



TO: Superintendents and NSAA Contact Person

FROM: Debra Velder, Associate Director

SUBJECT: Proposals

DATE: November 2, 2017

Included with this transmission are the proposals submitted by member schools within your respective NSAA legislative district to be acted upon at your first NSAA District Meeting.

At the NSAA District Meetings, each member school shall be entitled to one vote. Voting will be conducted utilizing a clicker system in which each school's vote will be recorded on each item in which a vote is taken. The administrative head of the school or any school official so designated shall be considered the authorized voting representative of the member school. All legislative proposals receiving a majority vote at the first District Meeting in each district are to be forwarded to the NSAA to be distributed to all member schools prior to the second District Meeting in January. A copy of the proposals for the second NSAA District Meeting will again be forwarded to school administrators who are encouraged to share those proposals with the school's entire governing board.

[Proposed changes in NSAA Bylaws](#), must successfully pass through the legislative process. (I.e. November District Meeting, January District Meeting, Legislative Commission, Representative Assembly and if required a ratification of member schools) to be enacted.

[Proposed changes in NSAA Approved Rulings](#), rest in the final approval of the Board of Directors.

[Class Caucus proposals](#) are included for your information and are not acted upon at district meetings.

A paper copy of the proposals will not be provided at the NSAA District Meeting. Please print a copy of the proposals for your reference at the meeting.

District 5 Meeting

Wednesday, November 8, 2017

McCook High School

1:00 p.m. CST/12:00 p.m. MST

Proposed Changes in NSAA Bylaws

A. This proposal is submitted by: Jon Davis, Alma; Kyle Hemmerling, Elwood - District 5
Classification Committee Representatives

The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 2 Section: 13.12 and 13.2.1 Page: 28

The section/paragraph/sentence indicates what is to be added/deleted/changed to the current Bylaw/Approved Ruling. ADDITIONS are in all capital letters.

2.13.2 Basis for Classification. A school's classification shall be based on its total enrollment for all activities with the exception of football, BOYS TENNIS, BOYS BASKETBALL, WRESTLING, BOYS GOLF, BOYS SOCCER AND BASEBALL that will be classified on boy enrollment only, AND VOLLEYBALL, SOFTBALL, GIRLS BASKETBALL, GIRLS GOLF, GIRLS TENNIS AND GIRLS SOCCER THAT WILL BE CLASSIFIED ON GIRL ENROLLMENT ONLY.

2.13.2.1 A school's total enrollment shall be the total boy and girl enrollment in grades nine, ten, and eleven according to the enrollment figures submitted to the State Department of Education on the last Friday in September of the preceding school year except for football, BOYS TENNIS, BOYS BASKETBALL, WRESTLING, BOYS GOLF, BOYS SOCCER AND BASEBALL that will be classified on boy enrollment only, AND VOLLEYBALL, SOFTBALL, GIRLS BASKETBALL, GIRLS GOLF, GIRLS TENNIS AND GIRLS SOCCER THAT WILL BE CLASSIFIED ON GIRL ENROLLMENT ONLY.

Will this proposal impact cost to the School? NO

Will this proposal impact cost to the NSAA? NO

Will this proposal increase travel for the participating schools? NO

Will this proposal impact a student or coach's loss of instruction time? NO

Rationale for the proposed change:

PROS: This is a proposal generated by the NSAA Classification Committee. Last year, the membership elected to classify football on a boys-only enrollment count, as football is an activity that is heavily dependent on participation numbers, and while there may be a few girls who participate in football statewide, it was determined that it was fairer to classify on a boys-only count.

The Committee felt that, given that NSAA receives audited enrollment counts from NDE on a gender basis, it was determined that it would be fairer to classify most of the NSAA sports on a single-gender basis. If a school's student population includes more boys than girls, or more girls than boys, it might be more appropriate to classify on the single gender.

CONS: Classifying based on single gender has the potential of placing schools in different classes for the boys and girls teams in comparable sports. For example, schools may be in one class in boys basketball, but in a different class in girls basketball. The sports that were selected for single-gender classification are either competed in different seasons (e.g., tennis, golf), or in different weeks for postseason competition (e.g., basketball).

