Information to Coaches & Athletic Directors
2020 VISAA State Wrestling Tournament

VISAA is proud to host the 50th VISAA State Wrestling Tournament. Please read the following information and share it with your parents, wrestlers, and staff.

DATES: Fri & Sat, February 14 & 15
SITE: The Meadow Event Park, 13191 Dawn Blvd, Doswell, VA 23047. Take Exit 98 off Interstate 95 (same as King’s Dominion) then head East on VA 30 for 3 miles; building on your left.

FOLLOW US ON THE INTERNET: Tournament information and updates can be viewed on internet at TrackWrestling.com Search for: VISAA State Wrestling Tournament 2020

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Bob Needham – VISAA Wrestling Chair & Co-Director
School Phone: 757-461-6236
Cell: 757-536-1295
E-mail: bneedham@norfolkacademy.org

Tim Donahue – Co-Director of Tournament
Cell: 804-837-8051 E-mail: donahuetj1@gmail.com

Registration Chairman: Track Wrestling questions, line up entries, seeding, changes or help
Rob Prebish
E-mail: Robinson_Prebish@ccpspsnet.net
OR call/text at: (540) 623-6512

HOST HOTEL: Special rates for VISAA teams and fans. When you make your reservation make sure you reference the 2020 VISAA State Wrestling Tournament for your discount.

Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriott
11625 Lakeridge Parkway
Ashland, Virginia 23005
Reservations: 804-412-4800

Sales Manager: Amy Reiss (804-412-9727)
reissa@guestservices.com

Alternate Hotel Right Across Street from Fairfield Inn
Country Inn & Suites by Radisson
11600 Lakeridge Parkway Ashland VA
(804) 798-7378

NO LOCKER ROOM OR SHOWERS AVAILABLE: The facility does not have any lockers or showers available. Teams should plan on dressing and showering in hotels.

HOSPITALITY: A hospitality area will be provided for coaches and officials on Saturday (only). VISAA will provide drinks and light snacks (chips, etc.). Any other food is subject to parents and booster clubs’ donations. VISAA will provide a box lunch to officials on Saturday. No main meal or other or food is planned for coaches.
Schedule of Events
2020 VISAA State Wrestling Tournament
Meadow Event Park, 13191 Dawn Blvd, Doswell, VA 23047
Tournament information and updates can be viewed on internet at Track Wrestling.com

Friday, February 14th (Session I)

**Note:** Friday weigh-in will be held at the host hotel: Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriott, 11625 Lakeridge Parkway, Ashland, VA 23005.

3:00 pm - Weigh-ins (by team) & Skin Checks & Doors Open to public for tickets sales.

Two (2) pounds over scratch weight if wrestler has met NWCA guidelines. Each team must produce an NWCA-generated weigh-in sheet that reflects most recent weigh-in. Please have your wrestlers clean shaven, nails cut and in possession of any necessary VHSL skin clearance forms (a doctor’s note alone is not sufficient). The VHSL skin clearance form must be the 2019 version. Mouthguards and hair coverings must be presented if required.

5:00 pm - Wrestling begins in this order and will be continuous.

- Championship Round 1 (round of 32) on 5 mats (Approx. 40 matches)
- Consolation Round 1 – most likely all byes (0 matches last year)
- Championship Round 2 (round of 16) on 5 mats (Approx. 108 matches)
- Consolation Round 2 on 5 mats (Approx. 40 matches)
- Championship Quarterfinals on 5 mats (56 matches)
- Consolation Round 3 on 5 mats (56 matches)

Times are approximate; any adjustments will be made over the public address system during the tournament.

Saturday, February 15th (Session II)

8:00 am Weigh-ins at Meadow Event Park (by weight class) & Skin Checks (1 additional pound)

9:30 am Wrestling continues in this order

- Consolation Round 4 on 5 mats (56 matches)
- Championship Semi-Finals on 2 mats (28 matches) and Consolation Round 5 on 3 mats (28 matches) running concurrently
- Consolation Round 6 (Consolation Semi-Finals) on 5 mats (28 matches)
- Championship and placement (3rd – 7th) matches run concurrently on 4 mats.
- Awards. Wrestlers placing 1-8 are to wear a warmup or top identifying their school for podium pictures. A picture of all champions will be taken at the conclusion of the awards.

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TABLES AVAILABLE FOR TEAMS: There will be tables available for teams to put your coolers & food on. Yes, teams can bring food into the facility.

CONCESSIONS: There is a very good concession stand with a wide variety of foods. There’s a special on pizza ($15 for a large) if teams are interested.

