



WRESTLE-OFF PROCEDURES 2024

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1 - INTRODUCTION

This document outlines the procedures to be used by Wrestling Canada Lutte (WCL) to determine how and when sanctioned wrestle-offs (senior only) will be held.

2 - DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY

The High Performance Director (HPD) is responsible for the development and implementation of a selection process that is fair and equitable for all candidates, including these Wrestle-Off Procedures and its implementation within the selection process. The HPD retains ultimate decision-making authority regarding wrestle-offs conducted pursuant to these Wrestle-Off Procedures.

In the event of an injury provision wrestle-off request, the request will be reviewed by the WCL Chief Medical Officer. The WCL Chief Medical Officer will advise the HPD, who retains ultimate decision-making authority.

Additional oversight of the development and implementation of these Wrestle-Off Procedures will be provided by the High Performance Advisory Committee (HPAC). Final approval of the policy is by WCL's Board of Directors.

3 - ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Men's & Women's Freestyle

Any athlete who is unable to compete at the 2024 Senior Canadian Wrestling Championships, or a WCL approved international selection event, due to injury or competition at another approved and eligible event, may still be considered for nomination to a team through a wrestle-off, providing they meet the criteria and satisfy the conditions stated in Sections 3.1 and 3.2 below.

3.1 - INJURY:

3.1.1 The official WCL "Inability to Participate Medical Form" must be completed by an approved WCL physician and submitted to the HPD no later than the Coaches' Technical Meeting (Friday, March 17th, 2024). Upon request, the injured athlete may be subject to additional examination by the WCL Chief Medical Officer. The athlete must also clearly indicate, in writing, at the time of the submission, the weight class he / she is submitting an injury provision wrestle-off request for and, according to the approved WCL physician, when they will be able to realistically return to competition.

3.1.2 Performance Benchmarks:

Women's Freestyle:

- a) Has placed in the top 8 in an Olympic weight class or top 3 in a non-Olympic weight class, at the 2023 Senior World Championships, with a minimum of two wins (not by forfeit or those injury matches that never started).

OR

- b) Has placed top 3 in an Olympic weight class or top 2 in a non-Olympic weight class at the 2023 U23 World Championships, with a minimum of two wins (not by forfeit or those injury matches that never started).

OR

- c) A minimum value of IPI of 2.5 in the qualification period 12 months prior to the selection event (i.e. March 2023 – March 2024 for the Canadian Wrestling Championships occurring March 2024).

Men's Freestyle:

- a) Has placed in the top 10 in an Olympic weight class or top 5 in a non-Olympic weight class at the 2023 Senior World Championships, with a minimum of two wins (not by forfeit or those injury matches that never started).

OR

- b) Has placed in the top 5 in an Olympic weight class or top 3 in a non-Olympic weight class at the 2023 U23 World Championships, with a minimum of two wins (not by forfeit or those injury matches that never started).

OR

- c) A minimum value of IPI of 1.5 in the qualification period 12 months prior to the selection event (i.e. March 2023 – March 2024 for the Canadian Wrestling Trials occurring March 2024).

3.2 - COMPETITION AT ANOTHER EVENT (CONFLICT WITH THE 2024 SENIOR CANADIAN WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS):

3.2.1 This section applies only to scheduling conflicts between other events and the 2024 Senior Canadian Wrestling Championships. As a precondition to requesting a wrestle-off due to such a scheduling conflict, the athlete must advise the WCL HPD of the conflict prior to weigh-ins at the 2024 Senior Canadian Wrestling Championships.

3.2.2 In order to grant a wrestle-off, the HPD must be satisfied that the conflicting event (e.g. NCAA Division 1 Championships) is of a similar competitive level as the nominating event:

- a) Where an event scheduling conflict exists, there is a requirement that:
 - i. If athlete is already an identified or targeted WCL athlete, the athlete has participated in WCL programming through the year (including but not limited to regional testing, domestic event participation, WCL YTP programming); OR
 - ii. Where the athlete is not an identified or targeted WCL athlete, the athlete must provide details of their daily training environment, YTP and Sport Science and Sport Medicine support and results.

