



Wrestling Canada Lutte (WCL) | U SPORTS Invitational Championship Playing Regulations 2025-2026

1. CHAMPIONSHIP ROSTER

1.1. Weight Classes:

MEN - 57, 61, 65, 68, 72, 76, 82, 90, 100, and 100 to 125 kg
WOMEN - 50, 53, 56, 59, 62, 65, 68, 72, 76 and 76 to 83 kg

1.2. Eligibility:

U SPORTS eligibility policies will apply for all wrestlers.

1.3. Teams:

Each championship team can declare up to one (1) wrestler per weight class from their most recently submitted U SPORTS Eligibility Form.

Wrestlers are not allowed to move up or down from the weight class submitted to U SPORTS from the Conference Championships, notwithstanding the substitution process noted below.

1.4. Coaches (field of play):

To be eligible to coach during the event (in the corner on the field of play), at least one team coach in attendance, must have Competition Development certified status or higher. All other team coaches in attendance, must have Competition Introduction certified status or higher. A maximum of 2 coaches are permitted to be on the field of play (in the corner) for any given match.

2. ENTRIES

Within each weight class, the top three finishers from Canada West, the top five finishers from the OUA, as well as the top two finishers from the Atlantic / Quebec regional competition qualify for the championship.

- 2.1. The first, second, third, fourth and fifth place finishers from the OUA shall be entered as the OUA "A", OUA "B", OUA "C", OUA "D" and OUA "E", respectively.
- 2.2. The first, second and third place finishers from Canada West shall be entered as Canada West "A", Canada West "B" and Canada West "C" respectively.
- 2.3. The first and second place finishers from the Atlantic / Quebec regional competition shall be entered as the Atlantic / Quebec "A" and Atlantic / Quebec "B" respectively.
- 2.4. Substitution Process:

In the event of injury, illness, or other serious personal problems in advance of the championships, athletes may be substituted as follows, noting that institutions can only have one wrestler per weight class.

All requests for substitutions must be forwarded to the U SPORTS office immediately following the Conference Championships for consideration and decision, before the substitute wrestler may compete. The coach and Athletic Director of the substitute wrestler should be informed immediately. The U SPORTS office will be charged with communicating the substitution to WCL and the Host of the championship and all institutions participating in the championship.

- 2.4.1. Conference substitution: Any injured athlete from a given conference / region may be substituted by a lower placed finisher in that respective weight class.
- 2.4.2. Institution substitution: If no other athletes from the given conference / region are available to fill the void in the weight class as noted above, the institution that qualified the weight class can substitute a wrestler, as long as the athlete fulfills U SPORTS eligibility requirements.
- 2.4.3. Open substitution: If the institution that qualified the weight class cannot fill the weight class, and to ensure there are 10 wrestlers in each weight class, the vacant spot will be filled by the remaining two conferences. The Canada West conference will have first opportunity to fill the spot, followed by OUA, followed by Atlantic / Quebec region.

- 2.4.4. Rebalancing: In the event there are 'unbalanced' pools at the end of the substitution process (i.e. a difference of two (2) athletes between pools), the pools will be 'rebalanced', with the lowest ranked athlete in the larger pool moving to the smaller pool. For example, pool 1 has three (3) athletes and pool 2 has five (5) athletes at the end of the substitution process. Following rebalancing, both pools will have four (4) athletes.

3. COMPETITION

The championship, for both men and women, shall take place at the same location over two (2) days.

3.1. Draw (Preliminary Rounds):

- 3.1.1. A two-pool format will be used when there are six or more wrestlers in a weight class. If the number of wrestlers is five or less, then one pool will be used.
- 3.1.2. In the two-pool format, wrestlers will be seeded according to conference placement as outlined below. In the one pool format the top two wrestlers will be seeded so that they should not meet until the final.
- 3.1.3. Within a pool, wrestlers will compete in a round robin where each wrestler will wrestle all other members of the pool.

3.2. Seeding - Two Pool Format:

Wrestlers will be placed into the two pools based on their conference of origin in the following order. Starting placement within pools for preliminary rounds will be done by random draw at the technical meeting. If one or more wrestlers are unable to compete after the weigh-in, please reference items 3.2.1, 3.2.2 and 3.2.3 below.

