

UWOA Utah Wrestling Official's Association Constitution

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Article I Name

The name of this organization shall be the Utah Wrestling Officials Association (UWOA).

Article II Constitution

This Constitution, By-Laws and Code of Ethics are adopted by majority vote of the 'Executive Board' and approved by a majority vote of the general membership.

Article III Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be: **a)** to promote and maintain the highest ideals of sportsmanship; and **b)** to improve the techniques and quality of officiating so as to benefit the sport of wrestling and those participating; and **c)** to provide a regional clinic and rules interpretation meeting for officials; and **d)** to supervise examinations for new officials; and **e)** to provide institutions with assistance in the assignment of officials; and **f)** to maintain and improve present good relations with coaches and high schools.

Article IV Membership

Membership shall be available to any person interested, provided they meet the minimum qualifications as follows:

- Be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
- Pay the stipulated membership dues.
- Attend a majority of UWOA meetings.
- Receive a passing grade on exams according to UHSAA guidelines.

Article V Ranking

An official shall be classified by the ranking committee and approved by the 'Executive Board' according to the following categories:

UWOA Rankings (10/08/07)	
NR	Has not been evaluated and cannot officiate until achieving a ranking from ranking officer.
4	Beginning category, eligible to officiate at the Junior High School, Freshman, Sophomore and Junior Varsity matches.
3	Proven competent to officiate at the Junior Varsity level, all areas.
2.5	Varsity Ranked, competent for introduction into Varsity matches.
2	Proven competent to handle more intense high school dual meet and tournament competitions. Region ranked and ready for regional assignments.
1.5	Proven competent Varsity Official. History of proven intense Varsity assignments. State Tournament ready.
1	Proven competent to handle the most difficult officiating assignments. History of competence at the State Tournament level.

The ranking committee shall establish a system for evaluating and classifying all officials and a methodology whereby an official can advance to a higher level. The ranking committee will submit to the 'Executive Board' biannually, their recommendations for each individual classification.

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It is the policy of this organization that there be a category of Associate Member to accommodate those individuals who wish to be a member of the wrestling community but who are no longer active as an official. The "Executive Board" shall determine the fees necessary for this category.

Article VI Meetings

Meetings shall be held for all members on the dates, times, and places determined by the 'Executive Board' but not less than three (3) per year (during one of which elections shall be held) and policy items shall be discussed and voted upon. A majority vote of the members present shall determine the results.

Article VII Executive Board

The Executive Board shall consist of the President, Evaluating and Instruction Chairman, one or two Rules Clinic Trainers, Arbiting Chairman, Secretary-Treasurer, and two members at large.

Article VIII Dues and Fees

The dues and fees for membership shall be proposed by the 'Executive Board' and shall include the Association's fees for the Executive Board members to be approved by a majority vote of those attending the meeting.

Article IX Officers, Duties and Terms of Office

President; shall preside at all meetings of the association and appoint such committees as are necessary and will execute the will of the association. He will be a part of the arbiting committee. The President will also serve as the Association's representative to the Utah Wrestling Coaches Association. The President shall receive an annual stipend of \$200.00 payable at the annual meeting. The term of office is for two years.

Secretary-Treasurer; Shall keep a record of all meetings, correspondence and financial records of the association. The Secretary-Treasurer shall assume all responsibilities of the President in his absence and otherwise assist the President in relevant Association matters. He shall send out proper notices for meetings, conduct the correspondence of the Association and maintain the membership records. He shall receive all dues and monies, pay all bills and expenses, and keep proper records of the financial matters of the Association. He shall give a Treasurer's report at each general membership meeting and shall be subject to an audit at the prerogative of the 'Executive Board'. He shall act as the liaison between the Association and the National Wrestling Officials Association (NWOA). The Secretary-Treasurer shall receive an annual stipend of \$200.00 payable at the annual meeting. The term of office is for two years.

Evaluating and Instructional Chairman; Shall prepare and deliver the necessary training program designed to cover the rules and regulations governing amateur wrestling, including the latest rules changes and interpretations in order that each official is fully cognizant of the current system. Will organize ranking tournaments and preside over select committee in charge of rankings. The Evaluating and Instructional Chairman will be

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a part of the arbiting committee. The term of office is for two years. He will be paid an annual stipend of \$200.00.

Evaluating and Instructional Trainers; Shall be voted and approved through the general association and be responsible for assisting the Evaluating Chairman in the rankings and evaluations of the general association. In addition they will work with the Chairman to conduct Rules Clinic's to be provided as is deemed necessary by the board. The instructional trainers shall be members of the arbiting committee. The term of office is for two years. They will be paid an annual stipend of \$200.00 each.

