL BE COVERED BY INSURANCE.** Club contacts will be required to enter member names and email addresses (coach's email if necessary), as well as all eligible coaches with an AAU card, on their league-approved team roster by January 15, in order to participate in the region and state.

## G. ENTRY AND ADMISSION FEES

### 1. Entry fees for tournaments:

- a. **Beginner, Developmental**, or Open - \$15 (\$11 to host, \$4 to TNAAU).
- b. Top 100 - \$20 (\$15 to host, balance to TNAAU. TNAAU provides medals and host must return unused medals to Trophies Plus.). If Top 100 has duals, \$125 per team.
- c. Region - \$20 (\$15 to host, host will buy medals from TNAAU, TNAAU will buy back unused medals at full price)
- d. State - \$25 individual, \$200 per dual team.

### 2. Admission fees:

- a. All tournaments except Top 100 and State - \$10 per adult, \$5 per child (up to 12 years), under 3 - free.
- b. Top 100 - \$15 per adult, \$5 per child (up to 12 years), under 3 - free.
- c. State Tournament - If paid online, \$20 per adult, \$5 per child. If paid at the gate, \$25 per adult, \$8 per child (up to 12 years), under 3 - free.

## H. OFFICIALS

AAU Officials will be paid according to the following:

Beginner Tournaments - \$20/hr. for 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> year officials  
\$25/hr. for 3<sup>rd</sup> year officials and beyond  
\$100 for Head Official

(Beginner tournaments that go over 8 hours will pay 1.5 times the normal rate)

Open, Region, Top 100 - \$25/hr. for 3<sup>rd</sup> year officials and beyond  
\$30/hr. for Head Official

State Tournament - \$30/hr. for all officials  
\$35/hr. for Head Official

Officials pay begins at the scheduled start of tournament or weigh-ins.  
Officials will be paid for all time that they are in attendance in that capacity.

Dual Meet Pay: \$60 Minimum

1 dual - \$60	4 duals - \$160
2 duals - \$100	5 duals - \$200
3 duals - \$140	6 duals - \$220

Mat to Referee Ratios:

2 mats – 3 refs	3 mats – 5 refs	4 mats – 6 refs
5 mats – 7 refs	6 mats – 9 refs	7 mats – 10 refs
8 mats – 12 refs	10 mats – 15 refs	12 mats – 18 refs

Officials must attend an annual referees' clinic or meet TSSAA guidelines.  
All officials have to be evaluated by the assigning official for their area or by the head official.

## VI. MEDICAL POLICIES DURING EVENTS

### A. MEDICAL SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE

Medical personnel (Certified Athletic Trainer or EMT) will be provided by the tournament host at each TEAM TN/AAU sanctioned tournament. On-site Trainers during the competition will be supplied with an on-the-floor treatment area. Medical personnel or officials are to be available during the weigh-in session to check each contestant for possible skin infections or other contagious conditions.

### B. BLOOD AND BLEEDING POLICY

When an athlete incurs a wound that causes bleeding, the official must stop the competition at the earliest possible time and instruct the athlete to cease competition for treatment by medical personnel. An athlete with blood on his/her clothing must also cease competition to have the article(s) of clothing evaluated by medical personnel. If medical personnel determine that the blood has saturated the article(s) of clothing, the affected article(s) of clothing must be changed before the athlete is allowed to continue competition. A wrestler

that reaches a total of five minutes cumulative blood time during a match will forfeit that match.

All trainer's tables at TEAM TN/AAU sanctioned events will be supplied with the proper material for cleaning up blood. These supplies are:

- Rubber gloves
- Plastic bag for bio-hazardous waste
- Gauze or paper towels
- Disinfectant solution
- Moist towelettes

ALL athletes injured and requiring medical attention must be released by medical personnel before continuing competition.

**C. SKIN CHECKS WILL FOLLOW NFHS RULES**

During weigh-ins, officials, or designated health care professional will complete a full skin evaluations process on each athlete. If a participant is suspected of having a communicable skin disease or any other condition that makes participation appear inadvisable the athlete must provide current (14 days) written documentation from appropriate health care professional stating that the suspected disease or condition is not communicable and that the athlete's participation would not be harmful to an opponent. This must be provided at weigh-ins. The only exception would be if a pre-designated on-site meet-appropriate healthcare professional is present and is able to examine the wrestlers either immediately prior to or immediately after weigh-ins. Covering a communicable condition shall not be consider acceptable and does not make a wrestler eligible to participate. Written documentation has to describe location of lesion and must be signed only by Doctor of Medicine (MD) or Osteopathic Physician.

**D. INHALERS**

Use of inhalers will be allowed at mat side during non-action and will be treated as a charged time out.

