



## **SEEDING AND BRACKETING PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA**

1. The following procedures and criteria are applicable to all classifications:
2. Match outcome and margin of victory are used in several of the criterion. As such, they need a brief explanation here.
  - a. Match outcome is the standard match outcome: Win or loss by fall, technical fall, major decision, decision, etc.
  - b. Margin of victory or loss will be calculated as a total of the points using the following scale. Note that wins earn positive points, while losses earn negative points.
    - 1) 3 points for each a fall, injury default or disqualification.
    - 2) 2.5 points for a technical fall.
    - 3) 2 points for a major decision.
    - 4) 1 point for a decision.
  - c. If more than one qualifier has the same aggregate margin of victory, random draw to determine order.
3. Special District Tournament Champions will occupy lines 1, 5, 8, 9, 12, 16 (18-person bracket), 1, 8, 9 and 16 (16-person bracket) or 1, 4, 5, 8 (8-person bracket) in each weight class.
4. Seed a maximum of six wrestlers (6A), four wrestlers (5A, 4A, and 2A/1A), and three wrestlers (3A), in each weight class with the only potential seeds being the Special District Tournament Champions in each weight class. For the remainder of this document they may be referred to as "Special District Tournament Champions", "champions", "wrestler", "wrestlers", "qualifier" or "qualifiers".
5. Seeded positions will be determined using the criteria listed below. Special District Tournament Champions in each weight class will be grouped as a pool. Each criterion will be applied to the entire pool. When a criterion separates the pool, thereby creating the next set of seeded wrestlers, the pool will be regrouped and the criterion applied in descending order. This process will continue until all criteria have been exhausted, or all four Special District Tournament Champions have been seeded at or beyond the conclusion of Criterion B.
  - a. **Criterion A:** OSAA State Placement in previous year.
    - 1) To begin the seeding process, rank all of the immediately prior year's state place winners by their place finish in the OSAA State Championships, regardless of classification.
    - 2) The following priority system will be used to determine the seeding order when more than one wrestler has the same place finish. The higher seed will be awarded to the wrestler who is:
      - a) Is returning in the same weight class. If more than one qualifier meets this criterion, random selection will be used to create the final order.
      - b) Has moved down one or more weight classes.
        - (1) The higher seed(s) will go to the wrestler(s) who has moved the fewest number of weight classes.
        - (2) If more than one qualifier meets this criterion, random selection will be used to create the final order.
      - c) Has moved up one or more weight classes.
        - (1) The higher seed(s) will go to the wrestler(s) who has moved the fewest number of weight classes.
        - (2) If more than one qualifier meets this criterion, random selection will be used to create the final order.
  - b. **Criterion B:** Head-to-Head victories over those wrestlers seeded in Criterion A, or who subsequently become seeded in this criterion.
    - 1) All Special District Tournament Champions can be considered under this criterion. However, to be eligible for this pool, a wrestler must have more wins than losses against one or more wrestlers who are already seeded or who become seeded under this criterion. In other words, "splits" between a pair of wrestlers does not qualify under this criterion, regardless of individual match outcome or margin of victory.

