

## **Chatfield Youth Wrestling Individual and Team Tournament Information**

Welcome to the youth wrestling season from the youth coaches (Jason Goetzinger, Corey Dornack, Chris Priebe, and Brian Kobs)! We are excited to have nearly so many youth wrestlers in our program this year! This document will provide you with information about individual tournaments, team competition, wrestle-offs, and some expectations for the program. We value all youth wrestlers and consider every wrestler a part of our team and wrestling family. We hope that the tournament information, along with the frequently asked questions and answers will help explain what we are about. If you have further questions, don't hesitate to ask one of the coaches. We will do our best to answer anything you may need help with.

### **Individual Tournament Information**

We encourage you to take your child to individual youth tournaments when you feel they are ready to do so as they provide valuable experience that will help your child improve. At youth tournaments your child will weigh-in before they wrestle and then be paired up with children close to their weight and age. Age divisions typically are divided by grades: PK-K, 1st-2nd, 3rd-4th, 5th-6th. If Chatfield youth coaches are in attendance at the tournament, we will make every attempt to help coach your wrestler during their matches. However, with many Chatfield wrestlers often participating in the same tournament, coaches may not make it to help coach all of your child's matches as they may be helping their own children or other Chatfield wrestlers. It is also hard for coaches to recognize Chatfield wrestlers that are not wearing Chatfield singlets at tournaments.

The following websites provide information about tournaments around the area:

<https://theguillotine.com/open-tournament-calendar/>

Local team tournaments are also listed on the Chatfield Wrestling website:

<http://www.chatfieldwrestling.com/youthopentournaments.html>

### **Youth Team Tournament Information**

We will be participating in several K-6th grade team tournaments and Junior (K-3rd grade) and Senior Division (3rd -6th grade) team tournaments. We have purposefully scheduled more team tournaments this year in an attempt to include more of our youth wrestlers. Some team tournaments we will participate in are intended for our wrestlers that have not yet won a wrestle-off to make the tournament team. Team Tournaments utilize a dual meet format just as in high school.

Typically, K-6th grade team tournaments follow Northland Youth Wrestling Association (NYWA) weight classes. NYWA weight classes are 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 84, 88, 93, 102, 115, 130, and Heavyweight. K-6 grade team events are for wrestlers in K-6 grade and wrestlers in K-6 are eligible to wrestle at any weight class. So, it is possible for a Kindergartener to wrestle a 6th grader. Wrestle-offs

at each weight class will occur during closed practices to determine our most competitive K-6th grade Tournament Team.

Our goal is to provide opportunities for our wrestlers to participate in some of the youth team tournaments even if they are not currently able to make the tournament team. When selecting which wrestlers attend team tournaments, coaches will use their best discretion to make decisions that are in the best interest of each wrestler, the team and the goal of the tournament. These decisions will be based off several factors such as safety of the child, grade level of the child, consistent practice attendance, work ethic, attitude/sportsmanship, and previous experience/opportunity to participate in team events. When your child is invited to participate in a team tournament, coaches will notify parents via email approximately a week before the event.

### **Frequently asked questions:**

#### **1. Why do we have wrestle-offs?**

The purpose for wrestle-offs is to ensure we have our best wrestlers at the appropriate weights to represent the team. As our program continues to grow, we want everyone to have the opportunity to participate in the team activities. Wrestle-offs provide every wrestler an equal opportunity to represent the team at their weight class. Even if your child does not win a wrestle-off or elects not to wrestle-off, they still likely will be asked to participate in one or more of the team tournaments we attend.

#### **2. Should my child wrestle-off for the tournament team?**

Although we encourage participation in wrestle-offs, the tournament team is typically comprised of older and more experienced wrestlers. If your child is inexperienced or in a younger grade, participation in wrestle-offs may not be in their best interest at this time. Don't feel obligated to have your child wrestle-off for a position on the tournament team if you don't feel they are ready.

#### **3. What do they have to weigh to wrestle-off?**

Coaches will weigh wrestlers prior to wrestle-offs and determine which weight class a wrestler qualifies to wrestle-off for. A wrestler may not be more than 1.0 lbs over their desired weight class on the night of wrestle-offs.

#### **4. Why are wrestle-offs done with a closed practice?**

We do not allow for any coaching of participants during wrestle-offs. Having parents at wrestle-offs could create an unfair advantage for some wrestlers. Also, in the event of a controversial match, emotions may run high and it is best to remove this possible conflict. Coaches officiate wrestle-offs and do their best to ensure a fair match. All coaches decisions are final. Parents who regularly volunteer to coach at practice will be allowed in the room to help facilitate practice as normal. In no case, will a coach officiate or participate in a wrestle-off if their child is involved.

## **5. Is there more than one opportunity to wrestle-off?**

There are numerous team events throughout the year. We will try to post them in the wrestling room. A wrestler may wrestle off for their weight class prior to most team tournaments.

## **6. Can I help coach at practice?**

Yes! We are always in need of more help, especially with the Preschool - 2nd grade practice, but the 3rd-6th graders also could use more coaches as well. Even if you have little or no experience with wrestling, you will be able to help most beginning wrestlers. During practice coaches typically demonstrate how to perform moves and then have children work with a partner to practice these moves. Your observation of coaches demonstrating the move will likely give you enough knowledge to help inexperienced wrestlers. Often, just having extra hands to help our youngest wrestlers stay on task during practice is helpful. If the coaches learn that a parent has high school or college wrestling experience, we will likely try to recruit you to help if you are able. Even if you can only help occasionally, coaches and wrestlers will benefit from your involvement in our program