Track and cross country were not included, due to the fact that many schools have the same coaches for both the boys and girls, and if the boys and girls teams were in different classes, it would likely require coaches to potentially miss more school time due to districts being held on different days or possibly require districts at two different sites. Further, in track, a coach who coaches both boys and girls would need to be at the state track meet for both sessions on Friday.

Swimming and Diving were not considered for single-gender classification due to the fact that there is only one class in swimming and diving.

PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE: 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR

B. This proposal is submitted by: Adam Boettcher, Franklin

The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Football 2.13.2 Page: 28

The section/paragraph/sentence indicates what is to be added/deleted/changed to the current Bylaw/Approved Ruling. ADDITIONS are in all capital letters.

PRIOR TO ANY CLASSIFICATION DETERMINATION, SCHOOLS WHO BELIEVE THEIR SCHOOL DEMOGRAPHICS UNFAIRLY PLACE THEIR FOOTBALL TEAM IN A LARGER TOURNAMENT CLASSIFICATION MAY APPEAL THEIR PLACEMENT TO THE NSAA OFFICE PROVIDED THAT THE CRITERIA BELOW IS MET:

****THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S FREE/REDUCED LUNCH COUNTS PROVIDED TO THE NSAA BY THE NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION MEETS OR EXCEEDS 50% OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS ENROLLMENT.**

Explanation: The Minnesota State High School League currently has in place a similar rule that allows schools the option to drop a class based on their free and reduced lunch count. Prior to enacting the rule they did research that showed on average there was a 40% higher participation rate with students who weren't on free/reduced lunch. Based on this number they created a formula to decide whether a school should be allowed to opt down one class and still be eligible for the play-offs.

The formula to calculate whether a school is able to opt down a class in football is as follows: 9-11 boys enrollment at School "A" equals 54 boys and places them in Class C-2. Take the 54 boys number and multiply it by 53% (School "A" Free/Reduced Lunch number according to the Nebraska Department of Education). That gives you a number of 28.62, which we would round up to 29 (This number represents the number of boys on free and reduced lunch). Multiply 29 by 40% and that equals 11.6, which we would round up to 12 (This number represents the 40% that are not participating due to the schools Free and Reduced and Demographic make-up). Subtract 12 from 54. School "A" ends up with a new 9-11 boys enrollment number of 42 which would put them under the 47 boy count and eligible to drop to Class D-1 and be eligible for the football playoffs.

Will this proposal impact cost to the School? NO

Will this proposal impact cost to the NSAA? NO

Will this proposal increase travel for the participating schools? NO

Will this proposal impact a student or coach's loss of instruction time? NO

Rationale for the proposed change:

PROS:

1. This proposal improves the player's safety by not putting athletes on the field that are not ready to play at the varsity level.
2. This proposal would reduce the number of forfeits in a season.
3. This would reduce the number of schools not being playoff eligible.
4. This would even the playing field for schools with a high percentage of free/reduced lunch counts due to diverse school demographics and low participation numbers.
5. This proposal would give more student/athletes a chance to participate in the NSAA football playoff system.
6. This proposal aids schools and their football athletes with a diverse school demographic, but yet doesn't punish already successful programs. It is designed to help school districts with high free/reduced lunch number and diverse student populations that struggle to field a competitive football team due to low participation numbers.
7. This proposal allows for the proper development of younger football athletes. Often due to low participation numbers, schools with high free/reduced and a diverse student population end up forfeiting a portion, if not all of their Junior Varsity schedule so they can avoid injuries in these games and still be able to field a varsity team on Friday nights.

CONS: Other NSAA schools may feel that schools that are opting down are doing this so they can simply win more games.

PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Defer to the NSAA for Appropriate Implementation Date

Proposed Changes in NSAA Approved Rulings

A. This proposal is submitted by: Galen Kronhofman, Alma

The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Football Page: 26 #3

The section/paragraph/sentence indicates what is to be added/deleted/changed to the current Bylaw/Approved Ruling. ADDITIONS are in all capital letters.