**E. HEAD INJURIES**

With regard to head injuries while participating in competition:

1. For a loss of consciousness, the athlete is immediately removed from further competition until a full evaluation by a medical doctor is completed. A written referral must be provided to allow the injured wrestler to continue with competition. This referral must be presented to the COMMITTEE or TEAM TN/AAU.
2. For no loss of consciousness, the Trainer will determine if the athlete may return to activity if and only when symptoms clear. Symptoms may include: dizziness, stunned or dazed initially, headache, concentrating problems, feelings of "having their bell rung" that last more than 30 seconds. If no Trainer is available, then the official in charge of that match will determine if the athlete may return to activity. Athletes with any of these complications will be pulled from further competition.
3. All coaches and AAU referees must go through CDC Concussion Training before the first tournament of the season. Head coaches for each club are responsible for making sure their assistants have had training. Tournament hosts are responsible for making sure officials at their tournaments have had training.

**F. INJURY TIME OUT**

Either wrestler may elect to take an “injury time out” if necessary at any time during the match. Such injury time will be limited to a total of one-and-one-half (1.5) minutes. On the first injury time called, the wrestlers will return to the same position they were wrestling prior to the time out. On the second injury time called by the same wrestler, the opponent shall have the choice of starting position. On the third injury time out requested by the same wrestler, that wrestler will forfeit the match to the opponent.

**G. CRY RULE**

During preliminary competitions, the TOT division will allow for a match to be stopped by the official if either wrestler begins crying. This will allow the wrestlers concerns to be eased by the COACH(S) in the corner. No parents or other spectators will be allowed near the mat to console the crying wrestler. The cry rule shall be implemented the same as the INJURY TIME OUT described in the section above. This rule WILL NOT apply during the REGIONAL or STATE CHAMPONSHIP competitions.

**VII. ELIGIBILITY AND QUALIFICATION FOR COMPETITION**

**A. PROPER ATTIRE**

Wrestlers will only be eligible to enter competition events if wearing the proper attire. This attire will consist of an authorized wrestling singlet. Short sleeve compression shirt and fight shorts or compression shorts may be worn as an alternative to the wrestling singlet with referee’s discretion. Tee-shirts and shorts WILL NOT be allowed (except in Preliminary Competitions or open tournaments designated as “beginners only” until Jan 1). All Top 100, Region and State tournament must wear approved attire. This will reduce pulling of clothing and the possibility of injuries to fingers, arms, etc. Approved wrestling headgear SHALL be worn while wrestling in any competition. Wrestling shoes are required to participate. No unauthorized shoes are allowed due to the possibility of injuring either wrestler by kicking with heavy-duty shoes. Wrestlers WILL NOT compete barefooted or while wearing only socks. This rule is to prevent injuries to toes/feet and injuries due to slipping on the mat.

**B. PROOF OF AGE**

Upon Request, each wrestler must present a proof of age document which shall consist of a birth certificate, a birth registration issued by an appropriate government agency or board of health records, a passport, an alien registration card issued by the United States Government, a certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age, a current driver’s license, or a certificate of a United States citizen born abroad issued by the appropriate government agency. Hospital, baptismal, or religious certificates will not be accepted.

If you are mailing this proof of age with your registration material, please DO NOT send original documents as the tournament committee WILL NOT be responsible for returning any of these documents.

**C. BIRTH YEAR DIVISION ELIGIBILITY**

AAU Divisions are determined by the year of birth, not by the actual birth date.

TOT: Birth Years 2019 and After

BANTAM: Birth Years 2017 and 2018

MIDGET: Birth Years 2015 and 2016  
 JUNIOR: Birth Years 2013 and 2014  
 MIDDLE SCHOOL: Birth Years 2010, 2011, and 2012 (No 9th Graders)

#### D. WEIGHT CLASS ELIGIBILITY BY DIVISION

1. Once the official weigh-in is started, wrestlers will have only ONE opportunity to weigh-in.
2. If a wrestler/coach wishes to challenge their weight on another OFFICIAL scale being used for the weigh-in, they will be immediately escorted to the other scale and weigh-in at the next available slot (moved to the front) in that weigh-in line.
3. Weigh-in information will be entered into Track at the official weigh-in. The wrestler will be marked (e.g., with a weight class written on their arm) as directed by the tournament Lead Host. This constitutes the official entry into the tournament.
4. NO ADDITIONAL TIME WILL BE ALLOWED FOR A WRESTLER TO CONDUCT WEIGHT LOSS ACTIVITIES AND THEN RETURN FOR A SUBSEQUENT WEIGH-IN.
5. All wrestlers will weigh-in wearing a singlet. A one pound allowance for the weight of the singlet will be given.
6. There will not be any rounding of weights for the purpose of assigning wrestlers to a weight class (e.g., a wrestler weighing in at 35.1 pounds enters the tournament in the 40-pound weight class).