TICKETS & PASSES: Please share this information with your parents/fans ahead of time. Players, coaches, cheerleaders, school administrators and families of coaches involved in the contest will be admitted free but other school personnel, etc. will not be allowed in on passes. All other school personnel, faculty, students etc. and spectators must pay admission.

- $10.00 one day admission or $20 for two-day tournament pass (for anyone over six years of age)
- $30.00 Family Rate Daily Admission to each day events (2 adults plus children)
- The tournament is a two-day event.

Coaching & team passes: Each coach will receive a packet containing three (3) coaching VIP wristbands and four (4) other wristbands good for the entire tournament that the coach may to hand out at his discretion to managers, scorekeepers, video people, or other team personnel. All passes are WRISTBANDS and MUST BE WORN ON ONE’S WRIST to be admitted (especially for readmission on Saturday). Do not fasten them to clothing, purses, etc. Please comply with this request. Wrestlers in uniform do not need a pass. If a wrestler is knocked out of the tournament Friday night (and will not be in uniform Saturday) see the tournament staff at the head table in the auditorium to get a pass to get in the next day.

FORMAT: This is a 32-man, double-elimination tournament following National Federation Rules. We will be using Track Wrestling and using a paperless computer system at each mat. Jack Harcourt of VA/USA wrestling will coordinate and oversee the match making and team scoring system via Track Wrestling. It is important that all coaches understand that the VISAA State Wrestling Tournament has been employing a mechanism to deal with BYEs. As you know, receiving a BYE is a disadvantage to a team as it deprives a wrestler of the opportunity to earn any activity points (2 pts. for a pin, 1.5 pts for a tech fall or 1 pt. for a major decision). We employ a mechanism that awards BYE points to a wrestler based on the activity points he earns in his next match. Thus if a wrestler receives a BYE and then pins his next opponent, he will earn 4 activity points instead of the normal 2 activity points, if he wins by a tech fall he’ll earn 3 activity points, and if he receives a major decision he’ll earn 2 activity points. Of course there is no guarantee that a wrestler will earn any activity points in his next match following a BYE (say he wins by a decision), but if he does pin, tech or major his next opponent after a BYE, awarding him the same activity points for the BYE helps to offset, to a degree, the disadvantage of receiving a BYE in the first place.

The authority to employ this mechanism is from Rule 10, Section 1, Article 1 of the NHSF Wrestling Rule Book which reads: "Tournaments conducted by state high school associations (e.g. VISAA) for qualification to the state high school championships and the championships themselves shall be determined by the individual organization. Each state high school association is privileged to conduct those tournaments as best suits its needs." (Italics added). Unless the VISAA Wrestling Committee rules differently, we will employ this mechanism again. Coaches are encouraged to share their thoughts on this format with their regional wrestling representative. Track Wrestling does accommodate this mechanism automatically in the calculations of team scores.
OFFICIAL ENTRY & REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

We will be utilizing Track Wrestling. Track is an online wrestling tournament management program. A username and password has already been sent to each coach by the Registration Chairman Rob Prebish. If you have not received this, contact Rob at: Robinson_Prebish@ccspsnet.net OR call/text him at: (540) 623-6512

IMPORTANT! All entries into the state tournament must be entered into the NWCA system by Tuesday, February 11 at 11:59 PM. Weigh-ins after Tuesday, Feb 11 shall not be considered as grounds for reclassifying a wrestler into a lower weight class for the state tournament.

STEP 1 – Entering your line up. EACH COACH DOES THIS BY 6 PM WED EVENING FEB 12.

Initial Sign In

1) Log onto Track Wrestling.com
2) Click on the SEARCH button and in the Event Name box type VISAA and in the State box use the pull down tab and click on Virginia then click SEARCH
3) VISAA State Wrestling Tournament 2020 will appear. Click on it. 
4) In Select your user type use the pull down bar to highlight Statistician. A “statistician” is anyone such as a coach, asst. coach, etc. who is will have access to your line-up (entering/deleting) and providing information such as record and head-to-head results needed for seeding.
5) Enter your Username and Password sent to you by Rob Prebish. It may be the same username and password from last year’s tournament. You can change this if you want.
6) You’re in! And, for most teams, Rob may have uploaded your complete team rosters from the NWCA database. If not, you’ll have to enter your line-up manually.