Pool One	Pool Two
1. Canada West A	1. OUA A
2. OUA B	2. Canada West B
3. Canada West C	3. OUA C
4. Atlantic/Quebec A or B *	4. Atlantic/Quebec B or A *
5. OUA D	5. OUA E

In even numbered years, Atlantic / Quebec A will include the first-place wrestlers from alternate weight classes, beginning with the lowest weight, as well as the second-place wrestlers from the remaining weight classes. Wrestlers not in this group will make up Atlantic / Quebec B. In odd numbered years, these groups of weight classes will be reversed.

- 3.2.1. In the event a single wrestler within a pool is unable to compete upon conclusion of the weigh-in period, the same seeding system will be used, and the affected pool will be reduced to the four remaining athletes.
- 3.2.2. In the event two wrestlers within the same pool are unable to compete upon conclusion of the weigh-in period, the same seeding system will be used, and the affected pool will be reduced to the three remaining athletes.
- 3.2.3. In the event three or more wrestlers within the same pool are unable to compete upon conclusion of the weigh-in period, and subject to article 3.1.1., two pools that are representative of athletes from the remaining conferences and regions will be formed.

3.3. Seeding - One Pool Format:

If the number of competitors is five or less, then a round robin competition will take place between those five. Seeding for the top two competitors will be by majority vote of the U SPORTS wrestling coaches. The Championship Management Committee will break all ties.

3.4. Final Placement Within Pools and Advancement:

To determine placement within pools for advancement, the classification system for round robin competition as described in the WCL Rulebook will be used.

Where two pools are used, each wrestler will compete against the person in the other pool with the same placement. That is:

Pool A 1st vs. Pool B 1st for 1st / 2nd
Pool A 2nd vs. Pool B 2nd for 3rd / 4th
Pool A 3rd vs. Pool B 3rd for 5th / 6th
Pool A 4th vs. Pool B 4th for 7th / 8th
Pool A 5th and Pool B 5th for 9th / 10th

Where one pool is used, the results in that pool shall determine the final placement.

4. SCHEDULE

4.1. Conference Championships:

Conference Championships will be held two (2) weekends prior to the U SPORTS / WCL Invitational Championship.

Note: If there are facility conflicts existing for a Conference Championship, the Conference Championship shall be held three (3) weeks prior to the Championship.

4.2. The event schedule is as follows:

THURSDAY

- Weigh-ins and integrated medical control are to be conducted within a one-hour time frame between 14:00 and 15:00. Athletes must present themselves in competition singlets (see section 5) and athlete accreditation.
- Technical Meeting - 15:30
- U SPORTS Coaches Meeting – following the Technical Meeting
- This schedule may be adjusted with approval from the Championship Management Committee

FRIDAY

- Morning Session 9:00 – 12:30
- Afternoon Session 13:00 – Completion of Pool Play

SATURDAY

- 5th / 6th Place, 7th / 8th Place and 9th / 10th Place Matches – 9:30
- Bronze Medal Matches - 12:30
- Gold Medal Matches - 15:00
- Banquet & Awards - 18:00

Note: The schedule may be adjusted with approval from the Championship Management Committee

4.3. Team Standings

The following scoring shall be used to determine team standings:

- 1st place: 12 points
- 2nd place: 8 points
- 3rd place: 7 points
- 4th place: 6 points
- 5th place: 5 points
- 6th place: 4 points
- 7th place: 3 points
- 8th place: 2 points
- 9th place: 1 point
- 10th place: 0 points

4.4. Tie-Breaking

In the event of a tie between two teams, the placing will be determined by using the following tie-breaking criteria. Each step shall be applied until the tie no longer exists.

- the team with the most 1st place finishes
- the team with the most 2nd place finishes
- the team with the most 3rd place finishes
- the team with the most 4th place finishes
- the team with the most 5th place finishes
- the team with the most 6th place finishes
- the team with the most 7th place finishes
- the team with the most 8th place finishes
- the team with the most 9th place finishes

If a tie still exists, it shall be recorded as such. In the event of a tie between more than two teams, use the tie-breaking criteria listed above until one place can be determined. Then continue using the criteria to break the remaining tie(s).

5. UNIFORMS

Wrestlers must present themselves at weigh-ins and for competition, wearing a competition singlet in school colour(s) and insignia. Wrestlers not wearing a singlet in school colours will be allowed to compete but will not accumulate team points.

