



# UNITED WORLD WRESTLING

TO ALL NATIONAL WRESTLING FEDERATIONS

**Subject: Greco-Roman Wrestling Rules**

Dear Presidents,

Some adjustments of the Greco-Roman Wrestling Rules were tested and discussed during the Under 23 years old European Championship.

Many positive points have been remarked with these modifications and some other ones will have to be more tested before being totally approved.

As the first Qualifying Tournament for the next Olympic Games will be organized soon (World Championships in Las Vegas in September 2015), it is clear that we can't make big changes so late in the preparation process of the athletes. However few adjustments were approved:

The following modifications come into effect right now for all age categories in GR style:

- **All penalties for any illegal actions will be evaluated with a caution (O) + two (2) points to the opponent**

For example, head butt, punching/slapping, all leg faults (offensive or defensive, holding the legs, bending the leg, kicking actions...), grasping the singlet, twisting fingers, fleeing the mat, fleeing the hold and refusing the correct parterre position in parterre start ( either from bottom or top wrestler)...

- Grand amplitude throws (high amplitude throws directly to danger position) will be scored 5 points.
- All throws from standing and all lifts from parterre direct to danger position will be scored 4 points.
- All throws from standing and all lifts from parterre without danger position will be scored 2 points (including Grand amplitude throws without danger position).
- No points for push out will be given.
- If the attacking wrestler steps out with one foot while executing a technique he won't be penalized.
- 1 point for step out in all other cases will remain.
- Defense position in parterre: In order to give a chance to the top wrestler to execute a hold in parterre wrestling, the bottom wrestler must defend himself by having his both arms open - away from his body. The bottom wrestler cannot "close" himself by having his elbows close to his body or join his elbows and his knees or legs in order to prevent the upper wrestler from taking a hold. The wrestler who behaves against this rule, after a strict verbal warning, will be immediately penalized by a caution and 2 points for his opponent and the bout will continue again in parterre position.
- All gut wrench actions will be scored by 2 points for the attacking wrestler, regardless if they were executed over the stretched hands or shoulders or danger position. There is no limit on the number of consecutive gut wrench action attacking wrestler can do.

It is clear that the ordered parterre is really negative for our sport. As we mentioned to you in our previous circular letters, athletes need to deserve this position and earn it.



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The deadline until the first Qualifying Event for the Olympic Games is really close and we cannot force the National Federations to apply this big change immediately. We will therefore keep the ordered parterre position for the age of seniors until the Olympic Games. This position will be completely eliminated right after the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

On the other hand we really want to educate the young athletes with this future Rule. Therefore we have decided to eliminate the ordered parterre position for the following age categories (school boys, cadets, juniors and U-23 wrestlers). This decision comes into effect with the publish date of this circular letter.

## **Reinforcement of passivity in GR style (for all age groups):**

To improve the image of wrestling and to avoid too many disqualifications from a bout as a result of 3 cautions for passivity, in GR wrestling the wrestlers will be penalized by caution only in case of fleeing the mat, fleeing the hold and other illegal actions.

If a wrestler is blocking, keeping his head down on his opponents chest, interlocking fingers, or in general avoiding open wrestling in standing (chest to chest) position the referee will determine this wrestler as being passive and the passivity procedure (depending on age categories) will be as follows:

### a) **For seniors:**

- 1st violation: strong and obvious verbal warning to the wrestler without stopping the bout
- 2nd violation: passivity to the passive wrestler; the active wrestler has the right to choose either standing or "parterre" position to continue the bout
- 3rd violation: passivity to the passive wrestler and 1 point to the opponent; the active wrestler has the right to choose either standing or "parterre" position to continue the bout \*
- any future violation: passivity to the passive wrestler and 1 point to the opponent; the active wrestler has the right to choose either standing or "parterre" position to continue the bout.

\* Note: in case the score is 0:0, 3<sup>rd</sup> violation to one wrestler must be called within time of the bout not later than 4min30sec.

### b) **For all other age groups (school boys, cadets, junior, U-23):**

Ordered parterre for passivity is cancelled, and the following procedure will be enforced:

- first time issue a verbal warning to the passive wrestler by using UWW vocabulary without stopping the bout
- second time same wrestler is passive, referee will give 1<sup>st</sup> passivity warning, again without stopping the bout
- Third time when the same wrestler is passive, referee will give 2<sup>nd</sup> passivity warning and 1 technical point to his opponent, again without stopping the bout.
- Every further two passivity will result in 1 technical point to the opponent, all without stopping the bout

We really hope that these few adjustments will provide more interest and action to the Greco-Roman Wrestling,



Sincerely Yours,

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President  
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