Participant Information

- You can change the names of your wrestlers if you need to. To do this, change the first and last name of the wrestler and click SAVE PARTICIPANT. To delete a wrestler without a name change, simply click DELETE PARTICIPANT. Remember to enter only ONE wrestler per weight class! Don’t enter any alternates. One wrestler per weight.
- Be sure to check that all of your wrestlers are in the correct weight class and have the correct grade listed.
- Enter your most up to date record for each wrestler and make sure that under SCORING WRESTLER “Yes” is listed.
- Once all the information is correct, please click SAVE PARTICIPANT.

Seeding Information

- Click on CRITERIA VALUES and be sure to enter as much information as possible. If you do not enter any criteria values, your wrestler may or may not get seeded.

Head to Head Matchups

- Click on HEAD to HEAD. All of the wrestlers in the weight class will be listed. If your wrestler has beaten another wrestler in the weight class, click on his name (even if your wrestler has split head to head matches).
SEEDING MEETING will be held by the Executive Committee via conference call Wednesday evening, February 12. Bob Needham will notify committee members of time and details. Thus, it is important coaches enter wrestlers’ records and head-to-head information into Track Wrestling no later than 6:00 PM Wednesday evening Feb 12. Track Wrestling seeding criteria will do the initial seeding and committee members will make adjustments as necessary. Seeding will be available to all coaches and public after the seeding meeting. If coaches have any questions or concerns about the seeding notify your Regional Representative or Bob Needham.

STEP 2. NWCA verification and SEEDING information.

By 11:59 PM on Tuesday, Feb 11, e-mail an NWCA-generated weigh-in sheet and record sheets to Bob Needham AND your regional representative. This weigh-in sheet must reflect the most recent weigh-in as stipulated by rules. The regional reps are:

- Northern Region: Mike Eastman meastman@paulvi.net
- Central Region: Dean Hall halld@fuma.org
- Eastern Region: Ron Kavanaugh ronald.kavanaugh.3@us.af.mil
- Western Region: Terry Waters twaters@fishburne.org
- VISAA Wrestling Chair: Bob Needham bneedham@norfolkacademy.org

NWCA WEIGHT ALLOWANCE RULES: In order to be eligible for VISAA tournament, each wrestler must be certified under the National prep guidelines: (http://www.natprepwrestling.com/Preps/2010NatPrepWtManagement.pdf). To be specific, a wrestler must be entered in the NWCA weight management program system and comply with the minimum weight class allowed (see Rule 10). Coaches are expected to e-mail and bring a weigh-in sheet generated by the NWCA website which certifies each wrestler’s eligibility based on their most recent weigh-in. The weight for Friday will be scratch +2 and the weight for Saturday will be scratch +3.

SKIN CHECKS & SKIN CONDITIONS: Wrestlers should present themselves well groomed, nails cut and clean shaven at weigh-ins. Thorough skin checks will be done at Friday’s weigh-in and again on Saturday. It is very important that wrestlers with any questionable skin conditions have the proper medical clearance forms immediately available. Coaches should thoroughly check each wrestler prior to coming to the tournament for any possible skin conditions and have in-hand written documentation from a medical doctor addressing any and all skin conditions. We will follow NFHS Rules 4-2-3, 4-2-4 which states: “ART.3.....If a participant is suspected by the referee or coach of having a communicable skin disease or any other condition that makes participation appear undesirable, the coach shall provide current written documentation as defined by the NFHS or the state associations, from an appropriate health-care professional stating that the suspected disease or condition is not communicable and that the athlete’s participation would not be harmful to any opponent. This document shall be furnished at the weigh-in for the dual meet or tournament. The only exception would be if a designated, on-site meet appropriate health-care professional is present and is able to examine the wrestler either immediately prior to or immediately. “

Costs prohibit VISAA from having a physician present during skin checks. If there is a questionable skin condition, the wrestler will be referred to the head trainer who will consult with the head official and make a final ruling on the situation. As a certified and designated on-site meet appropriate health-care professional, the trainer is granted the authority by NFHS and VHSL to rule on skin conditions; and, if necessary, overrule documentation from a physician regarding skin conditions. Understand that simply being in possession of a skin clearance form in and of itself may not be sufficient to allow wrestler to participate as said skin condition could have gotten worse since obtaining his clearance form from his physician. If in the opinion of the head trainer, a wrestler’s skin condition on the day of the tournament represents a danger to other participants, that wrestler will not be allowed to participate. This decision will be made during or after weigh-ins and there will be no additional time allowed to visit an area health care provider to secure documentation. The
bottom line is the wrestler and his coach should have the proper VHSL skin form present on hand during weigh-ins and make sure that the dates on the form designating when the wrestler is allowed to compete are not in conflict with the date of the tournament; and, that the skin condition has not gotten worse since the documentation was written.