- b) If the conflict is the NCAA Division 1 Championships, the athlete has been named “All-American” and has placed in the Top 8.
- c) If the conflict is the NCAA Division 2 Championships and the athlete has placed in the Top 5.

4 - APPROVED WRESTLE-OFFS

There will be no weight allowance for wrestle-offs.

Where there is a separately published Internal Nominating Procedures (INP) with an existing wrestle-off process, that wrestle-off process will apply for that event.

The date, time, and location for the wrestle-off will be determined by the HPD taking into consideration the following factors:

- The most economical and cost-effective location, preferably in conjunction with another event;
- The injury status and any other restrictions of the athletes involved (if applicable);
- Nomination requirements and deadlines for selection;
- Appropriate preparation time for the athletes concerned;
- Neutral locations will be preferred, where possible;
- Where a wrestle-off is not taking place as part of a pre-existing event, a closed venue will be preferred;
- The athlete requesting a wrestle-off will be required to pay a fee of \$1,500 CAD within seven (7) days of receipt of confirmation of the wrestle-off. This fee contributes to covering associated costs with the wrestle-off (venue, officials, staff). Due to the exceptional nature of wrestle-offs, there is no guarantee that WCL will be able to cover all costs for affected parties.

WOMEN'S AND MEN'S FREESTYLE

Senior Canadian Wrestling Championships Wrestle-Off Request or any International Selection Event with AAP Ranking Implications

The wrestle-off will be conducted as follows:

- The athlete requesting the wrestle-off (challenger) will wrestle the true second ranked athlete in a single match;
- If the challenger is successful against the true second ranked athlete, the wrestle-off will then continue between the number one ranked athlete from the Senior Canadian Wrestling Championships and the challenger in a best two (2) of three (3) matches. The number one ranked athlete from the Senior Canadian Wrestling Championships will be credited with one match up.

FINAL RANKING AND CARDING POINTS FOR ALL INVOLVED ATHLETES

- For a challenger to receive ranking or carding points, they must win over, at a minimum, the current true second ranked athlete (i.e., if they do not win a match they will not be ranked).
- Ranking and carding points awarded will be determined on the challenger's final ranking from the wrestle-off.

International Selection Event without AAP Ranking Implications

The wrestle-off will be conducted between the number one ranked athlete from the International Event Selection and the challenger in a best two (2) of three (3) matches. The number one ranked athlete from the International Event Selection will be credited with one match up.

5 - GENERAL

Once the date of any wrestle-off is set, if either wrestler misses the wrestle-off, the wrestler who has missed the match will forfeit that match. If both wrestlers miss the 1st wrestle-off, the number one will be nominated for team selection.

If more than one wrestler is eligible for a wrestle-off in the same weight class then those eligible for the wrestle-off must first compete against one another, in a single elimination, one match wrestle-off, before having the opportunity to challenge the designated athletes as defined above.

6 - COMMUNICATION

Once a wrestle off has been approved, the HPD will communicate this to the affected parties via email, along with the details of the wrestle-off as specified in Section 5 above.

7 - APPEALS PROCEDURE

The decision by WCL to grant an athlete a wrestle-off may be appealed in accordance with the procedures set out in the WCL Appeal Policy (https://wrestling.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Safe_Sport_Policy_Manual-January-2023-1.pdf).

8 - MODIFICATION OF THIS DOCUMENT/UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

In the event of a circumstance that prevents the fair implementation of these procedures as written, the HPD reserves the right to determine an appropriate course of action, which will be reviewed by the HPAC, and which may include the right to review and change any part of these procedures in the case of, but not limited to, a rule or policy change from United World Wrestling (UWW), UWW Americas, other major Games franchise holders, or WCL.