#### 7. Weight Classes (96):

TOT (6):	35, 40, 45, 50, 55, HWT
BANTAM (11):	40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 90, HWT
MIDGET (15):	50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 103, 112, 120, 130, HWT
JUNIOR (16):	60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 105, 112, 120, 130, 140, 175, HWT
MIDDLE SCHOOL (22):	70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 105, 110, 115, 120, 125, 130, 135, 140, 145, 152, 160, 171, 189, 220, HWT

(These are the MS National Duals Weight Classes)

#### GIRLS

Grades K-2 (6):	42, 50, 58, 65, 73, HWT
Grades 3-5 (8):	58, 65, 73, 82, 91, 100, 112, HWT
MIDDLE SCHOOL (12):	73, 82, 91, 100, 112, 118, 125, 140, 160, 185, 200, HWT

#### 8. Heavyweight Limits:

Tots-75	Novice/Juiniors-205
Bantams-125	Schoolboy/Middle School-250
Midget-175	Girls K-2 – 90
Girls 3-5 – 135	Girls Middle School - 250

## 9. WEIGHT REDUCTION PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES

Team Tennessee's goal is to promote a safe environment for all wrestlers. For this reason, TNAAU will not permit any form of weight cutting. The following rules will be strictly enforced at all weigh-ins. There will be no check scales at any TNAAU weigh-in location. No weight cutting activities such as running, spitting, wearing sauna suits, etc. will be permitted. Any wrestler found doing so will be immediately disqualified from the tournament. Once a wrestler steps on the scale their weigh-in is complete. If the wrestler is over weight, they can challenge by immediately moving to a second 'challenge' scale at the weigh-in site. The lesser of the two weights will be entered as the official weight; no further weigh-ins will be permitted. If the wrestler is over weight for their registered weight class, they will be bumped to the next appropriate weight class based on their actual weight. There will be NO BUMP FEE for changing weight classes. Satellite weigh-ins must have a minimum of two scales.

### Health and Safety Rules of the Athlete and the Well Being of the Sport

- a) The use of sweat suits (vapor-impermeable rubberized tops and/or bottoms) is prohibited at any time. Such use is grounds for immediate removal from the event where the violation occurred. The use of a sauna, steam room or any form of hot box before or after a tournament is prohibited.
- b) The use of laxatives, water pills, etc. is prohibited except when a physician prescribes these pills and the athlete has proof of this prescription.
- c) The practice of self-induced vomiting for the purpose of weight reduction is prohibited.
- d) Any form of hydration after weigh-ins that is artificially accomplished (i.e. intravenous) is prohibited.
- e) There will be only ONE weigh-in for either single or multiple day events.

## E. SATELLITE WEIGH-INS FOR TOP 100 AND REGIONS

1. Satellite weigh-ins will be conducted on the night prior to the tournament, [in addition to possible same-day weigh-ins at the tournament location](#). This will include region and Top 100 tournaments.
2. Limit of satellite weigh-in sites: Three for regions one and four, two for regions two and three. These limits are in addition to the host site. Regions are to designate one permanent site (for each season) for satellite weigh-ins at their region meetings in order to increase consistency.
3. A referee or board member must be present at weigh-ins. The cost of paying for the official for Top 100 and Region satellite weigh-ins will be split between satellite host and tournament host. Team Tennessee pays for officials at State. For Top 100, there must be a certified referee or a board member conducting weigh-ins and entering weights. Passwords should only be distributed to these two people. A skin check must be done on each wrestler on the day of the tournament.

4. All Satellite weigh-ins must be entered into Track Wrestling on the night of weigh-ins for Top 100, Regions, or State.
5. For Top 100 and Regions, satellite weigh-in sites must be approved by [the Region Director](#).
6. Satellite sites in the same region must be separated by no less than 30 miles as the crow flies (calculated using <http://tjpeiffer.com/crowflies.html>).
7. A club may not begin a weigh-in before the scheduled start time; not even for a member of their own club. Exception: Satellite times in a certain location can be changed if they conflict with other AAU competition events. The change must be approved by the Board, prior to the event.
8. Weigh-ins must end at the scheduled end time. Extending weigh-ins can be approved by the Region director under extenuating circumstances (example: Wreck on interstate).
9. Each tournament and satellite weigh-in site will have a different unique password for the scheduled weigh-in.
10. All skin issues will follow the National Federation rules and use the Federation skin form (posted on TNAAU website). A Board appointed person can do skin checks if the referee cannot make it. Wrestlers with questionable skin issues will not be entered on track when they weigh in. They must turn in a skin clearance form (also posted on TNAAU website) to the head table 2 hours before the start of their session to be entered into the tournament.
11. Host club must arrange for certified AAU referee to conduct weigh-ins. Club should also arrange for a back-up; referee did not show is not a valid excuse.
12. There is a minimum of 2 scales at weigh ins. NO CHECK SCALES. No cutting weight. If you are seen cutting weight, by the referee, you will be scratched from the tournament automatically.
13. The above procedures are of no value without enforcement. Therefore, Team Tennessee will impose the following penalties if the above rules are violated:
  - a) Satellite Weigh-in Site: The responsible party will lose their ability to conduct satellite weigh-ins for at least two years from date of offense.
  - b) Referee no show for a weigh-in (without 24-hour notice): The offending referee will be fined \$40.00 and will not be permitted to conduct satellite weigh-ins for the remainder of the year. If last event of the year, referee will not be allowed to conduct satellite weigh-ins the following year.