THOSE SCHOOLS WITH A BOY THREE-GRADE ENROLLMENT (9TH-11TH GRADES) IN EXCESS OF 69 AS SUBMITTED IN SEPTEMBER OF 2017 ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE 11-MAN FOOTBALL PLAY-OFFS IN 2018 AND 2019, UNLESS THEY'RE WITHIN THE ONE-CLASSIFICATION WAIVER PERIOD. A SCHOOL THAT IS INELIGIBLE FOR THE PLAYOFFS IN THE 2018 & 2019 CYCLE CAN BECOME ELIGIBLE IN THE SECOND SEASON (2019) IF THEIR BOYS ENROLLMENT FIGURE IS 69 OR LOWER AS SUBMITTED IN SEPTEMBER OF 2018. (IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT THE NSAA OFFICE.)

Will this proposal impact cost to the School? YES

Will this proposal impact cost to the NSAA? YES

Will this proposal increase travel for the participating schools? YES

Will this proposal impact a student or coach's loss of instruction time? NO

Rationale for the proposed change:

PROS: If a school who has opted down from C-1 to C-2 and is ineligible for the first year, may become eligible the second year if they have 69 or fewer boys. This would give them the chance to be in the playoffs for the last year because they have the correct amount of boys. Cost to the school and NSAA would only be if they have to travel to a playoff game, and could bring in money to the school if they are hosting a playoff game. This would be in line with 8 man football and 6 man football.

CONS: I do not think there are any cons to this proposal.

PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Fall 2018

B. This proposal is submitted by: Matt Springer, Southwest

The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Wrestling Page: 40-41

The section/paragraph/sentence indicates what is to be added/deleted/changed to the current Bylaw/Approved Ruling. ADDITIONS are in all capital letters.

The following proposal replaces all of the current language on page 40-41 of the NSAA Wrestling Manual regarding the NSAA Dual Wrestling Championships

The NSAA Dual Wrestling Championships will be the Saturday of Week 31 on the NSAA calendar (currently the week before districts). The NSAA Dual Wrestling Championships will be seeded on Monday of week 31 (the Monday prior to the championships).

Wildcard Criteria

The results of only those matches wrestled against varsity teams of schools in Nebraska and any contiguous state to Nebraska will be used to:

1. Calculate point averages.
2. Determine the win and loss record for designating a team as a first, second, third, or fourth division team.

Dual State Qualifying Criteria

1. The eight dual state qualifying teams will be selected in the following manner:

- a. The wildcard point competitions can only be calculated based on the duals on the NSAA season schedule.
- b. In order for a team to be eligible for wildcard consideration, they must schedule and compete in a minimum of 6 of the 8 allowed duals.
- c. Any competitions that have more than 4 teams competing will be considered a tournament and will not count in the wildcard points.
- d. Only the dual competitions between varsity teams will be considered when calculating the qualifying point averages.
- e. Contiguous, out-of-state duals shall count as one of the total number of duals counted toward wildcard averages.
- f. The results of all duals up to one week prior to the NSAA Dual State Championship shall be used.

2. The following point evaluation scale will be used to determine a team's total points:

	1st Division	2 nd Division	3rd Division	4 th Division
Victory Over	50	47	44	41
Loss To	39	36	33	30

A first division team is a team, which has won at least 75% of its duals. (Examples: 8-0, 7-0, 6-0, 7-1, 6-1, 5-1, 6-2) A second division team is a team, which has won at least 50% but less than 75% of its duals. (Example: 5-2, 5-3, 4-2, 4-3, 4-4, 3-3) A third division team, is a team which has won at least 25% but less than 50% of its duals. (Examples: 3-4, 2-4, 3-5, 2-5, 2-6) A fourth division team is a team, which has won less than 25% of its duals. (Examples: 1-7, 1-6, 1-5)

- 3. No points are deducted for wrestling teams that are classified below your classification.
- 4. In competition with schools one classification above yours, 2 bonus points will be awarded.
- 5. In competition with schools two classifications above yours, 3 bonus points will be awarded.
- 6. In competition with schools three classifications above yours, 4 bonus points will be awarded.
- 7. A team's point average will be determined by dividing the total number of points by the number of eligible duals wrestled.
- 8. If a tie exists for the eighth qualifying spot, the following procedure will be used to select the qualifying team or teams.

