



Established 1978

**BY LAWS OF THE
CENTRAL JERSEY MIDGET WRESTLING LEAGUE**

REVISED: September 27, 2007

ARTICLE I

- 1.1 The name of this league shall be known and incorporated as the **Central Jersey Midget Wrestling League (CJMWL)**.

ARTICLE II

OBJECTIVE

- 2.1 This league has been organized to develop and promote the sport of wrestling, with no affiliation to any local, regional or national organization. Through the medium of supervised competitive wrestling, guided and governed by these by laws and recognized current Federation Wrestling Rules, is to seek to implant in the youth of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, scholarship, and reverence, so that they may be finer, stronger and happier youth who will grow to be good, healthy adults.

ARTICLE III

PRINCIPLE OPERATION

- 3.1 The principle operation of this league shall be in and about the home of the current league president and the State of New Jersey. The principle site of operation will always be the home residence of the league president, and will change when they are elected, and will remain such until their term expires.

ARTICLE IV

MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1 The membership of the CJMWL shall consist of not less than four (4) nor more than twenty-six (26) sponsor associations (S/A) participating in a sixth (6th) grade and under division.
- 4.2 The current membership of the league members and their team colors are listed in Appendix "A" annexed hereto.
- 4.3 Acceptance of admittance for the present participating teams, shall be upon two-thirds vote of the Executive Board, at the Spring meeting. Those teams who are presently enrolled in the league, and who are not approved, will have the right of appeal within two (2) weeks of notice.
- 4.4 New teams shall be approved by the S/A's for the upcoming season before the November meeting. New S/A's are subject to a one (1) year probationary period. Thereafter, shall continue as outlined in article 4.3, provided they remain in good standing by meeting all obligations by the Executive Board, as a whole, including annual dues, the amount which shall be set by the Board at the September meeting. The amount of the dues shall be uniform among all members. Dues and a Team Bond shall be paid to the Treasurer on or prior to the date established by the Executive Board.
- 4.5 Each S/A shall provide to the league President of the CJMWL a roster, consisting of the names, address, birth date, and grade of the wrestlers who will participate in the CJMWL, by December 10th. Failure to meet this requirement will result in the forfeiture of a team's bond.

- 4.6 Teams that forfeited their Team Bond during the previous season shall have their status reviewed in the spring by the Executive Board. The board will decide the team's status within the league for the next season. Upon completion of the review and in accordance with article 4.3, the team shall be declared as either a member in good standing, a probationary member, or non-member. Teams that are dismissed from the league due to the forfeiture of their bond will have the right of appeal within two (2) weeks of notice.
- 4.7 The privileges of each S/A are limited to those as provided for, in order, by state and federal law, the CJMWL By Laws, and Robert's Rules of Order.
- 4.8 Each member S/A shall have one vote, when called upon to do so.
- 4.9 Should a member team have more than one representative claiming power to vote, priority of voting shall be granted to, in order:
- A. The Executive Officer of the S/A
 - B. The Head Coach of the S/A
 - C. Any other Officer of the S/A
 - D. The representative designated by a majority vote of the other league members present.
- 4.10 Each member S/A is responsible for providing general liability insurance for their team(s). A certificate of insurance documenting liability coverage shall be filed by each member S/A with the league secretary.

ARTICLE V

GOVERNMENT

The government of the CJMWL shall be under the direction and control of its Executive Board and its Officers.

- 5.1 The Officers shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. At the regular meeting in September, the President shall accept nominations from the floor for all Executive Board positions. The S/A, by a show of hands

shall elect those nominees, provided there is one candidate for each position. Where there is more than one candidate for a position, the vote shall be by ballot. The candidate who receives the highest number of votes will be declared the winner.

5.2 The Officers shall be elected by ballot to serve until their successors are elected. The President and Vice President cannot be from the same S/A.

5.3 Duties and powers of the Officers shall be as follows:

A. President

1. The President shall call meetings and conduct them in accordance with the By Laws and parliamentary procedure as outlined in Robert's Rules of Order.
2. The President shall be empowered to sign checks, contracts, and other obligations on behalf of the CJMWL.
3. In all cases where quick action is needed to stop, alter, change or otherwise modify a condition, which cannot be allowed to continue, Summary Authority is applied. This power, given to the President, can only be over ridden by a majority vote of the full Executive Board, with the President unable to cast a vote.
4. Vacancies, after the general elections, are to be filled by presidential appointment, subject to ratification of the Executive Board.
5. The President shall serve as Hearing Officer for complaints, protests, or appeals.

B. Vice President

1. The Vice President shall have the same authority as empowered to the President, only in the absence of the President.
2. The Vice President shall act as parliamentarian on all questions regarding By Law interpretation and Robert's Rules of Order.