- 2) Create a pool of champions with head-to-head wins over a wrestler who already occupies a higher seeded position. Note that a currently seeded wrestler is always a higher seed than a currently unseeded wrestler.
  - 3) Rank the pool using the following criteria:
    - a) Seed order of the head-to-head opponent, highest to lowest.
    - b) If more than one wrestler shares the same opponent, use margin of victory points, as described above, to create a natural order.
    - c) If more than one qualifier has the same aggregate margin of victory against the same seeded opponent, random selection will be used to create the final order.
  - 4) Select the highest ranked qualifier from the pool created in the last step.
    - a) This qualifier will take the seeded position currently assigned to his head-to-head opponent.
    - b) The displaced opponent, and all other wrestlers currently seeded below that wrestler, will progressively move down one seed position.
  - 5) Repeat steps 2 through 4 until no seeds change position in a single pass through those steps. It is possible for “round robin” situations to arise amongst three or more qualifiers under this criterion. This will usually become readily apparent by the third or fourth pass through steps 2 through 4 and is evidenced by an inability to obtain a final order amongst the wrestlers in question. When this occurs, the following criteria will be used to separate those qualifiers only:
    - a) Use margin of victory points, as described above, to create a natural order.
    - b) If more than one qualifier has the same aggregate margin of victory against the same seeded opponent, random selection will be used to create the final order.
- c. Criterion C: Head-to-Head Victories Over Any Remaining Unseeded Special District Tournament Champion
- 1) For those champions who haven’t qualified under Criterion A or Criterion B, create a group for those with a head-to-head win over another, currently unseeded champion. Again, to be eligible for this pool, a wrestler must have more wins than losses against one or more wrestlers who are already seeded or who become seeded under this criterion; i.e., no “splits” between a pair of wrestlers.
  - 2) The following priority system will be used to determine the seeding order when there is more than one qualifier under this criterion.
    - a) The wrestler with the most head-to-head wins over the remaining, unseeded Special District Tournament Champions.
    - b) If more than one wrestler has the same number of head-to-head wins within this group, rank-using margin of victory standards, as previously outlined.
    - c) If this still doesn’t create a natural order amongst the qualifiers in this group, random selection will be used to create the final order.
  - 3) Each qualifier under this criterion, in the order established above, will be assigned the next highest available seed position.
- d. Criterion D: Common Opponents
- 1) When there are two or more remaining unseeded Special District Champions and all of them share at least one common opponent (e.g., A, B, C and D have all wrestled E, who is not a Special District Champion). If no single common opponent can be found, skip to Criterion sub-section 2 of this Criterion.
    - a) To begin seeding the remaining unseeded Special District Champions under this Criterion, create a single group of those with wins over a common opponent shared by all of those Special District Champions who remain unseeded, but only for those with a greater number of wins than losses against the same common opponent; i.e., splits with the same opponent cancel each other out, regardless of match outcome or margin of victory.
    - b) This group of seeds will then be ranked and subsequently seeded by the following criteria:
      - (1) The wrestler with the most wins against common opponents.

- (2) If more than one wrestler has the same number of wins against common opponents, rank-using margin of victory standards, as previously outlined.
      - (3) If this still doesn't create a natural order amongst the qualifiers in this group, random selection will be used to create the final order.
    - c) Each qualifier under this criterion, in the order established above, will be assigned the next highest available seed position.
  - 2) If all of the remaining unseeded Special District Champions do not share at least one opponent common to all of them, apply the following pooling of common opponents shared by any pair or more of the unseeded Special District Champions.
    - a) Create a single group of those with wins over common opponents, but only for those with a greater number of wins than losses against the same common opponent; i.e., splits with the same opponent cancel each other out, regardless of match outcome or margin of victory. This can be any occurrence of two wrestlers or more sharing a common opponent.
    - b) This group of seeds will then be ranked and subsequently seeded by the following criteria:
      - (1) The wrestler with the most wins against common opponents.
      - (2) If more than one wrestler has the same number of wins against common opponents, rank-using margin of victory standards, as previously outlined.
      - (3) If this still doesn't create a natural order amongst the qualifiers in this group, random selection will be used to create the final order.
    - c) Each qualifier under this criterion, in the order established above, will be assigned the next highest available seed position.
  - e. Criterion E: Special District Tournament Champions not designated a seeded position will be randomly drawn into available positions within lines 1, 5, 8, 9, 12, 16 (18-person bracket), 1, 8, 9 and 16 (16-person bracket) or 1, 4, 5, 8 (8-person bracket).
6. Bracket Drawing Procedures for Remaining Entrants
- a. Once the seeds have been established for a weight class in a classification, the remaining unseeded wrestlers will be drawn into the bracket using the following procedures. The differences between classifications are due to the varying number of qualifiers and the varying bracket sizes.
  - b. For each weight class in the 6A classification:
    - 1) With a total of 18 qualifiers, the bracket will be a 16-man bracket with two pigtails.
    - 2) The two pigtails will always be assigned to the #1 and #2 seeds; i.e., the pigtails will attach to lines 1 and 16 of a standard 16-man bracket.
    - 3) The two consolation pigtails will be attached to lines 4 and 5 of a standard 16-man double-elimination consolation bracket. This allows cross-bracketing of the championship pigtail losers while maintaining longer separation of entrants from the same district in the consolation bracket.
    - 4) The top four seeds (first-place finishers from a Special District Tournament) are paired with the third-place finisher from a Special District Tournament represented by one of the seeds in the opposite semifinal bracket.
      - a) The third-place finishers paired with the top four seeds will be from the Special Districts who have the two lowest seeds in the opposite semifinal bracket.
      - b) The third-place finisher from the same Special District as the lowest seed in one semifinal bracket will be paired with the highest seed in the opposite semifinal bracket.
      - c) The third-place finisher from the same Special District as the next lowest seed in one semifinal bracket will be paired with second highest seed in the opposite semifinal bracket.
      - d) This will result in the #1 seed being paired with the third-place finisher from the Special District represented by the #6 seed, the #4 seed being paired with the third-place finisher from the Special District represented by the #3 seed, the #3 seed being paired with the third-place finisher from the Special District represented by the #4 seed, and the #2 seed being paired with the third-place finisher from the Special District represented by the #5 seed.