- a. If teams have identical point averages and are tied for one of the qualifying spots and the teams have all wrestled each other, the team that can be separated based off head-to-head competition will be selected. In the case where teams meet multiple times the higher winning percentage against each other will determine the head-to-head winner.

- b. If all the teams tied have not wrestled each other step "c" thru "f" will be used to determine which team qualifies for the NSAA Dual State Championships. Once one team breaks the tie and is awarded the qualifying spot then go back to step "a" and start over.

- c. The team's opponents' wins and losses from all eligible duals will be totaled and the winning percentages calculated. The team whose opponents have the highest winning percentage based on this calculation will be chosen.

- d. The team with the lowest average number of forfeits per dual will be chosen. The average number of forfeits will be determined by the total number of forfeits in all eligible duals divided by the total number of eligible duals.

- e. The team with the highest average team points in all eligible duals.

- f. If a tie still exists, the qualifier will be decided by a coin flip in the NSAA office.

1. Classes A, B, C - In order to qualify for the NSAA Dual Wrestling Championships, the school must be able to fill a minimum of 10 weight classes at the championships. Class D - In order to qualify for the NSAA Dual Wrestling Championships, the school must be able to fill a minimum of 8 weight classes at the championships.

2. Schools that qualify through the wildcard point system but unable to fulfill the 10 or 8 weight class requirement to compete in the dual championships must notify the NSAA no later than 9:00 A.M. on the Monday of Week 31 of the NSAA calendar (the Monday prior to the Dual Championships).
3. Any school that qualifies through the wildcard point system and do not wish to compete in the dual championships must notify the NSAA no later than 9:00 A.M. on the Monday of Week 31 of the NSAA calendar (the Monday prior to the Dual Championships).
4. If a school does not wish to compete, the next team in the wildcard standings would be notified and invited to replace that team.

Will this proposal impact cost to the School? NO

Will this proposal impact cost to the NSAA? YES

Will this proposal increase travel for the participating schools? NO

Will this proposal impact a student or coach's loss of instruction time? NO

Rationale for the proposed change:

The dual team championship is not as big as the individual championship and some have indicated that it is anticlimactic. By changing the date of the dual championships to before the individual tournament, the committee felt that the duals would be an event that could lead up to the much larger and culminating event at the end of the year which is the individual championships. By using only the allowable duals that are submitted on the NSAA schedule, it allows the wildcard program to work more effectively to determine the qualifying teams. The committee felt that if a school wants to be eligible to participate in the dual championships, they will utilize the scheduling of allowable duals (a minimum of 6, maximum of 8). The maximum of 8 is the current limit and by requiring a minimum of 6, it allows the wildcard program to work consistent by comparing a like number of competitions.

PROS:

- Using a qualifying criteria based on dual performances is a better way to determine who participates in the dual championships
- Making this change only affects wrestling schools for scheduling
- There is no additional competitions required during the season to qualify
- No longer competes with other NSAA championship events on that day

CONS: Some wrestling schools will have to adjust their current schedule to accommodate the dual championships being held on the last week of the current regular season.

PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE: 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR

Provided for Informational Purposes Only

No action is required at District
Meetings

CLASS CAUCUS
PROPOSALS UNDER
CONSIDERATION

Class Caucus Representatives:

Class A – Clayton Heath, LNE; Dan Schinzel, Creighton Prep

Class B – Mike Dempsey, Omaha Gross; Jeff Gross, McCook

Class C – Jeff Bellar, Norfolk Catholic; Tyler Herman, Gothenburg

Class D – Tim Huls, Aurora; Lance Howitt, Leyton

Questions and/or comments shall be directed to your Class Caucus Representative for your respective class.

