

Below is an explanation of how the PJW tournaments are seeded.

Records - In the past wrestlers enter ridiculous records with no tournament credentials so we had to de-emphasize the impact of the record. Records are used to give a baseline of points so every wrestler has some seeding points but it is a relatively small amount compared to the verifiable results. A wrestler with a 5-5 record has a win percentage of 50% so that wrestler would be awarded 50% of the total record points available. Since we had people scamming the system in the past the algorithm looks for anomalies that would show a fraudulent record like a 20-0 record but three 3rds and two 4ths in tournaments would be flagged to investigate.

Tournaments - We use a number of local tournaments to establish the seeding points and we do so for several reasons. The first is we want to see how our wrestlers perform in a predominantly local event. Tournaments in Area XI will be mostly Area XI kids and it is a better measure of a wrestler against the kids we expect to see at the Area XI Championship. We also use the local tournaments because we have a better handle on the level of competition, we know the tougher local tournaments and there are more points for the more difficult tournaments. If you choose to take your son to NJ or out of the area we hope it is a good experience but we do not award points for that.

Progressive tournaments like PJW and MAWA provide more points the farther you make it and the higher you are on the podium. To provide a rough gauge of how the points are applied a state champion would receive roughly 6 times as many points as a perfect record which we believe provides an appropriate weight for the accomplishment. (We see a lot more "perfect records" than state champions)

High level tournaments like the War at the Shore and the Ohio Tournament of Champions are included because they represent an extremely high level of competition and to achieve a podium finish clearly distinguishes a wrestler at the top of his peers.

With the number kids participating in Dual tournaments we have incorporated select duals events that are either local or of a national caliber to demonstrate a wrestler's capability to perform against national level competition. We have found wins to be hard fought at events like the VAC Duals so points are given accordingly.

From my experience most of the top seeds usually have a lower win percentage than the wrestlers below them because they are competing at much higher levels. I have found a PJW state medalist usually has high level tournaments supporting his accomplishment along with a high win percentage at events like VAC and McDonough...

We rely on families to be honest with regard to seeding because it is the foundation of a quality tournament. To insure the integrity of the process we randomly check credentials and if we find a wrestler with false credentials that wrestler will be awarded zero seeding points. One example was a wrestler who had a number of 3rd and 4th place finishes in local tournaments: each 3rd would be 1 loss and each 4th would be 2 losses and yet the wrestler entered a record of 89-2, by his own credentials he should have had at least 10 losses. His seeding points were reduced to zero so be honest about your records.

I have been asked about updates for individual wrestlers and with approximately 1000 registered wrestlers I cannot do weekly updates. I will provide updates if it would have a significant impact on seeding points. Some examples would include winning more matches at McDonough, forgetting to include VAC Wins, omitting results from last year's PJW Area/MAWA Regional Championship or PJW States/Eastern Nationals. One or two local tournament finishes or minor changes in win percentage have relatively small impacts in seeding.

From this data the tournament is seeded for the top 4-8 wrestlers depending on the bracket size. Brackets with 8 wrestlers would typically have 4 seeds, 12:6 and 16:8. Wrestlers below the top 6-8 will be placed according to seeds but are subject to movement to separate wrestlers from the same school district. If two wrestlers from the same school are seeded and on the same side of the bracket the lower seed will be moved to balance the bracket.