SKIN CHECK FORMS: The following site has the proper skin check form. Please go to the site and download what you need. http://www.vhsl.org/skinlesionform.pdf

PROTEST COMMITTEE: The protest committee will be the tournament director, the head official and members of the regional representatives present at the tournament. Coaches wishing to file a formal protest should bring this request to the tournament director who will call the committee together to hear the issue and render a decision by majority vote of committee members. Should the coach bringing the protest be a regional representative, he will recuse himself from the final vote on the issue at hand. Coaches are reminded that the protest committee exists to handle serious issues related to the application of rules related to a match, not simply a forum to vent dissatisfaction with an official’s judgment on a particular call. Coaches should also be aware of what is and what not a “correctable” error and how such errors can be remedied within Federation guidelines.

COACHES PRESENT AT MATSIDE & LOCATING ON-DECK WRESTLERS: Our policy is to do everything we can to ensure that a wrestler has a coach or his designee in the corner during a match. While we will communicate this to the officials, it is up to the coaches and wrestlers to make sure this policy is implemented. If a school has a small number of coaches, it is important to enlist the aid of parents and teammates to be aware of when and where wrestlers are competing and to communicate this information to the head coach. This is an especially important strategy in a venue that has multiple mats. Table workers and officials will accommodate this request by simply postponing a match until a coach (or designee) can arrive to coach the wrestler. Coaches should discuss this with their wrestlers to make certain this does not happen. Likewise, if a match is postponed, the on-deck wrestler must be given adequate time and notice to prepare for his competition. Coaches and wrestlers should not be outside the competition area or anywhere (in their car, at a restaurant, out taking a walk, etc.) where they cannot hear the PA announcements. We will make every effort to communicate via the microphone, but we cannot be responsible if the coach/wrestler is outside the range of the public address system. If a wrestler misses his on-deck call beyond repeated PA announcements paging him and the five-minute grace period has elapsed he shall forfeit his next match.

MATS: 5 mats will be used throughout the tournament.

PARKING: Plenty of free parking at Meadow Event Park

AWARDS: The top 8 places in each weight class will receive medals and will be honored on the award podium. Team trophies are given to the top 6 placing teams. Special recognition awards (plaques) will be given for exemplary performance for Mid-Size and Small-Size schools (see division breakdown by enrollment on next page). Per VISAA policy, these recognition awards do not constitute separate state championships based on school size. Their intent is to acknowledge exemplary performance for schools with smaller enrollments. Outstanding Wrestler Awards are given to three wrestlers representing the following divisions: Lightweights (106-132), Middleweights (138-160) and Upperweights (170-285). An award plaque is also given to the wrestler with the Most Falls in Least Time. Coaches will also vote on two additional award plaques: Coach of the Year and Team Sportsmanship Award.
THE SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS for school sizes will be based on the following enrollment figures provided by VISAA for the 2018-2019 school year and used for 2020 as the second year of the two year enrollment cycle.

2020 VISAA WRESTLING TOURNAMENT DIVISIONS
Divisions are based on boys enrollment in the two-year cycle beginning in 2018-19

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<tr>
<th>Boys</th>
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<td>177</td>
<td>Blue Ridge School</td>
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<td>Bishop Ireton</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>Fishburne Military School</td>
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<td>Bishop O’Connell</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>Hargrave Military Academy</td>
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<td>Peninsula Catholic</td>
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<td>Roanoke Catholic</td>
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PROGRAM: We would like one team picture from every school to put in the program. The deadline for these pictures is Monday Feb 3rd. We want to make sure every team is represented. Directions where to send the picture are on the next page.

*****IMPORTANT*****
This needs to be done ASAP: **DEADLINE Monday Feb 3rd**

**PROGRAM PICTURES & INFORMATION: DEADLINE MONDAY FEB 3**

Please take a minute to have your assistant, manager or one of your parents to take a team picture for our program. ONE TEAM PICTURE (only) per school. Make sure we receive a captions page listing your school and the names of the wrestlers as they appear in the photo (Left-right, standing, kneeling, etc.) Send these pictures along with captions to:

trunoke@aol.com

Attention: Chris Overstreet
Subject Line: 2020 VISAA State Tournament

Any problems contact:
Chris Overstreet
Office Manager
Scholastic Sports
877-725-2014

DO NOT send any pictures to Tim Donahue!