

Madison Weight System

Madison System - This is a popular tournament format where there is no weight classes and the tournament director pairs wrestlers into brackets (usually 8 or 16 man) based on weight at weigh-ins. This is a popular method because it discourages "weight cutting" in young athletes.

Goal

This method is used to make up weight classes when low numbers of entries prevent the creation of full draws at local events and to also discourage weight loss. It is oriented towards receiving matches since it allows nearly everyone to compete regardless of the draw makeup. Our approach is to always provide matches for entrants, regardless of their size, age, or sex while at the same time encourage fun rather than weight loss problems.

Wrestlers are placed in competition pools where everyone is within 10% weight and two years age of each other. While in most instances this approach can be followed exactly, in the case of a small tournament entry, adjustments may sometimes be necessary.

Note: Adjustments outside the 10%/2 yr rule should only be made with the competitors consent because of limited matches.

Example

The following represents a typical selection of young wrestlers weighing in at a small local event. I've stopped the ages at 15 years, but ages up to 18 would follow the same general approach presented.

Age	Weight
7	60
7	70
8	62
8	74
8	78
8	87
9	70
9	80
10	71
10	74
10	78
11	80
12	75
12	82
12	91
12	99
13	85
13	97

13	100
13	109
13	116
14	110
14	120
15	104
15	124
15	125
15	130
15	131
15	140
15	151

First put all wrestlers into a weight ladder grouping by every two years and adding the oldest age wrestlers into the next lowest group. Often high school wrestlers prefer this anyway.

7	60
8	62
7	70
8	74
8	78
8	87

9	70
10	71
10	74
10	78
9	80

12	75
11	80
12	82
12	91
12	99

13	85
13	97
13	100
15	104
13	109
14	110
13	116
14	120
15	124
15	125
15	130
15	131
15	140
15	151

Next, pull out any obvious weight groups at the bottom or top of the list. In this case, the 60-62 age grouping is obvious as is the 140-151 group. Finally, group all the rest within even groups following the 2 yr/10% rule, adding in the oldest age from a group into the next oldest group as necessary.

Notice the 12 yr old 75 lb exceeds the 10% rule. This wrestler cannot be placed into the lower class because of the excessive age difference. Therefore, for this case, the wrestler would need to agree to wrestle in the draw or have his entry refunded.

The 14 yr old 110 is put into the higher weight class to allow for an ever (3 each draw at the next higher weight). The 124 lb 15 year old is grouped into the higher class not only to even the classes out, but also to keep him away from the 13 year old.

Using the approach for this event will give 10 classes of mostly three wrestlers each.

7	60	
8	62	
7	70	
8	74	
8	78	could be placed in a group above or below but would be best at lower weight/age group to even the class
9	70	
10	71	
10	74	
10	78	
9	80	
8	87	
12	75*	
11	80	
12	82	
13	85	
12	91	
13	97	
12	99	
13	100	
15	104	
13	109	
14	110*	
13	116	
14	120	
15	124	
15	130	
15	131	
15	140	
15	151	