Class A Proposals

A. The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Baseball Page: 17

The section/paragraph/sentence indicates what is to be added/deleted/changed to the current Bylaw/Approved Ruling. ADDITIONS are in all capital letters.

Eligible Players.

Players listed on the District Entry Form will be eligible to play in district and state tournament games. Substitutions to this list can be made, but no more than ~~20~~ **22** players may suit up for district or state championship games. If substitutions are made, inform the district tournament director as soon as possible. Anyone substituted must be eligible according to all NSAA rules.

Will this proposal impact cost to the School? NO

Will this proposal impact cost to the NSAA? YES

Will this proposal increase travel for the participating schools? NO

Will this proposal impact a student or coach's loss of instruction time? NO

Rationale for the proposed change:

PROS: With the implementation of the pitch counts, the ability to carry two additional players on the district and state rosters would provide teams with additional depth that could be used as teams get further into the tournament. Other than the potential for the need for two additional medals, there would be no other costs associated with the Bylaw change.

CONS: Would add two additional medals for state champions and runners-up.

PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Spring 2019

B. The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Golf Page: 18

The section/paragraph/sentence indicates what is to be added/deleted/changed to the current Bylaw/Approved Ruling. ADDITIONS are in all capital letters.

QUALIFYING FOR NSAA CHAMPIONSHIP

1. The first three teams and the first ten individual places plus ties in each district will qualify for the NSAA Championship, using medal play. **After districts are completed the NSAA will take as many individuals as needed so that there a total of 15 individuals competing at the state golf tournament. Individuals will be selected according to individual differential for the season including districts. To be eligible a player must compete in at least five 18 hole competitions for the year and districts. (NSAA will keep track on all Class A player's individual differential for the season.)** Note: An additional charge of \$25 will be added to a Class A schools registration fee for boys golf and for girls golf for one year to cover programming costs that exceed \$500. In addition, a method is to be determined on how to break ties for the last qualifying spot.

2. Playoffs will be used in case of ties for the NSAA Championship 'TEAM' qualifying spots.

3. Schools that do not finish as one of the top three teams in the District cannot qualify for team honors at the NSAA Championship, even though that school may have qualified at least four individual golfers through individual placement at Districts.

4. A school which qualifies for the NSAA Championship may play any five eligible players at the championship. They do not have to be the same people who played at the district tournament. Any roster changes to the State Championship team should be communicated to the NSAA office to reflect such changes and ensure scorecards, scoreboards and tee times will be accurate. Any substituted player will be assigned the same tee-time of the player being replaced

Will this proposal impact cost to the School? NO

Will this proposal impact cost to the NSAA? YES

Will this proposal increase travel for the participating schools? YES

Will this proposal impact a student or coach's loss of instruction time? YES

Rationale for the proposed change:

PROS:

Justification:

- *Much harder to qualify as individual than on a team.
 - *One bad round for a team member, they qualify but not for an individual
 - *A sick or injured player for districts can still compete at state
 - *One wave of individuals
 - *NSAA will know there will be exactly 15 individuals no more or less
 - *13 qualified this year - no additional tee times needed and no two-somes
 - *Gives more players who might be playing well so that best players have the best chance to medal or win state because of waves
 - *Clayton Peterson not qualifying 2013, 14th 2011, 3rd 2012, 2nd 2014
 - *Carlson Kock 18th overall (2016), 8th of the underclassmen 2016 State, did not qualify in 2017
 - *Tyler Bowen Papio South 76 Cap City @ Yankee Hill non-qualifier
 - *Vontz 47th Cap. City, tied for last qualifier 77 at districts
 - *Clare last qualifier in his district, state champion (2017)
 - *2010 Columbus kid won state, only medal in a couple tournaments all year
 - *NSAA does not want one hit wonders at state but that is how they must qualify
 - *20 players worse than worst individual qualifier in districts (from state team qualifiers)
- District teams seeded #1 who would have qualified as individual: 16/20
A1 - 4 A2 - 3 A3 - 5 A4 - 4
- District teams seeded #2 who would have qualified as individual: 10/20
A1 - 2 A2 - 3 A3 - 2 A4 - 3
- District teams seeded #3 who would have qualified as individual: 5/20
A1 - 1 A2 - 1 A3 - 1 A4 - 2

CONS:

1. NSAA would need to track individual players scores based on course ratings. Is there a cost for this?
2. Potential Costs for schools for individual qualifier.
3. Potential loss of instructional time for coaches that may have an individual qualifier.

PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Fall of 2018

C. The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Softball, page 18; Football, page 38; Volleyball, page 14; Basketball, page 10; Baseball, page 18; Soccer, page 24.

The section/paragraph/sentence indicates what is to be added/deleted/changed to the current Bylaw/Approved Ruling. ADDITIONS are in all capital letters.

Seeding and Pairings. (Proposal uses soccer as a reference by this would apply to all sports using wild card points for seeding purposes)

The NSAA is responsible for seeding and pairings.

The tournament shall be seeded based on wild card point averages of matches played through Monday, April 24th. The district assignments/seeds will be released on the NSAA website April 26th. If teams in the district tournament have identical wild card point totals, the following tie breaker will be used to determine seeding.

1. If two teams are tied with identical point averages and have played each other, the results of the competition between these schools will be considered and the team winning the majority of contests between the two teams will be given the higher seed.
2. If a tie still exists, or if more than two teams are tied, the team or teams playing the greatest number of first division teams **in their classification** will be selected. If two teams are still tied, criteria (1) will apply before going to step (3).
3. If a tie still exists, total the sum of the tied teams' opponents' wins and losses. The team whose opponents have the higher winning percentage will receive the higher seed. If two teams remain tied, criteria (1) will apply before going to step (4).

4. If a tie still exists, the higher seed will be decided by a coin flip in the NSAA office.

Will this proposal impact cost to the School? NO

Will this proposal impact cost to the NSAA? NO

Will this proposal increase travel for the participating schools? NO

Will this proposal impact a student or coach's loss of instruction time? NO

Rationale for the proposed change:

PROS: This may provide more incentive for schools to schedule within their classification. Potential benefit of scheduling schools within their classification.

CONS: None

PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Fall of 2018

Class D Proposal

A. The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Wrestling Page: 22

The section/paragraph/sentence indicates what is to be added/deleted/changed to the current Bylaw/Approved Ruling. ADDITIONS are in all capital letters.

IN CLASS D ONLY, EACH SCHOOL WOULD BE ALLOWED TO ENTER UP TO TWO WRESTLERS IN EACH OF THE DESIGNATED NFHS WEIGHT CLASSES, WITH A MAXIMUM OF 14 WRESTLERS TOTAL PER TEAM, AT THE STATE QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS. ANY SCHOOL THAT ENTERS MORE THAN ONE WRESTER IN A WEIGHT CLASS, MUST DESIGNATE WHICH OF THE TWO WRESTLERS WOULD SCORE TEAM POINTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING THE DISTRICT TEAM PLACING AND DUAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING. IF TWO WRESTLERS FROM THE SAME SCHOOL COMPETE AGAINST EACH OTHER IN THE TOURNAMENT, AND THE DESIGNATED SCORING WRESTLER WINS THE MATCH, ONLY ADVANCEMENT AND PLACEMENT POINTS FOR THAT MATCH WOULD BE AWARDED WITH NO ADDITIONAL BONUS POINTS EARNED REGARDLESS OF THE MATCH SCORE.

Will this proposal impact cost to the School? NO

Will this proposal impact cost to the NSAA? NO

Will this proposal increase travel for the participating schools? NO

Will this proposal impact a student or coach's loss of instruction time? NO

Rationale for the proposed change:

PROS: Wrestling is a unique sport in that it has two separate state championship tournaments; an individual tournament and the dual team championships. However, at the individual state tournament (and the district qualifying tournaments), wrestling is restricted to one competitor per weight class. This is unlike other NSAA-sponsored individual sports, where teams are allowed to enter multiple athletes per "event" (i.e. track & field and swimming) or additional entrants in the competition (i.e. cross country and golf).