## **F. OTHER GENERAL WEIGH-IN PROCEDURES**

1. For developmental or open tournaments, satellite weigh-ins are at the tournament director's discretion up to previously mentioned limits.

2. There is a minimum of 2 scales at weigh ins. NO CHECK SCALES. No cutting weight. If you are seen cutting weight, by the referee, you will be scratched from the tournament automatically.

## G. OUT OF STATE WRESTLERS

Any out-of-state wrestler whose parent is employed as a teacher, coach, or administrator at a TN school will be allowed to wrestle for the TNAAU club at the host school.

## H. CLUB TRANSFERS

Any wrestler that changes teams in a region cannot score points for their new team for the remainder of the year, unless the wrestler petitions the Board and gains approval for the change. Wrestlers must wrestle in their own Region Tournament, in which they registered for at the start of the season, in order to score points in the Individual State and State Duals, unless the wrestler petitions the Board and gains approval for the change.

## VIII. MATCH TIMES

ANY TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR (WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF THE LEAD HOST) HAS THE FLEXIBILITY TO ADJUST THE RECOMMENDED MATCH TIMES AS NEEDED TO ALLOW FOR TIMELY COMPLETION OF THE TOURNAMENT, **EXCEPT REGIONS AND STATE.**

TOT, BANTAM, MIDGET, **and GIRLS (K-2)** Divisions :  
Three one-minute periods (1-1-1) for all matches.

JUNIOR (NOVICE) **and GIRLS (3-5)** Divisions:  
Three one and one-half minute periods (1.5-1.5-1.5) for all **championship** matches.  
**Consolations will be three one-minute periods (1-1-1).**

MIDDLE SCHOOL **and GIRLS (6-8)** Divisions:  
1. Three two-minute periods (2-2-2) for all matches in Round Robin Brackets, the Championship section of a double elimination bracket, and all the matches in Middle School Dual Meet.  
2. Wrestling in the consolation sections of the double elimination bracket shall consist of one two-minute period followed by two one-minute periods (2-1-1).

The beginning of each period of any of these matches will be conducted as follows:

First Period: Wrestlers will start in the neutral position. Both wrestlers on their feet with one foot on the start line at the center of the mat.

Second Period: A disk toss will determine which wrestler is given the choice of the starting position. The wrestler with this choice may elect to start in the neutral position, select the bottom (defensive) or top (offensive) of the referee's position, or defer his choice of starting position to the opponent. The choice to defer allows this wrestler to have the choice of starting position in the third period.

Third Period: The wrestler that did not have the choice of the starting position in the second period will be given the choice here. The choice will be the neutral position or bottom or top of the referee's position.

#### **A. OVERTIME (OT) CRITERIA:**

If the score is tied at the end of the third period, then OT will be wrestled to determine the winner of the match. The order of OT periods, based on the results of each period, is listed below.

1. The first period of OT is a one-minute sudden-victory period beginning in the neutral position. The winner of the match will be determined by the first point to be scored.
2. If the score is still tied, then a thirty-second ULTIMATE tie-breaker will determine the winner. The wrestler who scored the first points in the match will be given the choice (top, bottom, of defer). HOWEVER, if either wrestler was penalized for unsportsmanlike conduct at any time during the match, his opponent will have the choice. If no points have been scored in the match, then a disk flip will be used to determine choice. The wrestler who scores the first points will be declared the winner. If no points are scored, then the offensive wrestler (ride-out) will be declared the winner.

#### **B. COMPLETION OF MATCHES**

An individual match will be completed and the victor declared by the following criteria:

The wrestler with the most points at the end of the match wrestled in accordance with the periods and times presented in the previous section shall be declared the winner. If no additional points are scored during the ULTIMATE tie-breaker, the offensive wrestler will be declared the winner as presented in the specified sections above.