C. Secretary

1. The Secretary shall keep and have full charge of the Minutes and the General Roll Call. He shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of all meetings and current record of the total membership of the CJMWL.
2. The Secretary shall read the proceedings of the previous meeting together with all communications, reports, petitions, bills, etc. to the S/A members present at each regular meeting or at a special meeting. He will also perform all other duties incidental to the office as directed by the President or Executive Board.

D. Treasurer

1. The Treasurer shall receive and have custody of all money, bonds, funds, and securities of the CJMWL and shall keep accounts thereof. He shall be authorized to sign checks and shall pay all authorized expenses of the CJMWL.
 2. The Treasurer shall render a financial statement at each regular meeting and shall present a copy to the Secretary. He will also perform all other duties incidental to the office as directed by the President and Executive Board.
- 5.4 Any Officer failing to fulfill their obligations as outlined by state and federal law and these by laws may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the full S/A membership.
- 5.5 The presiding officer or Executive Board designate shall report intentions and all decisions of the Executive Board to the membership at its next regular scheduled meeting.

ARTICLE VI

ELIGIBILITY OF PARTICIPANTS

- 6.1 Participants must be enrolled in the 6th grade or below with a maximum age limit of 12 years old before January 1st of the current season.

- 6.2 In order to participate in the CJMWL, the name, full address (Street & Town), birth date, and grade must appear on the official team roster submitted to the league by December 10th of the current season.
- A. Requests for additions must be submitted to the league President, in writing. Additions must be approved by the President prior to the participant competing in a league match.
 - B. **A Team that fails to submit a team roster by December 10th of the current season will forfeit the team bond and may risk being excluded from participating in league tournaments.**
- 6.3 Participants can only represent and wrestle on one CJMWL team.
- 6.4 Participants must be a student of the public school district in the town or a town sending district which is defined in the charter in Appendix A, which they are wrestling. Private school students must wrestle for the town in which they reside. Those wrestlers who do not have a wrestling program in their town or school can only wrestle exhibition matches and cannot wrestle in the year end league tournament.

ARTICLE VII

WEIGHT REQUIREMENTS

- 7.1 The weight classes, in pounds, shall be as follows:
- 50, 53, 57, 60, 63, 67, 70, 73, 77, 80, 85, 90, 95, 102, 110, HWT
- 7.2 Weight certification:
- A. Certified weight shall be defined as the lowest weight class in which a wrestler shall be eligible to compete in during the balance of the season, including league tournaments. **CERTIFIED WEIGHT WILL BE ESTABLISHED AT THE TIME OF HIS FIRST VARSITY MATCH FOR WHICH HE WEIGHS-IN FOR AND WRESTLES**, with the weight class corresponding to his stripped weight being recorded as his certified weight.

- B. Certified weight is based on the original weight classes specified in article 7.1. When certifying, there are no allowances of any kind including those associated with growth (article 7.7) and back-to-back multi-day matches (article 7.8).
 - C. At the time of certification, it is the coach's responsibility to be sure that a wrestler weighs-in at the lowest weight class at which he may wish to compete in during the season.
 - D. Weight certification shall be documented on official league forms and shall be submitted to the designated certification officer. Each team shall submit a completed initial weight certification form by January 1st of the current season. A team failing to submit their completed initial weight certification form by January 1st will forfeit their team bond. Weight certification for wrestlers that weight certify after their team's first dual meet shall be recorded on individual weight certification addendum cards and submitted to the designated certification officer within five business days of certification.
- 7.3 The minimum weight shall be 45 pounds stripped at the time of weigh-ins.
- 7.4 Heavyweight wrestlers shall weigh-in stripped to their shorts. If difference in weight is greater than 15 pounds, there is no bout. The minimum weight for a HWT is 105 pounds.
- 7.5 No wrestler may wrestle more than two (2) weight classes above his stripped weight at the time of weigh-ins.
- 7.6 For the purpose of tournament eligibility, a wrestler may weigh-in at a lower weight class and then wrestle at higher weight class. Such cases must be noted in both teams' scorebook.
- 7.7 There will be a one-pound increase in all weight classes as of January 1st and an additional one-pound increase February 1st.
- 7.8 A one-pound weight allowance shall be given to both teams if either team has participated in an official CJMWL match the previous day. This only applies if both teams have been notified the previous day, before the match. Violation of this notification will void the one-pound allowance.

ARTICLE VIII

CONDUCT OF DUAL MATCHES

- 8.1 Scheduling of official dual meets will be issued by the league in November.
- 8.2 Home team is responsible for contacting visiting team to establish time and place in accordance with official schedule.
- 8.3 Schedule home team responsibilities remain, regardless of location of match.
- 8.4 Home team is responsible for scheduling and paying referees and for paying all other expenses associated in hosting a home meet.