6. FACILITY & TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Hosts are to abide by Technical Requirements outlined in WCL's Hosting Regulations (Senior, U20-Junior, U17-Cadet Championships), with the following modifications:

- 6.1. In all preliminary rounds, four (4) official size mats will be used (12 x 12 m) with the appropriate markings clearly visible and offering sufficient "protection area" to guard against possible injury, as per WCL's Mat Regulation Policy.
- 6.2. The Bronze and Gold medal matches will be conducted on two (2) official size mats with the order of weight classes left to the discretion of the championship Convener.

Note: Medal presentation will not occur while matches are in progress.

7. COMPETITION RULES

Competition shall be governed by the current WCL Rulebook with the U SPORTS modifications as listed throughout the playing regulations.

8. MEETINGS

8.1. Technical Meeting

A technical meeting will be held after the weigh-in period, on the Thursday event schedule to review technical matters pertaining to the championship.

The Head Coach from each participating team, an Officials Representative (ideally the head official or Referee Coach/Supervisor), a WCL Delegate, the U SPORTS Delegate, and members of the Host Committee must attend this meeting.

The Chair of the Technical Meeting will be the WCL Delegate.

The Technical meeting agenda shall, at a minimum, include the following:

- Confirmation of seeding within each pool.
- Random draw for starting placement within pools for preliminary rounds.
- Review of protest procedures and Committee members, in particular, appointment / determination of Coaches designates.
- Review of U SPORTS rules that are different from WCL.
- Confirmation of individual award criteria and selection.

8.2. Coaches Meeting

The U SPORTS Wrestling Coaches Annual General Meeting will be scheduled to begin immediately following the technical meeting. The agenda shall be prepared by the President of the Coaches Association and circulated at least three days prior to the meeting.

Note: This is not an official U SPORTS Sport Technical Sub Committee (STSC) meeting and thus any decisions affecting U SPORTS Policy or Regulations must be sent to the STSC. This is the responsibility of the President of the Coaches Association or their designate.

9. OFFICIALS

9.1. Selection:

Eighteen (18) officials will be assigned by WCL through the Canadian Association of Wrestling Officials (CAWO), including one head official, one pairing master, and fourteen (14) referees. No more than fourteen (14) officials will be from the host Conference and no less than three (3) from the other Conferences. The eighteenth official will be a local official who does not require any travel. WCL will not have to select any officials from the furthest Conference participating in the championship.

A full-time provincial organization employee will not be allowed to officiate at the championship.

9.2. Qualifications:

Minimum nationally "A" rated; usually internationally rated.

9.3. NSO Responsibilities:

WCL will be responsible for all travel arrangements to and from the championship host city for all officials, meals, accommodation (double occupancy) and official's fees (\$65 per official / per day).

9.4. Host Responsibilities:

The Hosts will be responsible for ground transportation to and from the host hotel and competition venue.

10. SEASON AND CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

Please refer to policy U SPORTS policy 60.20 for more details regarding standard championship awards.

10.1. All-Canadians:

- 10.1.1. The gold medalist in the men and women's events at the championship will make up the 1st Team All-Canadians.
- 10.1.2. The silver medalist in the men and women's events at the championship will make up the 2nd Team All-Canadians.

10.2. Rookie of the Year:

- 10.2.1. Selected by the coaches at the Invitational Championship. Official ballots will be distributed (one per institution).
- 10.2.2. Nominated athletes must be 21 years of age or under as of September 1st in the academic year in question.
- 10.2.3. Selection is based on the athlete's performance at the championship.
- 10.2.4. Scoring system: 5 points for first, 3 points for second and 1 point for third.
- 10.2.5. In the event of a tie, the Championship Management Committee will decide.

Note: A list of eligible 'Rookie Wrestlers' will be circulated to the Coaches.

10.3. Student-Athlete Community Service Award:

- 10.3.1. Selected by the coaches at the Invitational Championship. Official ballots will be distributed (one per institution). Nominations from the floor are accepted.

- 10.3.2. Recipient who best exhibits outstanding achievements in three (3) areas: wrestling, academics and community involvement.
- 10.3.3. Selection process to be circulated at the start of the season.
- 10.3.4. In the event of a tie, the Championship Management Committee will decide.

10.4.Coach of the Year:

- 10.4.1. Selected by the coaches at the Invitational Championship. Official ballots will be distributed (one per institution).
- 10.4.2. Competing conferences recognized: Canada West, OUA, and the Atlantic / Quebec region.
- 10.4.3. Each member institution of the U SPORTS Coaches Association will have a vote. Vote ballots will be distributed at the coaches meeting and collected by the Championship Convener at the conclusion of championship matches.
- 10.4.4. Scoring system: 5 points for first, 3 points for second and 1 point for third.
- 10.4.5. Selection is based on the athletes / team's performance during the season including the championship.
- 10.4.6. In the event of a tie, the Championship Management Committee will decide.