A Technical Fall terminates the match when one wrestler accumulates the designated number of points in excess of their opponent's score. This difference in points will be 15 points for the ALL divisions in Top 100, Region, State, and State Duals.

A Fall (or pin) terminates the match at any time during the match. A victory by Fall is awarded when either wrestler's shoulders are maintained in contact with the mat for a minimum of two (2) seconds. The wrestler whose shoulders were not in contact with the mat at this time shall be declared the winner.

For MS Dual Meets, points for each match shall be awarded to the winning wrestler's team as follows: Six (6) points for a Fall or Forfeit, five (5) for a Technical Fall, four (4) points for a major decision (win by 8 -14 points), and three (3) points for a decision (win by 1 – 7 points).

Wrestlers will have a MAXIMUM of 15 minutes rest between matches.

### **IX. COMPETITION EVENTS**

#### **A. NOTES**

1. All Top 100, Region, and State Tournaments must use Track Wrestling including registration, weigh-ins and input of final results. The wrestler list and matrix will be released for all Top 100 tournaments.

2. Any match that is wrestled by mistake (e.g., the wrong wrestler was advanced in a bracket) will be counted as “bad time”. This means that these matches are reset as if they had not been wrestled and the correct matches will be wrestled. If necessary, final decisions in this matter will be resolved by the COMMITTEE.
3. Round-Robin brackets shall consist of two (2) to five (5) wrestlers.
4. Round-Robin competition will be conducted in such a manner that each wrestler in the bracket will wrestle every other wrestler in the bracket. For brackets with only two wrestlers, the bracket will be conducted in a two-out-of-three format. Wrestlers will be awarded a place based on the number of matches that they have won.
5. In the event of a tie in a Round-Robin Bracket, the following criteria will be used to break the tie:
  - a) Head to head competition.
  - b) The wrestler who has been penalized the least for unsportsmanlike conduct.
  - c) The wrestler having won the greater number of victories.
  - d) The wrestler having the greater number of falls.
  - e) The wrestler having the greater number of technical falls.
  - f) The wrestler having the greater number of major decisions.
  - g) The wrestler having the least number of defeats.
  - h) The wrestler having the greater number of offensive points scored.
  - i) The wrestler having the least number of defensive points scored.
  - j) The wrestler with the fastest pin.
6. Six (6) or more wrestlers in a single division weight class will be placed in a double elimination bracket.
7. The time a headlock can be held on the mat during a TOT Division match will be limited to thirty seconds. The official on the mat will stop the wrestling. The wrestlers will be placed in the referee’s position in the same positions (offensive and defensive) as they were when the headlock was applied.
8. Top 100 events will place to 4 places.
9. True-second matches will be mandatory for Top 100s and Region, unless the two kids have already wrestled in the tournament. For all other tournaments across the state, if true second is allowed, it must be stated on the flyer and integrated into Track wrestling charts.
10. Track will be allowed to count team points for Top 100, Region, and State tournaments to determine 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> place. The Best Wrestler Award for each of these tournaments will go to the wrestler with the most pins in the least amount of time.
11. For all TNAAU sanctioned tournaments, the number of tournament entries allowed shall be 40 wrestlers per mat per session. Sunday tournaments must start at 1:00 or later unless approved by the Board.
12. ‘BEGINNER’ is defined as a first or second year wrestler. ‘Developmental’ tournaments are defined as round robin tournaments set up with ability grouping. If you wrestle for placement in a Top 100, you should not be wrestling in a developmental event.

13. In tournaments run on Track that require experience level as a separation-criteria, the levels will be beginner, average, state placer, and state champion.

## **B. PRELIMINARY COMPETITIONS**

These are local open wrestling tournaments that any AAU amateur athlete may enter if in the proper division. It is encouraged that out-of-state wrestlers be invited to these open tournaments to increase the diversity of competition. These events are conducted in the format as determined by the Lead Host of the event. Bracket groupings may use the standard division-specific weight classes or different assigned weight classes. These different weight classes will be determined by the Lead Pairer, with concurrence from the Tournament Director. All wrestlers will weigh-in wearing a singlet.

Wrestlers may compete in both their own division AND ONE division level higher if the scheduling format of the tournament allows it. Competition in a different division will require the payment of an addition entry fee. Wrestlers will NOT BE ALLOWED to compete in two divisions during the same session. Wrestlers may also compete in two divisions in Top 100 Tournaments, as long as they are in separate sessions and it would not cause the tournament to go over the entry cap.

## **C. REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS**

These are formal competition wrestling events, which are open to eligible TEAM TNAAU amateur athletes in the state of Tennessee. In order to participate in the region tournament, wrestlers must be on a league-approved team registered with TNAAU by January 15 of the competition year. One tournament will be held for each of the four geographic regions (Regions 1-4). Wrestlers will compete in the tournament of the geographical region where their club is located. Wrestlers may NOT compete in more than one regional tournament.

