



Instructions for Teams Entering the State Dual Meet Tournaments and Division II Dual Meet Invitational

Please read carefully:

Checking Weight and Distribution of Team Packets

Coaches may pick up their team packets at the arena from 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM CST on Thursday, February 2nd. It is not required that you pick up your packet at this time, however, we encourage you to do so if you are in town. This will help to minimize the congestion at the credential gate on Friday. Scales will be available for wrestlers to check their weight during the times indicated on Thursday night. Gates will open at 1:00 on Friday, February 3rd. Coaches may pick up their packets at this time if they have not done so already.

Procedures for Arena Entry and Access to the Arena Floor

Coaches and team personnel (managers, trainers, etc.) will wear wristbands to access the arena floor. **We will have a new procedure for wrestlers. Wrestlers will need to have their hand stamped.** Wrestlers will not be issued wristbands. The hand stamp will be the credential wrestlers will use at the gate for admission as well as for access to the arena floor. You will need to have your wrestlers' hand stamped when they arrive at the arena. The ink for the hand stamp is hard to remove, however, if it begins to fade, you may want to have your wrestler re-stamped as the weekend progresses before the ink fades completely. The ink can be removed with baby oil or hand sanitizer with a little effort at the conclusion of the tournament. Wrestlers may be re-stamped **provided that some of the ink from the original stamp is visible.** Wristbands (Coaches and team personnel) and hand stamps (wrestlers) will also give you admission into the facility on Friday and Saturday. Wristbands should be distributed to all coaches and worn as soon as they are received in the team packet or prior to arriving at the gate. We will not replace a wristband unless an old wristband is brought to the gate by the person asking for the replacement.

Coaches' Passes

The number of wristbands that each school will receive will be based on the number of coaches that each school has registered online with TSSAA. You will need to check with your school's athletic director to make sure that this has been done. You will be given a wristband for each coach that is registered online. You will also be given three extra wristbands to use as you wish. You should plan to use these for anyone who will accompany the team to the bench area that is not a coach (statistician, team doctor, video-operator, student trainer, etc.) There will be no additional wristbands given. If your athletic director has not registered your coaches online, please refer to the section of the instructions entitled **Registering of Coaches Online**. Remember, each school also receives two complimentary TSSAA Championship Event Cards. These cards were sent to each school's administration at the beginning of the school year and may be used for admission.

Ticket Prices

Friday and Saturday - \$10.00

The winter version of the TACA (Tennessee Athletic Coaches Association) Card will be accepted at the gate. Fall or Spring versions of the TACA Card will not be accepted. Admission will be given only to the holder of the card. TSSAA Championship Event Cards will be accepted at the gate. These cards only permit the card holder entry to the tournament.

Arrivals and Weigh-Ins

Beginning at 1:00 PM wrestlers and coaches may come through the first set of doors to the arena on the right hand side. Wrestlers will not be given access to the floor during this time. Coaches who have not picked up their team packets will need to do this at this time. Once you have picked up your team packet, coaches will need to put on their wristbands. This will enable you to be admitted into the arena. Upon entering the arena, you will need to proceed with your wrestlers to the right hand side of the arena on the mezzanine level. This will be the holding area for the weigh in. The holding area on the mezzanine level is considered an extension of the weigh in room. Signs will be on the wall to indicate where your team should assemble no later than 15 minutes prior to weigh-ins. Please familiarize yourself with your team's location on the wall as you enter the arena. No wrestlers will be allowed into or out of the holding area

once weigh-ins begin. At least one coach should remain with your wrestlers at all times. We will need your cooperation and patience to ensure that things run smoothly.

Registering of Coaches Online

Beginning in the fall of 2009 TSSAA member schools were required to register all coaches online in their high school log-in area. In order to register coaches, an administrator must go to the online eligibility area of the TSSAA website and click on the link that says **Change School Directory**. A list of coaches currently registered with your school can be generated from this area. This is the list that will be used in determining the number of wristbands that each school will be given for coaches and non-competing personnel. TSSAA bylaws state that wrestling programs are limited to two non-faculty coaches. There are no limits on the number of coaches who are full-time employees of a board of education with a Tennessee teaching license or the equivalent. Use of a non-faculty coach who has not met the requirements outlined in the TSSAA bylaws shall result in a \$500 fine (TSSAA Bylaws Article 1, Section 9).

Coaches must be registered online prior to Tuesday, February 1st, in order to ensure that all coaches receive their proper credentials. If you have a question as to whether or not your school's coaches are registered with TSSAA online, please e-mail Emily Crowell at ecrowell@tssaa.org.

Traffic and Parking

Traffic can definitely be an issue on I-65 South heading toward the Arena. TDOT has started a road widening project in the area. You should plan for traffic to become very congested between 3:30 – 4:00 PM on Friday in the Cool Springs area. Spectators coming for Friday's matches should take note of this and plan accordingly. Parking for the event will be \$5.00. School buses and 15-passenger vans will be directed to a designated parking area and will not be charged for parking. All other vehicles parking in the main lot will be charged \$5.00. You will receive one parking pass in your team packet to be used as you wish. Although TACA cards and TSSAA Championship Event Cards can be used for admission into the event, they will not be accepted in lieu of the parking fee.

Weigh-Ins

Twenty two wrestlers will be allowed to weigh-in each day of the tournament. You will need to fill out a weigh-in form which declares the weight class each wrestler will weigh in. The form will be a 3 copy/carbon form which you will present to the officials as your team is called to weigh-in. A copy of these weigh in forms as well as the NWCA pre-match weigh in form will be distributed to the coaches prior to your first match once we have had the opportunity to make copies.

Inclement Weather

In the event that a participating school does not have the opportunity to practice due to the inclement weather on Thursday, we will not be granting a weight allowance to the participants.

Hospitality Room

Coaches with wristbands, officials in uniform, and media with proper credentials are the only persons allowed in the hospitality room. TSSAA will provide drinks and some snacks in this area. Meals will not be served. You will not be allowed to remove food or drinks from the hospitality room.

Concessions/Food Brought Into the Arena

Concession stands will be available. Teams and spectators will also be able to bring coolers into the facility. Parents wishing to deliver food to participants will have to pay admission in order to gain access to the arena.

Non – Participating Wrestlers

Wrestlers competing for TSSAA schools who will not be competing in the championships will be admitted free to the championships when accompanied to the gate by the coach. The wrestlers will need to receive a hand stamp at that time. Your school's NWCA roster will be at the gate and will be used for verification.

Team Managers

Team managers will not be admitted free of charge. Schools may choose to use one or more of their extra wristbands from their team packet to accommodate team managers, however, no additional wristbands will be given.