

Cellulitis

Nature of Skin Infection

This wrestler has been determined to possibly have a skin infection called cellulites. Cellulitis is an acute inflammation of the connective tissue of the skin, caused by infection with staphylococcus, streptococcus or other bacteria. When there is a break in the skin the bacteria can enter the body and grow there, causing infection and inflammation. The skin tissues in the infected area become red, hot, irritated and painful. Cellulitis is most common on the lower legs and the arms or hands, although other areas of the body may sometimes be involved. If it involves the face (erysipelas), medical attention is urgent. People with fungal infections of the feet, who have skin cracks in the web spaces between the toes, may have cellulitis that keeps coming back, because the cracks in the skin offer an opening for bacteria. Cellulitis can present localized skin redness or inflammation that increases in size as the infection spreads, tight, glossy, "stretched" appearance of the skin, pain or tenderness of the area, and a skin lesion or rash (macule) that has a sudden onset, usually with sharp borders rapid growth within the first 24 hours. We have calculated the number of wrestlers who could come in contact with one infected individual through skin to skin or skin to mat contact at greater than 200 wrestlers for our State Finals. This potential for large scale infection is not worth the risk. In an effort to ensure all wrestlers' safety, the ISWA and its Sports Medicine Director have determined that individuals with active cellulitis may not wrestle at ISWA State Finals events.

