



November 10, 2016

Weighing in for an event the day of a **College Entrance Exam** is not an officiating detail. The OHSAA supports the entire education process, believes officials are part of the entire educational team and education comes first. The responsibility lies with the coach to contact the host tournament director and comply with whatever arrangements the host tournament director would like to set to weigh-in any students who have registered to take either the ACT or SAT entrance exam. This will impact only a few Saturdays during the season.

Blood Clean-up is the responsibility of the host school, either to provide an athletic trainer assigned to this duty or notify coaches they clean the mat if their wrestler's blood is on the mat.

Wrestling referees are not allowed to clean up blood

WEIGH-IN / CERTIFICATION: As we start the season, and perform the duties in the weigh-in room, it is important to remember that wrestlers must make scratch weight each time they decline down into a new lower weight class as they travel down to their lowest allowable alpha weight class. Also, each wrestler is allowed to weigh-in at the lowest allowable weight class as set forth by their weekly alpha time-line report, and then be bumped up one weight class. They may also weigh-in one weight class above their lowest allowable weight class as set forth by their weekly alpha time-line report, then be bumped up one weight class. Wrestlers are not allowed to weigh-in more than one weight class above their weekly time-line report at any time during the season. If they do, they forfeit their lowest alpha weight class allowable. Officials should not be involved with this issue, but rather send a report to Assist. Comm. Beau Rugg if there was any issues during weigh-in.

Be Professional * Polite * Prompt * Direct * Decisive

Sportsmanship has become a hot issue and our referees must be aware and ready to address the issue if they are pressed with a problem while officiating. All Ohio referees must not allow a coach, athlete or spectator to verbally abuse the officials. The job of being a scholastic referee is hard enough without the added pressure and disrespect from athletes and adults. Our wrestling referees do not interfere with coaches doing their job coaching their athletes on the mat. Our state wide team of referees are trained and instructed to treat all in a professional respectful manner, the same way they would like to be treated. The rules of the sport call for an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty to be assessed if, in the referee's judgment a coach, athlete or any other team personnel are in any way mistreating the official. Remember, the referees have jurisdiction once they arrive at the event site. That means YOU are in charge of the event and the subsequent matches. The referees hired by the school or league are in charge of the event, and must maintain control of the event. That may involve either an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty or if the situation warrants, flagrant misconduct. **MAKE THE CALL IF IT IS NECESSARY.**