ARTICLE IX

MATCH RULES

- 9.1 “Wrestling Rule Book” published by the National Federation of High School Associations, shall govern the rules of play.
- 9.2 The following rules are a modification to article 9.1:
 - A. Three one minute periods.
 - B. There is no injury time.
 - C. Shoelaces need not be taped.
 - D. Bouts ending in a tie score during regulation time will wrestle in overtime to determine a winner. Overtime will be 1-minute sudden death period from neutral position followed by a 30-second rideout period, if necessary; first points scored in regulation time gets choice of top or bottom starting position during the rideout period. If no points were scored by either wrestler during regulation time, the referee shall flip the disk to determine which wrestler has choice of top or bottom at the start of the rideout period.

- 9.3 Weigh-ins will only be done only when all competing teams are present. The only exception to this rule is in the event of double dual meets and tri-meets where the second visiting team opts to arrive later after competition has commenced between the home team and first visiting team. In this case, the second visiting team shall weigh-in upon arrival with one coach present from from each team that they will be competing against to certify the weigh-ins. The second visiting team shall accept the weigh-in certification from coaches present at the initial weigh-ins so that wrestlers on the other team(s) do not have to weigh-in again.
- 9.4 Each S/A is required to provide a safe environment for league matches, which should include, but not limited to a regulation wrestling mat, safety mats as needed, mat taping, a safety zone of at least 5 feet surrounding the mat, adequate seating for wrestlers and spectators, a visible scoreboard, and engagement of qualified officials.
- 9.5 All wrestlers must wear the team color uniform.

ARTICLE X

LEAGUE MEETINGS

- 10.1 Each member team is **required** to have at least one representative at every league meeting. Failure to have a team representative in attendance will result in forfeiture of the team's bond.
- 10.2 League meetings are held in September, November, and April. Additional meetings may be called by the President. The date, time, and location for each subsequent meeting will be set at the previous meeting or by mail. Tournament seeding meetings will be scheduled as necessary.

ARTICLE XI

LEAGUE POLICIES

11.1. Team Bond

Each team will post a team bond prior to the start of each season. The assessment for this team bond shall be \$100. This bond shall be carried-over from season to season providing that the team satisfactorily fulfilled their obligations to the league during the previous season. Teams who forfeited their bond during the previous season and retain their affiliation with the league for the subsequent season will be required to post a new bond. Teams terminating their membership in the league will be refunded their team bond provided that it was not forfeited during the previous season.

11.2. Team Withdrawals

Any team choosing to withdrawal from the league for the upcoming season shall make their intentions known to the league President by September 15th. Teams withdrawing from the league who later decide to reaffiliate will be handled as a new team in accordance with article 4.4.

11.3. Flight Divisions

- A. There shall be two (2) flight divisions in the CJMWL, an upper flight (a.k.a. "A" Flight) and a lower flight (a.k.a. "B" Flight). Teams were previously assigned to either the "A" Flight or "B" Flight based on their overall team strength when the flights were established in 2002. Teams will compete in dual meets against all the other teams in their flight as well as against a predetermined number of teams in the opposite flight. These match-ups, as determined by the Executive Board in October, will be considered as league-mandated matches for the upcoming season that must be scheduled and wrestled by member teams in the league. Teams are welcome to also schedule and compete against teams that they have not been matched-up with, however, team and individual wins and losses arising from these matches may not be applied toward win/loss records within the league.
- B. The annual pre-season movement of teams between the league's two flight divisions will be determined as follows:

- (1) Teams shall be ranked within their flight division at the conclusion of each season. Each team's in-flight number of wins record will be used in establishing their rank order position. In the event of ties, the follow tie breaker criteria will apply:
 - i. In-flight Head to Head
 - ii. Out-of-Flight Common Opponent
 - iii. Team's placefinish in their in-flight league tournament
- (2) Newly admitted teams into the league shall be placed beneath the rank-ordered list of teams in the lower flight.
- (3) Once the teams in each flight division have been rank-ordered, the bottom two teams from the upper flight and the top two teams from the lower flight shall swap positions with one another. The new flight divisions shall then remain intact for the upcoming season.
- (4) S/As with two teams shall always have a team in each flight.

11.4. **Exhibition Matches**

Every effort shall be made to wrestle exhibition matches when agreed upon in advance.

11.5. **Scheduling and Incomplete Matches**

All schedules must be finalized by December 1st and each team shall complete wrestling its dual meet season prior to the seeding meeting for their flight division's varsity tournament. Should conflicts arise due to the rescheduling of meets, the league president must be notified and an executive decision will be made as to whether to award a team win by forfeit or to declare the match as non-complete. All teams shall wrestle a minimum of one dual meet during the month of December.