The state of Nebraska has 82 schools that field wrestling teams with 9th-11th grade enrollments of less than 100 students; and majority of them participate in Class D. Throughout the regular season many Class D tournaments allow for "non-scoring" or additional wrestlers from the same team to compete in tournaments alongside their teammates to help fill out the brackets.

This proposal is suggesting a model similar to what other states with lower populations, and the NAIA colleges and universities already have in place. In those systems, teams are allowed to enter/qualify multiple wrestlers per weight class for the state/national tournaments.

There are three main reasons for this proposal: 1. There are existing models in place, and room in the brackets to allow for this system to be implemented seamlessly; 2. By providing more opportunities for student-athletes to compete in the postseason; it will grow the sport of wrestling in Nebraska and help with the retention of existing-student athletes, 3. To look out for the safety of, and promote the well-being of the student-athletes.

1. In 2012, the state of Nebraska began using Trackwrestling's online software program to operate the district wrestling tournaments, making data widely available. The following statistics clearly illustrate that there is room for additional wrestlers in the state qualifying process in Class D.
 Since 2012:
 - • 339 of the 444 (76.4%) teams in Class D wrestling have entered teams of 9 or fewer wrestlers in their respective district wrestling tournaments. Only 5 times has a team entered a full roster of 14 wrestlers; none in 2016 or 2017.
 - • There has NEVER been a "full" bracket of 16 wrestlers, and only 10 times total, out of a possible 336, have there been brackets of 14 or 15 wrestlers in a Class D district tournament.
 - • While Class D district wrestling tournaments are comprised of 17-21 teams per district, 54% of the time the number of wrestlers in each 16-person bracket is 9 or fewer.
 - • In our current system, 84 wrestlers have qualified for the state wrestling tournament by winning 1 OR FEWER matches at their district tournament.
 With the above statistics in mind, the states of North Dakota, Nevada, Wyoming, Montana and Utah already manage their state qualifying tournaments with Trackwrestling. Those tournaments are set up to accommodate additional wrestlers/qualifiers from the same team, so Trackwrestling and the NSAA could easily import settings into the Class D district tournaments. If a bracket were to have more than 16 wrestlers, as a result of this proposal, the Trackwrestling software could increase the bracket size to accommodate those additional wrestlers with the simple click of a button. These changes would not affect the double-elimination format or the district tournaments, and could be implemented at no expense to the NSAA or the district host institutions.
2. Allowing programs to enter more than one wrestlers per weight class at the state qualifying tournaments could:
 - • Help Class D coaches with the retention of existing student-athletes, especially if multiple athletes from the same team are at similar weights.
 - • Increase participation in the sport of wrestling in the state of Nebraska by providing more opportunities for athletes to compete in the postseason.
 - • Students may be more likely to go out, or stay out for, the sport of wrestling even though another wrestler of superior ability may occupy the same weight class
 - • Students may be more likely to go out, or stay out for, the sport of wrestling knowing that if they are not the "varsity" wrestler, they will still have an opportunity to qualify for the state tournament.
3. This proposal would promote a safer approach to weight management for all student-athletes; not just the best wrestlers on a team.
 - • Currently, if a student-athlete is not the best wrestler on his/her team at a weight class they have four options; "cut" down to a lower weight class, "bump up" to a higher weight class, wrestle at the junior varsity level, or quit the sport of wrestling.
 - • This proposal would send a message that cutting weight isn't encouraged or necessary for student-athletes, and would allow more athletes to compete at their natural weight, even if a wrestler of superior ability had earned the starting spot at that weight class.
 - • Students would not be asked to "bump up" a weight class, or two, and be put at a physical disadvantage in competitions, if a wrestler of superior ability had earned the starting spot at their natural weight class.

CONS: None

PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE: 2018-19 Season