

## RMN EVENTS – NEW OFFICIAL TRAINING

### I. Philosophy

- a. Educator vs. Penalizer – Qualify vs. Disqualify
- b. Ambassadors of sport: embrace character, recognize sportsmanship, encourage effort
- c. Developmental youth perspective: help wrestlers learn from & not repeat mistakes
- d. Preventive management > verbal guide, proper position, active monitoring on & off mat
- e. Remove the ego – be a learner, view request for head as growth opportunity
- f. P's: patience, persistence, prescience & presence, perspective, prevention
- g. Distinguish bn. principle (where to teach) & rule (what to enforce) re age/ability/situation
- h. Sportsmanship – encourage by example (i.e., shake hands), preventive management
- i. Safety – be verbal & in position to prevent injury – easier to defend PD than ending injury
- j. Adjust parameters & apply appropriate standards re age/ability/physicality/round

### II. Protocol

- a. Professional conduct – no tobacco/alcohol/foul language/cell phones
- b. Be sensitive to evolving awareness re appropriate respect, abuse, sexuality boundaries
- c. Principles of space, positioning, back step vs. chase, level change, verbal direction
- d. Proper signals, communication with table, double-check score before next period/end
- e. All situations involving potential DQ (i.e., bite) or coach sanction require head approval
- f. Coach protocol: know difference bn. rule interpretation & judgment call
- g. Protest: call for head, keep both wrestlers & coaches at mat (don't start next match)
- h. Learn Flo scoring – assist scorekeepers, make sure winner reports, monitor table help
- i. Keep mats flowing – move to on deck, in the hole – 2<sup>nd</sup> call > ask coach to find wrestler
- j. Double-bracket > give 1 match break, allow wrestler time to report
- k. Two coaches / corner, keep wrestlers & spectators behind table, don't start until ready
- l. 15-minute rest bn. consecutive matches – may be waived by BOTH coaches/wrestlers

### III. Rule Interpretations

- a. Be thoroughly familiar not only with new rules but WHY the rules have changed
- b. Know the difference bn. stalling & fleeing – set up verbally, call w/o hesitation
- c. Headgear (13U>), hair, mouth guard, shoelaces, special equipment, uniform guidelines
- d. Boundary procedure (be verbal), limited protection area, safety first, takedown/pin calls
- e. Encourage action: wrestlers need to improve position w/o compromise to safety
- f. Understand difference bn. potentially dangerous (all holds) & illegal, be in position to stop
- g. Injury / recovery / blood time / H-N-C concussion: separate circumstances & procedures
- h. Overtime: 1-min. sudden victory, (2) 30-sec. tie-breakers, ultimate tie-breaker

### IV. Collegiality & Support

- a. Opening ceremony & common start procedure (find two wrestlers to begin in mat center)
- b. All done when ALL done – head-asst. on finals, double up as mats drop
- c. Rotate consistently (wait 1.5 matches), respect break time, no cell phones matside
- d. Support the decisions of your colleagues – invite feedback – offer suggestions

### V. Growth & Development

- a. We are committed to your continuing education – you must invest in your own learning
- b. Understand areas for evaluation & ask for oral/written review
- c. Officiating is an art and a negotiation, not an exact science – be a learner!
- d. Pay process: Arbiter RefPay; check at end thru head approval (no cash – need record)

*With all of the above in mind, I will be:*

- *A patient observer, an active learner, and a willing participant;*
- *Thoroughly adherent to all rules while respecting the principles;*
- *Actively invested in promoting consistent action, active safety, and proper sportsmanship;*
- *Constantly aware of differences in age, skill, experience, round, and region of the country;*
- *Always supportive, respectful, and accountable to my peers on and off the mat.*