Tournaments will be conducted in the specific format by division (birth year) and weight class as designated in these rules. Prior to the beginning of the tournament, a wrestler may choose to officially enter the tournament at ONE weight class higher than their own measured weight. Wrestlers may also choose to officially compete in the competition at ONE birth year division higher. Wrestlers may compete and qualify in only ONE weight class of ONE division. A wrestler that decides to “bump up” in this manner will be eligible only for the awards in that division weight class.

These events are used as pre-qualifying tournaments for all divisions in the State Championship Tournament. Places will be determined from first to fourth place. The top four wrestlers in each weight class will be eligible to compete in the State Championships. In the event that any of the top four wrestlers in a weight class cannot compete at the State Championship Tournament, the other competing wrestlers will be advanced to the next higher placing level for seeding purposes.

In order to obtain the goal of competing in the sport of wrestling to the maximum extent possible, adjacent weight classes in the SAME DIVISION may be combined as determined by the tournament Lead Pairer with the concurrence of ALL impacted coaches. This combination of weight classes will be accomplished in such a manner that the placing within each individual weight class will be preserved. If combining weight classes into a round robin bracket, the wrestlers from each different weight class will compete in the earliest round(s) possible. If combining weight classes into a double elimination bracket, the wrestlers of the weight class

containing the smallest number of wrestlers shall be paired up in the earliest rounds to the maximum extent possible. If a two-man round robin bracket is combined into another bracket, then the affected wrestlers will be awarded a place within their own weight class as determined by a single match (the option for a two-out-of-three placing within that weight class is understood to no longer be available). Wrestlers from the weight class containing the smallest number of wrestlers will be advanced in or eliminated from the bracket as if they had lost each “exhibition” match wrestled. A wrestler and/or coach may believe that wrestling a match with a wrestler from the opposite unofficially paired bracket could affect the opportunity to obtain the highest possible place in their own weight class. This match may be declined with no penalty to either wrestler.

#### **D. STATE CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS**

This event is a six-division event consisting of the TOT, BANTAM, MIDGET, JUNIOR, MIDDLE SCHOOL, and GIRLS’ Divisions. All division wrestlers must qualify in the top 4 in regions to qualify for State. Region placement will be used to slot wrestlers in the State Tournament. The State Tournament will incorporate separation criteria where region champs will be separated from each other and champs will also be separated from their corresponding runner-up. Region champ positions will be rotated in each weight class so that the same regions do not meet every time. There will not be a true second in the State Tournament.

The State Tournament will have **one Friday night weigh-in time for all wrestlers competing on Saturday and on Saturday night weigh-in time for all wrestlers competing on Sunday**, at the venue. **Any girls wrestling both days will weigh both days.**

**Once brackets are slotted and complete, no changes will be made for missed weight or no shows. Missed weights and no shows at State will be forfeits.**

The State Tournament will be placed to six (6) places.

Registration Times (day of the week and time) will be the same for the region and state tournament every year.

There will be six (6) Team Champion Awards, which consist of one in each of the six divisions: Tot, Bantam, Midget, Junior, Middle School, and Girls. There will also be one (1) Overall Team Champion, which is the highest scoring team over all six divisions. The number of scoring wrestlers will coincide with the number of weight classes in each division.

#### **AAU K-8 State Dual**

**Weight Classes: 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 165, HWT(235).**

#### **E. NATIONAL COMPETITIONS**

All individual National Championship Tournaments are open to AAU card holders. There is no pre-qualifying necessary.

Weight classes for National Championships will be determined by the Lead Host of the competition. These weight classes are assigned to attempt to attain the most even distribution of wrestlers possible.

### **Weigh-in Procedure**

For all AAU national events weigh-ins will last for four hours and take place the day before competition begins. Satellite weigh-ins are not allowed. An AAU official will be present in the weigh-in room during all scheduled weigh-ins.

There will be only one weigh-in for either single or multiple day events. All wrestlers must weigh-in wearing a singlet. A one pound allowance for weigh-in will be given for the singlet.

Wrestlers may be entered in the tournament in their respective division or ONE division higher. Wrestlers may be entered in their measured weight class or ONE weight class higher. Each wrestler may compete and qualify in only ONE weight class of ONE division. A wrestler that decides to “bump up” in either of these manners will only be eligible to wrestle in and qualify for the awards in that division/weight class.