11.6. **League Tournaments**

- A. There shall be three (3) league tournaments – an “A” Flight varsity tournament, a “B” Flight varsity tournament, and a JV tournament.
- B. The “B” Flight varsity tournament will be conducted at least one week in advance of the “A” Flight varsity tournament. The top four (4) placefinishers in the “B” Flight varsity tournament will advance to the “A” Flight varsity tournament. Placefinishers who choose to advance shall advise their team coach of this decision and subsequently the wrestler’s coach must attend the seeding meeting for the “A” Flight varsity tournament to formally enroll and seed his advancing wrestler. In seeding for “A” Flight varsity tournament, should one or more “B” Flight varsity tournament placefinishers choose not to advance, all other advancing placefinishers shall be moved up to fill the vacant placefinisher positions. “B” Flight varsity tournament placefinishers advancing to the “A” Flight varsity tournament are eligible to score points for their team in the “A” Flight varsity tournament.
- C. All heavyweights (varsity and JV) will wrestle in their respective flight varsity tournament. Each team shall designate in advance a single heavyweight wrestler that will be eligible to score tournament points for their team. All additional heavyweights from the same team shall be non-scoring contestants. The JV tournament will not feature heavyweight competition.
- D. Within like seasons, no wrestler who wrestles at least 7 varsity matches both within and outside the CJMWL can compete in the JV tournament.
- E. Every wrestler will be visually checked for marks on their bodies. Any mark ruled suspicious will disqualify a wrestler from the tournament, unless accompanied by a medical doctor’s note, that is no older than 5 days from the weigh-in date, stating they are no longer contagious and are/or have been treated by this doctor.

11.7. Varsity Tournament Eligibility and Seeding Criteria

- A. A wrestler must have wrestled a minimum of ½ of his team’s league-mandated varsity matches in order to wrestle in the league’s varsity tournament(s).
- B. A varsity wrestler must weigh-in at his certified weight for at least ½ of his team’s league-mandated varsity matches in order to compete in that

weight class in the league's varsity tournaments(s).

C. Only wrestlers with at least a .500 record on the varsity level will be seeded in the varsity tournament(s).

D. The following criteria, based on results from league-mandated matches, shall be applied in seeding wrestlers for the varsity tournament(s):

(1) Most wins based on each wrestler's overall in-season record when seeding for the "A" Flight varsity tournament and in-flight in-season record when seeding for the "B" Flight varsity tournament.

(2) Head to Head

(3) Returning place finishers from previous year (top 3 placefinishers in each weight class)

(4) Common Opponents

(5) Drawing (pull from the hat)

A coach may challenge for the top seeded position for any wrestler who wrestled at least 2/3's of the regularly scheduled matches at varsity level and was undefeated, but did not have the most wins in his bracket. This wrestler must get a majority vote of the SA's in attendance at the respective tournament seeding meeting to affect this change.

E. When advancing the top 4 placefinishers from the "B" Flight varsity tournament into the "A" Flight varsity tournament, the following process shall be followed: Within a standard 16-man bracket tournament format, the 1st and 4th place wrestlers finisher in the "B" Flight varsity tournament shall be slotted in the 3rd and 6th positions in the bottom bracket and the 3rd and 2nd place wrestlers shall be slotted in the 3rd and 6th positions in the top portion of the bracket.

APPENDIX A

LEAGUE MEMBERS

<u>Team Name</u>	<u>Charter</u>	<u>Team Colors</u>
Berkeley Heights	Berkeley Heights & Mountainside	Red & White
Bridgewater	Bridgewater-Raritan	Red, White & Black
Clark	Clark & Garwood	Blue & White
Cranford	Cranford	Blue & Gold
Flemington	Hunterdon Central Reg. HS Sending District	Black & Red
Franklin	Franklin & Somerset	Blue & Gold
Hillsborough	Hillsborough	Maroon & Gold
Kenilworth	Kenilworth, Springfield & Winfield Park	Blue & Yellow
Middlesex	Middlesex & Dunellen	Black & Blue
New Providence	New Providence	Green & White
North Plainfield	No. Plainfield, Greenbrook & Dunellen	Maroon, Black & White
Plainfield	Plainfield	Red, Blue & Black
Rahway	Rahway	Black, Red & White
Roselle Park	Roselle Park	Red & White
Scotch Plains	Scotch Plains-Fanwood	Blue & White

LEAGUE MEMBERS (continued)

<u>Team Name</u>	<u>Charter</u>	<u>Team Colors</u>
South Plainfield	South Plainfield	Green & White
Union	Union	Maroon & White
Watchung Hills	Warren, Watchung, Stirling, Greenbrook, Long Hill & Gillette	Brown, Gold & White
Westfield	Westfield	Blue & Red