



Alberta Amateur Wrestling Association Membership Policy

Updated: June 24, 2023

Please note: The AAWA reserves the right to update this document at any time as required

The Alberta Amateur Wrestling Association (AAWA) is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all our members. Membership in the AAWA has many benefits but also comes with responsibilities. Potential members should familiarize themselves with all AAWA policies.

As per the Alberta Amateur Wrestling Association By-Laws (available on the website), membership with the AAWA exists in 6 classes:

- 1) Member Club (voting)
- 2) Athlete (non-voting)
- 3) Functionary (non-voting)
- 4) Honorary (non-voting)

All individuals of the non-voting membership classes must be aligned with and under the guidance of an AAWA member club or as an independent member of the AAWA. The definitions, roles and responsibilities of the member club, non-voting membership classes and independents are outlined below.

Annual Membership Fees

Member Club - \$100

Athlete (Tyke/Novice/Kids) - \$35

Athlete (Bantam/U17/U19/Junior/Senior) - \$65

Coach - \$65

Provincial/National Official - \$65

Other Functionary - \$30

AAWA Single Event Membership - \$10 per athlete/coach ***school-based programs only***

Club Definitions

Member Club (Voting Class)

- 1) An established club or organization that has at least ten (10) Registrants who must be:
 - I. at least eight (8) Registrants who are athletes and at least two (2) Registrants who are coaches and/or team managers over the age of 18.
 - II. The ten (10) Registrants are not individual members of another Member or Non-Voting Club.
 - III. Have at least eight (8) athlete Registrants attend one (1) AAWA-sanctioned provincial event.
 - IV. At least one (1) Registrant coach has taken a minimum of the following under the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP):
 - NCCP Coach Initiation in Sport (Online)
 - NCCP Emergency Action Planning (Online)
 - Making Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation (Online)
 - Making Headway in Sport (Online)
 - Safe Sport Training (Online)
 - Understanding the Rule of Two (Online)
 - **NOTE: NCCP Community Coach, Introduction to Competition Part A and Part B training will all be recognized as substitutes for NCCP Coach Initiation in Sport.**
 - V. At least one (1) Registrant coach and/or other functionary member with valid standard first aid training must be present at every practice.
 - VI. All Registrant coaches and team managers over the age of 18 have a completed clear background check as defined by the AAWA Screening Policy.
 - VII. For any officials' association, at least ten (10) Registrants who are Provincial Officials.

Admission and Renewal of Member Clubs

Admission and Renewal of Members – Any candidate will be admitted or renewed as a Member Club if:

- a) The candidate club makes an application for membership or affiliation in a manner prescribed by the AAWA;
- b) If the candidate club was previously a Member Club, the candidate club was in good standing with the AAWA when the candidate ceased to be a Member Club (as applicable);
- c) The candidate club must be in good standing with all other provincial, state and national associations, including, but not limited to, Wrestling Canada Lutte, Alberta Schools Athletic Association, Sport, Alberta Physical Activity and Recreation and all provincial/state associations;
- d) If an athlete, functionary or honorary member of a candidate club is not in good-standing with one or more of these associations, the individual and/or candidate club may not be granted membership. All such cases will be reviewed and decided by the AAWA;
- e) The candidate club agrees to register all individual registrants in a manner prescribed by the AAWA;
- f) The candidate club has paid fees as prescribed by the AAWA;
- g) The candidate club agrees to uphold and comply with the Corporation's governing by-laws and policies;
- h) The candidate club runs regularly scheduled practices in a safe training environment;
- i) The candidate club meets any other condition of membership or affiliation determined by the AAWA;
- j) The candidate club has met the applicable definition listed in Section 1 or Section 2 of this policy (as applicable); and
- k) The candidate club has been approved by Ordinary Resolution by the Board or by any committee or individual delegated this authority by the Board.

Once a Member Club has been approved, the Member Club will receive one vote at the Alberta Amateur Wrestling Association annual general meeting. Club membership must be granted at least 60 days prior to the annual general meeting to receive a vote.

Roles & Responsibilities of the Club Contact

1. Must be an athlete, functionary or honorary member of the member club
2. Complete the Club Registration for the upcoming membership season
3. Act as the information liaison between the AAWA office/executive and the club
4. Communicate the AAWA policies to the individual members of the club, including, but not limited to the membership policy and code of conduct (All policies will be available on the AAWA website)
5. Ensure all individual members adhere to the AAWA policies and are aware that failure to do so may result in suspension or expulsion of individual and/or club membership as decided by the AAWA executive
6. Ensure all individual members of the club are registered with the AAWA before training & competition
7. Ensure all fees owing by the club are paid in full
8. Ensure all events (tournaments, camps, clinics, etc.) that require AAWA sanctioning are submitted for AAWA approval
9. Complete the Annual General Meeting Designation Form, identifying the voting designate for the member club, a minimum of one week prior to the Alberta Amateur Wrestling Association Annual General Meeting

Athlete Members (Non-Voting Class)

1. Athlete members must be a resident of Alberta*
2. Athlete members must be in good standing with all provincial, state and national associations, including, but not limited to, Wrestling Canada Lutte, Alberta Schools Athletic Association, Alberta Sport Connection and all provincial/state associations
3. Athlete members may not compete for multiple clubs in the same competition season
4. Athlete members may not be a member of, or compete for, another provincial/territorial or state association in the same competition season
5. Athlete members must adhere to the by-laws and policies of the association. Failure to do so may result in the suspension of membership or expulsion from the association as decided by the AAWA Executive directed by the AAWA Discipline Policy

***Extraordinary Circumstances**

All individual membership applications with the following extraordinary circumstances will be reviewed by the AAWA Executive.