### **AAU National Elementary School Duals**

Weight Classes: 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 108, 116, 125, 140, 170, HWT(220)

## **F. MIDDLE SCHOOL DUAL MEETS**

Each team that wishes to compete in the Middle School Dual Meet will be required to submit a team roster prior to Christmas. The purpose of this roster is to show that the wrestlers on your team have wrestled for that team the entire season. (Middle School State Tournament Justification).

Coaches must have a record of each match wrestled. This will show where and for which team each athlete wrestled during the season. This will also help determine if a wrestler has competed with the same team all season.

Note that the Coaches Honor System must be maintained at the highest-level standards.

## **G. COACHING PASSES**

Coaches must show a photo ID with their AAU card at check-in and get a wristband/pass to coach on the mats or wrestling gym floor.

1 or more wrestlers:	1 free pass
6 or more wrestlers:	2 free passes
10 or more wrestlers:	3 free passes
15 or more wrestlers:	4 free passes
20 or more wrestlers:	5 free passes
25 or more wrestlers:	6 free passes
30 or more wrestlers:	7 free passes
35 or more wrestlers:	8 free passes
40 or more wrestlers:	10 free passes with the option to purchase two additional passes for no more than \$10 per pass.

## X. TN AAU TOURNAMENT RULES AND PROCEDURES

To ensure compliance with all TN AAU rules and procedures related to sponsoring a tournament, please read the below carefully and confirm completion by initialing next to each step. Note compliance with these items is required for a tournament to be sanctioned and appropriately insured. The TN AAU has established these procedures to achieve a standard level of quality for all sponsored tournaments, which is important to parents and wrestlers, and for promoting youth wrestling in our state.

Checklist of Items:

- \_\_\_ 1. Confirm tournament date with Regional Director (Required)
- \_\_\_ 2. Complete and submit TN AAU Tournament Sanction Form (Required)
- \_\_\_ 3. Arrange for certified AAU referees to work at the tournament. Additional information is provided at <http://www.tnyouthwrestling.com/officials.html> (Required)
- \_\_\_ 4. Develop a tournament flyer for distribution using the format provided on the TN AAU website [www.tnyouthwrestling.com](http://www.tnyouthwrestling.com).
- \_\_\_ 5. All Top 100 and State series tournaments will be listed on [www.trackwrestling.com](http://www.trackwrestling.com) by the TN AAU pairing master (Required)
- \_\_\_ 6. ALL tournament names will start with "TNAAU". This does several things: a) makes the tournament easier to find on Trackwrestling, b) ensures our league discount, and c) ensures AAU insurance. (Required)
- \_\_\_ 7. All tournaments, including all local tournaments that are not considered Top 100 or part of the State Championship Tournament Series, will be listed on Trackwrestling by the Tournament host. (Required)
- \_\_\_ 8. If the tournament will use standard brackets, you may import the Top 100 settings for your tournament using functionality available within Trackwrestling.
- \_\_\_ 9. All TNAAU tournaments will use our league account on Trackwrestling which results in the efficient and controlled movement of entry fees and supports use of the league discount. Tournament will be provided user and password by TeamTN.
- \_\_\_ 10. The TN AAU treasurer will deposit all registration funds immediately upon receipt from Trackwrestling and send a check with the appropriate amount to the tournament host within two days of receipt of funds from Trackwrestling. The TN AAU pays all Trackwrestling charges for tournament fee collection and administration
- \_\_\_ 11. All tournament participants must enter a valid AAU card number to register for an event. (Required)
- \_\_\_ 12. Incident reports are to be available at the Head table and completed by referees related to any incidents that result in a coach being warned or required temporarily or permanently to leave the coaching area. (Required)
- \_\_\_ 13. Identify a t-shirt vendor for tournament. This is a significant fund-raising opportunity. The TN AAU recommends Eagle Sportz. They can be found at [www.eaglesportz.com](http://www.eaglesportz.com) and have experience working TN AAU events and can make this a very simple experience.
- \_\_\_ 14. Order medals for each weight class and age group. Note that 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> place medals are recommended to be given to wrestlers that compete in a bracket of 16 or more wrestlers. For Top 100 and the AAU Region tournaments, there are specific medals that should be provided. Information for obtaining these medals can be found on the TN AAU website.
- \_\_\_ 15. Arrange for a qualified trainer, or emergency personnel, to be on sight at the tournament during all times that wrestlers are competing.
- \_\_\_ 16. Consider hiring security staff to monitor the tournament and provide additional security for participants, fans and facility property.
- \_\_\_ 17. Determine whether clocks or other tournament equipment needs to be obtained from the State TN AAU organization. Please contact Don Barnett at [donbarnett67@gmail.com](mailto:donbarnett67@gmail.com) or 865-310-6737 to request the use of TN AAU computers, clocks, etc. The state has an inventory of these items and delivery of clocks is subject to travel expense.