- 5) The remaining two seeds are paired with the runner-up from the same Special District as the highest seed in the opposite semifinal bracket. This will result in the #5 seed being paired with the runner-up from the Special District represented by the #2 seed and the #6 seed being paired with the runner-up from the Special District represented by the #1 seed.
- 6) At this point, the quarterfinal brackets of seeds 3 through 6 (i.e., quarterfinals 2 and 3) have been completely filled.
- 7) The two remaining third-place finishers will be drawn into the unoccupied pairings within the first and fourth quarterfinals; i.e., the pairings corresponding to lines 3 and 4, and lines 13 and 14 of a standard 16-man bracket.
- 8) The other line of the pairs just mentioned will be occupied by the runner-up from the Special District represented by the lowest seed from the opposite semifinal bracket.
  - a) The runner-up from the same Special District as the #6 seed will be in the pairing corresponding to lines 3 and 4 of a standard 16-man bracket.
  - b) The runner-up from the same Special District as the #5 seed will be in the pairing corresponding to lines 13 and 14 of a standard 16-man bracket.
- 9) The only two remaining lines on the bracket are lines 2 and 15 of a standard 16-man bracket.
  - a) Line 2 will be occupied by the runner-up from the same Special District as the #3 seed.
  - b) Line 15 will be occupied by the runner-up from the same Special District as the #4 seed.
- 10) These procedures provide:
  - a) The best distribution of runners-up and third-place finishers throughout the bracket.
  - b) Maintains the separation of district champions and runners-up from the same Special District in the initial bracket construction.
  - c) Allows each quarterfinal bracket to have at least one runner-up and one third-place finisher; i.e., no quarterfinal bracket will have all of the runners-up from the Special Districts represented in the opposite semifinal by their champions and no quarterfinal bracket will be composed only of Special District champions and third-place finishers.
  - d) Provides the best/longest possible separation of all three entrants from any Special District in the championship bracket.

c. For each weight class in the 5A and 4A classifications:

- 1) With a total of 16 qualifiers, the bracket will be a standard 16-man bracket.
- 2) The four seeds (the four Special District champions) will be paired with the fourth-place finishers from a Special District Tournament represented by one of the seeds in the opposite semifinal bracket.
  - a) The fourth-place finishers paired with the top four seeds will be from the Special Districts who are represented by seeds in the opposite semifinal bracket.
  - b) The fourth-place finisher from the same Special District as the lowest seed in one semifinal bracket will be paired with the highest seed in the opposite semifinal bracket.
  - c) The fourth-place finisher from the same Special District as the highest seed in one semifinal bracket will be paired with lowest seed in the opposite semifinal bracket.
  - d) This will result in the #1 seed being paired with the fourth-place finisher from the Special District represented by the #3 seed, the #4 seed being paired with the fourth-place finisher from the Special District represented by the #2 seed, the #3 seed being paired with the fourth-place finisher from the Special District represented by the #1 seed, and the #2 seed being paired with the fourth-place finisher from the Special District represented by the #4 seed.
- 3) The second-place finishers from each Special District will be drawn to one of the remaining unoccupied lines in the same semifinal bracket as the fourth-place finisher from that Special District, but to the opposite quarterfinal bracket.
- 4) The third-place finishers from each Special District will drawn to one of the remaining lines in the same semifinal as the seeded wrestlers (champion) from that Special district, but to the opposite quarterfinal bracket.

- 5) Special Note: With the compromise solution that was reached wherein the fifth-place finisher in one Special District (Special District 1 for the 2014-15 season) “fills the slot” of the fourth-place finisher from Special District 4, that wrestler will be associated with Special District 4 as its fourth-place finisher for bracket drawing purposes.

d. For each weight class in the **3A classification**:

- 1) With a total of 12 qualifiers, the bracket will be a standard 16-man bracket.
- 2) In accordance with NFHS rules pertaining to even distribution of byes throughout the bracket, each quarterfinal bracket will have one bye.
- 3) However, byes will not be drawn in the initial line pairings with the three seeded (Special District champions) wrestlers; i.e., the seeded wrestlers will always have a match in the first championship round.
- 4) The three seeds are paired with fourth-place finishers in the first championship round as follows:
  - a) The #1 seed is paired with the fourth-place finisher from the same Special District as the #3 seed.
  - b) The #2 seed is paired with the fourth-place finisher from the same Special District as the #1 seed.
  - c) The #3 seed is paired with the fourth-place finisher from the same Special District as the #2 seed.
- 5) The quarterfinal brackets of the #1 and #2 seed (the first and fourth quarterfinals) will contain a third-place finisher and a bye to complete the other pairing in that quarterfinal bracket. The third-place finisher must be from a Special District represented in the opposite semifinal bracket and not yet represented in the current quarterfinal bracket.
- 6) The quarterfinal bracket of the #3 seed (the third quarterfinal) will contain a runner-up and a bye to complete the other pairing in that quarterfinal bracket. The runner-up must be from the same Special District as the #1 seed.
- 7) The remaining quarterfinal, which is without a seed (the second quarterfinal) will be comprised of the two runners-up from the same Special Districts as the #2 and #3 seed, the third-place finisher from the same Special District as the #1 seed and a bye, with the following additional restrictions:
  - a) The two runners-up will be in different pairs
  - b) The runner-up from the same Special District as the #3 seed will be paired with a bye.
  - c) The runner-up from the same Special District as the #2 seed will be paired with the third-place finisher from the same Special District as the #1 seed.

e. For each weight class in the **2A/1A classification**:

- 1) With a total of 8 qualifiers, the bracket will be a standard 8-man bracket.
- 2) Seeds are paired with the runners-up from the Special Districts of the seeds in the opposite semifinal bracket with the lowest seed's Special District being paired with the highest seed in the opposite semifinal bracket. This will result in:
  - a) The #1 seed being paired with the runner-up from the same Special District as the #3 seed.
  - b) The #4 seed being paired with the runner-up from the same Special District as the #2 seed.
  - c) The #3 seed being paired with the runner-up from the same Special District as the #1 seed.
  - d) The #2 seed being paired with the runner-up from the same Special District as the #4 seed.