10.5.Championship Trophy & U SPORTS | WCL Banner:

Presented to the Championship Team for each gender.

10.6.Championship Medals:

Medals presented to the top three athletes in each weight category.

10.7.Outstanding Wrestler of the Year:

- 10.7.1. Selected by the coaches. Official ballots will be distributed (one per institution).
- 10.7.2. Outstanding Wrestler will be selected by secret ballot by the membership of the U SPORTS Wrestling Coaches Association. Each member of the Conference will return his/her voting ballot to the WCL delegate upon completion of the gold medal matches.
- 10.7.3. Scoring system: 5 points for first, 3 points for second and 1 point for third.
- 10.7.4. Conferences are to forward a list of their award winners to the Awards Chairperson prior to the championship.
- 10.7.5. In the event of a tie, the Championship Management Committee will decide.

10.8.Fair Play Award (R.W. PUGH):

10.8.1. Selected by Championship Management Committee in conjunction with Host.

10.8.2. Selection criteria is circulated once yearly to all U SPORTS Coaches.

11.COMMITTEES

11.1.Championship Management Committee

The Management Committee shall rule on all matters necessary for the championship to proceed and will, in addition, act as the Protest Committee at the championship. The Management Committee shall apply U SPORTS Rules. The Management Committee may not, nor may any member, make an exception to any U SPORTS Rule or to a sanction imposed by U SPORTS. The Management Committee has no jurisdiction to consider or interpret U SPORTS Eligibility Regulations.

Composition of the Management Committee shall be:

- Convener of Championship
- U SPORTS delegate (if available)
- WCL Delegate (or designate from officials' group)
- President of the Coaches Association or designate.

A quorum shall require all three members, or their replacement.

If a member of the Management Committee was involved, directly or indirectly, in a decision or an interpretation of a U SPORTS Rule that is being appealed/protested to the Management Committee that member shall be excused from the Management Committee. In this event, the remaining members of the Management Committee have the authority to appoint as a replacement for the excused member an individual who is independent, unbiased and uninvolved in the matter in dispute. The decision regarding whether a member of the Management Committee should be excused and replaced lies solely with the Management Committee.

Notwithstanding the procedures described in U SPORTS policy 90.70.4.1.1 (see below), the U SPORTS Championship Management Committee shall have the power and jurisdiction to take interim on-the-spot measures to address minor code of conduct issues (inappropriate or unsportsmanlike conduct that is not criminal in nature) that arise at U SPORTS Championships, in a timely fashion. The record of the incident, including the interim measures taken to address it shall be copied to the Athletic Director(s) of the affected school(s), and the U SPORTS office and Discipline Committee.

It is the expectation of U SPORTS that persons representing Member institutions, and/or U SPORTS, at U SPORTS Championships will behave responsibly, and with propriety, and in accordance with the laws of the land.

90.70.4.1.1 U SPORTS Procedures Regarding Misconduct

Where misconduct occurs at a U SPORTS Championship (including traveling to and from the event, practice days and competition days), the U SPORTS Chief Executive Officer, assisted by the event Convener, shall:

1. Investigate the particulars of the incident that gave rise to the misconduct.
2. Determine the amount and type of damage to property or injury to persons.
3. Identify the persons and institutions responsible for the incident.
4. Summarize this information in a written report.

The U SPORTS Chief Executive Officer shall provide a copy of the written report to the President, who may bring a complaint in accordance with U SPORTS Policy 90.40 - Discipline. A copy of the written report shall be provided to the Directors of Athletics of the institutions involved.

12. DOPING CONTROL

Up to and including the final gold medal matches, student-athletes will adhere to U SPORTS doping policy 90.10.

13. CONDUCT AND ENFORCEMENT

The following U SPORTS policies and procedures will be in effect during the championship:

- 13.1. Maltreatment in Sport (see U SPORTS policy 90.20A)
- 13.2. Harassment and Discrimination (see U SPORTS policy 90.20B)
- 13.3. Complaints, Discipline (see U SPORTS policy 90.30)
- 13.4. Appeal, ADR (see U SPORTS policy 90.40 to 90.50)
- 13.5. Code of ethics, code of conduct (see U SPORTS policy 90.60)