\_\_\_18. Schedule table worker training. Working a table at a tournament is a great opportunity for new parents to learn the sport and rules. In advance of the tournament (preferably several days in advance) table worker training should be provided.

\_\_\_19. Coaches must present an AAU card and photo ID to participate as a coach at a tournament (Required). A separate line should be provided at the tournament entrance/gate for checking coach's identification and providing coaches passes.

## XI. TN TOP 100 BELT SERIES RULES

Team Tennessee AAU proudly announces the 17th Annual Tennessee TOP 100 Championship Belt Series. This series will be conducted during the 2024-2025 Tennessee AAU wrestling season and will conclude with an awards ceremony at the AAU Spring Youth Nationals.

The season will include select Tennessee AAU wrestling tournaments, which can be found online at <http://tnyouthwrestling.com>.

There will be 5 opportunities to earn points this season – 3 Top 100 events will be held (only the 2 top points earned in these tournaments will be used, lowest of 3 dropped) and the Region and State tournaments.

**This year there are 2 required events to be considered as a participant in the Top 100 series** – the Region and State tournaments... With that being said, each wrestler that attends all 3 Top 100 events will receive 50 bonus points that will be calculated into their average.

The eligibility criteria for the Tennessee TOP 100 Championship Belt Series is as follows:

Must possess a valid AAU membership card

Must be a Tennessee Resident

Must maintain passing grades in school (All award recipients must present report card at nationals)

Must enter no less than 4 TOP 100 wrestling tournaments including: 2 Top 100 tournaments, your Regional tournament, and the State Championship. You will only earn points for 4 tournaments, even if you compete in all 5 events (lowest point value earned from regular season Top 100 tournament will be removed **IF** you compete in all 3).

The TOP 100 point scorers will receive a custom Tennessee TOP 100 T-shirt from the official series sponsor EAGLE SPORTZ. The shirts will be awarded in the following manner (adjustments to be made in the event that 1 group has fewer that listed – i.e. if Tots only have 6 who meet criteria then 1 additional spot will be added to the other 4 groups to make up the Top 100 wrestlers):

Tots: Top 10      Bantam: Top 20      Midget: Top 20      Junior: Top 25      MS: Top 25

In addition to the TOP 100, the top individual point scorers in each division (Tot, Bantam, Midget, Junior, & Middle School) will be awarded a Tennessee AAU Championship Belt. The second-place scorers in each division will receive a Championship Trophy and third place point scorers in each division will be awarded a Championship Plaque. The awards for all five divisions will be awarded at the 2025 AAU Spring Youth Nationals. ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED TO RECEIVE BELTS.

\*In the event of a tie, the first criteria being Grand Champion is used, then the following tie-breaker criteria will be used:

1. The individual with the highest placement at the Tennessee AAU State Championship.
  2. The individual with the most pins in all five tournaments of the Top 100 series (for tie breaking purposes a first round bye and all FFTs will count as a pin).
  3. The individual with the fastest cumulative pin time at the Tennessee AAU State Championship.
  4. The individual with the fastest pin at the Tennessee AAU State Championship final round.
  5. The individual with the fastest pin at the Tennessee AAU State Championship in any round.
- If a tie still exists, then each individual will receive the award for which they are tied.*

\* Any wrestler receiving an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty at the Tennessee AAU State Championship will be eliminated from all tie breakers.

All participants in the Championship Belt Series will have their results entered online automatically through track wrestling.

Below is the Scoring System for the Championship Belt Series:

Point values will be calculated via Trackwrestling based on strength of bracket, wins and placement (ex: winning matches in a 16 man bracket will have more weight than being in a 4 man round robin)

**Points for ALL TENNESSEE AAU TOP 100 TOURNAMENTS (will only keep 2 highest point values)**

0.00-300.00

**Points for REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT**

0.00- 250.00

**Points for STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

0.00-400.00 Points

Below are the Divisions for the Championship Belt Series (Please note, a wrestler can only earn points for their actual AAU age division. Wrestlers cannot earn points for wrestling up in additional age divisions)

<b>Tot</b>	<b>Bantam</b>	<b>Midget</b>	<b>Junior</b>	<b>Middle School</b>
------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	----------------------

\* All matters associated with the TOP 100 must be voted on and decided by a majority vote of the TOP 100 committee and TNAAU leadership board. We encourage you to seek out your regional committee member throughout the season with questions/suggestions for the TOP 100 series. We are always looking for new ways to improve upon the series.

\*\* In the event that a wrestler(s) competes in and wins ALL 3 regular-season Top 100 events and wins BOTH Region and State then the Top 100 committee will award them a TOP 100 Grand Champion Award (separate from the belt series) in recognition of their accomplishment for winning ALL 5 events.