

ASSISTANT (2ND) OFFICIAL ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Collegiate wrestling provides opportunities for an assistant (2nd) official to work alongside the lead official at dual meets and tournaments. Below are the rule references that provide guidance and structure for the responsibilities, appropriate mechanics, and best practices for the 2nd official.

RULE REFERENCES

The 2nd official is governed by the rule referenced below.

- Rule 7 Section 2
- Rule 7 Section 3
- Rule 7 Section 4
- Reference the Mechanics Manual pages 17-20

TEAMWORK

The lead officials and 2nd official are a team and should work accordingly to provide each other the appropriate support and communication required to successfully officiate a collegiate event.

- Meet in locker room prior to event and ask lead official how they prefer certain communication to be done.
- Joint rule review, including penalty chart.
- In-match communication, use the pitcher catcher technique when discussing calls or general communication with each other away from scorer's table and athletes.

PRE-MEET

The pre-meet establishes a baseline for how the team will officiate the event and provide appropriate information when asked. The pre-meet is an opportunity to ensure the facilities are properly set up and determine if equipment is working, and the operators are well versed in the use of the equipment.

- Visit each locker room after weigh-ins to go over match instructions as a team. Lead official speaks (only). These instructions help to prevent issues and establish the groundwork for a smooth event.
- Visit with medical staff as a team, go over rules that are relevant to the medical staff, determine general protocol for emergency situations.
- Walk the wrestling floor to ensure that team benches and fan areas are the recommended 8 feet from the competition circle or more.
- Mark spots on the mat may obstruct the video review cameras.
- Ensure clocks and horns work and ensure PA announcer will make necessary announcements on sportsmanship and penalties. Review advantage time procedures and signals that lead to pausing advantage time (i.e. delayed stalling, locked hands, illegal hold on top)
- Ensure the video replay system is operational if the host management is using a video replay system for the match.

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IN-MATCH

Communication from the 2nd official with the lead officials is paramount to providing support and ensuring the event is officiated effectively.

- Pre-match set up near scorer's table, ensure the correct athletes are checking in and assign ankle bands.
- Position opposite lead official in view of clock whenever possible.
- Work to remain 180 degrees and stay outside of competition circle. Change levels when appropriate for better vantage.
- Communicate with scorers table to correct any obvious, timing or scorer issues.
- Most important responsibility for a second official is ensuring timing and scoring are correct.
- Give verbal time remaining notification to lead official at 30- and 15-seconds marks.
- Louds verbal countdown from the 4 second mark and clear state "time" when clock is at zero. Visual signal of the "stop sign" hand with the color of the athlete with choice.
- During administrative timeouts ensure the athletes go and stay in their reserve zones until requested.
- Second Official should stay with the non-injured or non-bleeding wrestler during administrative time outs.
- Inform the lead official of starting position upon restarting from administrative time-out.
- Communicate with coaches only to provide instructions or information, e.g., riding time is correct, you will have choice on the restart after non-bleeding injury time-outs.
- Give brief and concise answers to the lead official when asked. If you do not know or did not see, DO NOT make something up or agree for the sake of deference.
- 2nd referee shall assist the lead official by communicating potentially dangerous situations and/or infractions that are on opposite of lead official. This communication ensures to protect the wrestlers, whenever possible.
- The 2nd official shall display the appropriate signals to communicate to lead official and scorer's table that a pause in riding time or stoppage of the clock is emanate.
- Bring to the attention of the lead official any disagreements in judgement in a timely manner and hold conferences as needed in stoppages to discuss such situations as they arise.

POST MATCH

The process of administrating the period-of-time after each match has been completed allows the 2nd official to provide the lead official a respite to regroup and relax before the next match by handling all the administrative post/pre-match activities. The 2nd officials will begin the administrative process.

- Position at the top of the mat keeping both wrestlers in line of site to observe any unsportsmanlike conduct.
- Reposition to scorer's table after the previous athletes leave the competition area.
- Begin match procedures.

POST MEET/EVENT

Compete the process of a successful event as a team.

- Once the match is completed, quickly walk as team to the scorer's table.
- Extend appreciation to timer, scorer, and review operator for a job well done.
- Extend appreciation to host.
- Walk quickly and quietly as a team to the locker room.
- DO NOT discuss any situations, disagreements, or questions in the event facilities.
- Meet at a coffee shop, et.al. to decompress and discuss situations.
- Call the assignor as a team.