1. Athletes attending an academic institution outside of the province or country are eligible for membership with the understanding that they may compete for their academic institution in school-based competition and the Alberta member club in club-based competition
2. Athletes training long-term outside of Alberta are eligible for membership with the understanding that they may only compete for their Alberta member club, regardless of tournament location

3. Athletes that reside and train in Alberta with a member club, but compete internationally for a nation other than Canada, are eligible for membership with the understanding that they will compete for the member club as Wrestling Canada Lutte policies allow
4. As per Alberta Games regulations, athletes residing at an address outside the province of Alberta are eligible for membership if they meet both of the following conditions:
 - They reside near the Alberta boundary and associate primarily with Albertans in club play
 - They do not compete for any club or in provincial/territorial/state playoffs of any other province/territory/state

Functionary Members (Non-Voting Class)

Functionary members include, but are not limited to:

- Coaches
- Officials
- Team Leaders
- Team Managers
- Club Board Members
- Team Volunteers

1. All Functionary members aged 18 and older **must** adhere to the AAWA Screening Policy
2. Functionary members registered as a coach **must**, at minimum, have the following NCCP modules completed:
 - I. Making Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation
 - II. Making Headway in Sport
 - III. Safe Sport Training
 - IV. Understanding the Rule of Two
 - V. NCCP Emergency Action Planning
 - VI. NCCP Coach Initiation in Sport

NOTE: NCCP Community Coach, Introduction to Competition Part A and Part B training will all be recognized as substitutes for NCCP Coach Initiation in Sport
3. Functionary members registered as a team leader or team manager **must** have the following NCCP module completed:
 - I. Safe Sport Training
4. Officials **must** follow and adhere to the policies of the Alberta Amateur Wrestling Officials Association
5. Functionary members must be in good standing with all provincial, state and national associations, including, but not limited to, Wrestling Canada Lutte, Alberta Schools Athletic Association, Alberta Sport Connection and all provincial/state associations
6. Functionary members may not be a member of another provincial/territorial or state association in the same competition season
7. Functionary members must adhere to the by-laws and policies of the association. Failure to do so may result in the suspension of membership or expulsion from the association as decided by the AAWA Executive directed by the AAWA Discipline Policy

Honorary (Non-Voting Class)

In some circumstances, the AAWA executive may grant honorary membership with the organization.

1. Honorary members must be in good standing with all provincial, state and national associations, including, but not limited to, Wrestling Canada Lutte, Alberta Schools Athletic Association, Alberta Sport Connection and all provincial/state associations
2. Honorary members may not be a member of another provincial/territorial or state association in the same competition season
3. Honorary members must adhere to the by-laws and policies of the association. Failure to do so may result in the suspension of membership or expulsion from the association as decided by the AAWA Executive directed by the AAWA Discipline Policy

Independent Members (Non-Voting)

1. Individuals in the athlete, functionary (excluding officials) and honorary classes may register as independents
2. Independent members must be a resident of Alberta, with the same special circumstances governing athlete members applied
3. Independent members must be in good standing with all provincial, state and national associations, including, but not limited to, Wrestling Canada Lutte, Alberta Schools Athletic Association, Alberta Sport Connection and all provincial/state associations
4. Independent members may not be a member of another provincial/territorial or state association in the same competition season
5. Independent members must adhere to the by-laws and policies of the association. Failure to do so may result in the suspension of membership or expulsion from the association as decided by the AAWA Executive directed by the AAWA Discipline Policy
6. All athletes switching member clubs, who have previously registered with a different member club in the current season, will compete as an independent for the remainder of the current season, unless a formal request has been reviewed and accepted by the AAWA executive

7. Independent members do **not** receive a vote at the annual general meeting
8. Independent members must complete the AAWA registration and pay dues directly to the AAWA office

AAWA Single Event Memberships (Non-Voting)

1. School-based teams may purchase a single event membership for \$10 per athlete and coach for all AAWA-sanctioned club events
2. Single event members and school-based teams do **not** receive a vote at the annual general meeting
3. If an athlete or coach becomes an individual member of a member club, any single event memberships purchased in that season for that individual will count towards the cost of full membership
4. By purchasing a single event membership, the school head coach acknowledges any and all support staff accompanying them have the approval of their school board to represent the school, bounded by their policies governing volunteer and staff coaches