Arbiting Chairman; Shall work closely with the Utah High School Activities Committee and Coaches in assigning qualified officials at all dual meets, tournaments and other wrestling events. Assignments may be delegated to officers. These assignments shall take into consideration the availability of each official, travel distance, difficulty of assignment. The term of office is contingent upon the UHSAA. He will receive an annual stipend of \$400.00 plus phone expenses. In the event that the Arbiting Chairman is a paid member of the UHSAA and is being paid by that association, stipend and phone expenses may be suspended.

Members at Large; Shall attend all 'Executive Board' and General Membership meetings and are expected to reflect the ideas and thoughts of the membership. They shall serve on such committees as the President determines will best serve the organization. Term of office is for two years although one-year tenure may be requested to the officers at the end of the first year of service. There will be two such positions and these positions will be paid an annual stipend of \$200.00 each plus phone expenses where appropriate.

Article X Election

Elections will be held at the last meeting of the year with elections for Members-at-Large and President to alternate years. Nominees will be selected and then voted upon to narrow the candidates. The members will select, out of the remaining candidates, by a majority vote. Secretary-Treasurer and Evaluating and Instructional Chairman will be elected at the end of the incumbent's term. It is the intent of the UWOA to select board members including the position of president based upon their experience within the board itself. Tradition and history has shown improved organization and continuity when this transition of positions occurs.

Article XI Amendment

The Constitution, By-Laws and Code of Ethics may be amended by a majority vote of the members present. Proposed changes must be submitted in writing to the 'Executive Board' for their consideration and deliberation and then are read to the membership at the next annual meeting along with the opinion of the 'Executive Board'. Disposition of the proposed amendment(s) shall be taken as deemed appropriate by the membership with a two-thirds favorable vote of the members present required in order for passage and inclusion in the constitution.

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Article XII Delinquencies

Section 1. The membership of any individual may be suspended by the recommendation of a member of the 'Executive Board' and vote of five of the eight members of that Board. The suspension shall temporarily cause the member to forfeit any and all matches and tournaments assigned by the Association. The suspension becomes a cancellation if the member receives a two-thirds negative vote of the members attending the next regularly scheduled membership meeting.

Section 2. Any member delinquent in payment of dues at the time of contract distribution shall be suspended until such time as their dues have been paid. Any member not in attendance at least two-thirds of the scheduled membership meetings will be suspended from post-season matches. The member can be reinstated if an appeal (written to the President) passes by at least a two-thirds vote of the 'Executive Board'.

Article XIII Evaluations

Every member must be evaluated through the Association's ranking process at least once every two years regardless of their current ranking. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in a drop of the member's ranking one full level. Rankings and evaluations will be documented by the Evaluating Chairman. The Evaluating Chairman will make available the rankings of each official at the beginning and end of each wrestling year. The evaluations themselves are the responsibility and property of the board and are used for the rankings of each official. A compendium of these results may be available to each official. Additionally, the Evaluating Chairman will provide documentation to all new officials the process that will be used to determine their competence, rankings, and a plan for improving both. Officials chosen to do the State Tournament will be evaluated there and this will satisfy their evaluation requirements.

Article XIV Support Letters

Should a member be involved in an incident of flagrant misconduct by a coach, participant, spectator or other persons associated with a participating team or event, the 'Executive Board' will judge the incident according to established rules. After conferring with the member, the UWOA will write a letter of clarification and support for the member to the school involved and the UHSAA.

Article XV Order of Business

Each regularly scheduled meeting of the membership shall be conducted in an orderly manner while addressing business in the following way:

1. Roll Call
2. Reading of the minutes
3. Report of the President / Executive Board
4. New / Old business
5. Rules Interpretations
6. Adjournment

Code of Ethics

- Honor all contracts.
- Study the rules, observe other officials and attend clinics. Be actively engaged in increasing your skills always attempting to improve your abilities and knowledge of the sport.
- Conduct yourself professionally at all times.
- Be fair and unbiased.
- Be a worthy example to athletes, coaches, and administrators.
- Cooperate with school administrators and state associations.
- Be firm but not overbearing; courteous but not ingratiating; positive but never rude; dignified but not arrogant, friendly but not companionable; calm yet always alert.
- Respect the athletes and their efforts. The match is the most important thing.
- Be prepared physically and mentally.
- No drinking or smoking as per the UHSAA Code of Ethics Booklet.
- No scouting or visiting during the match.