

Build it and they will Come

Episode
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Episode 9 - Wednesday 5/18/2022 3PM EDT.

A Statistical Primer to help educate wrestlers and fans
on the 3rd national collegiate wrestling organization -
The National Collegiate Wrestling Association.

What are some basic answers to the FAQ's about the NCWA?

Jim Giunta is the Founder & Executive Director of the National Collegiate Wrestling Association

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- The NCWA is one of 3 governing bodies of wrestling organizations
- The NCWA started in 1997 for men and 2007 for women.
- Over 2,000 wrestlers in the NCWA in 2020. Men - 1,686 Women - 374
- About 575 Men (460-470) & Women (105-120) compete in the NCWA National Championships.
- It is the largest collegiate wrestling tournament in the nation.
- Men & Women compete simultaneously at the national championship. MatStats wants the NCAA to do the same thing.
- There are 11 men's and 11 women's weight classes in the NCWA.
- There are 8 qualifiers for men and 4 for women.

How many Men's teams are there in the NCWA?

The NCWA had 151 Men's Teams in 2022

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Year	# Men's Teams	Year	# Men's Teams	Year	# Men's Teams
1997-98	26	2005-06	122	2013-14	
1998-99	35	2006-07	134	2014-15	
1999-00	44	2007-08	142	2015-16	
2000-01	56	2008-09	154	2016-17	170
2001-02	68	2009-10	163	2018-19	
2002-03	80	2010-11	170	2019-20	154
2003-04	95	2011-12	156	2020-21	CoVid
2004-05	109	2012-13		2021-22	151
Growth	1998 to 2022	481%	Growth	1998-2017	554%

Why did the NCWA lose some teams in the last 10 years?

The two main reasons are new NCWA requirements & CoVid.

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- The Executive Director made a decision to require each team to have a coach that was not a student wrestler.
- This produced more stable and longer lasting teams.
- This is seen in the 91% retention rate for schools that move from NCWA to NCAA & NAIA in slide episode 9-8.
- There was no NCWA in 2020-21 due to CoVid.

How Many Women's Teams are there in the NCWA?

The NCWA had 68 Women's Teams in 2022

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Year	# Women's Teams	Year	# Women's Teams
2007-08	7	2015-16	22
2008-09		2016-17	24
2009-10		2017-18	35
2010-11	16	2018-19	
2011-12	18	2019-20	54
2012-13	15	2020-21	CoVid
2013-14	10	2021-22	68
2014-15	15	Growth 2008-22	871%

Do teams in the NCWA ever go to the NCAA or NAIA?

35 (37 with JUCO) of the Current NCAA & NAIA Teams came from the NCWA

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Category	# Men's Teams	# Women's Teams	# Total Teams
NCAA D1	3	1	4
NCAA D2	13	4	17
NCAA D3	6	4	10
Total NCAA	22	9	31
NAIA	2	2	4
JUCO	1	1	2
Total	25	12	37

What Percentage of current NCAA & NAIA teams came from the NCWA?

8% of all current teams in the NCAA & NAIA came from the NCWA

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Category	% Men's Teams	% Women's Teams	% Total Teams
NCAA D1	4%	25%	5%
NCAA D2	19%	17%	18%
NCAA D3	5%	11%	6%
Total NCAA	8%	14%	9%
NAIA	3%	5%	3%
Total NCAA & NAIA	7%	10%	8%

Do the teams that come from the NCWA have a good retention rate?

The teams that came from the NCWA to NCAA & NAIA have a 91% retention rate!

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Total NCWA to NCAA & NAIA	# Active Teams	Retention Rate
35	32	91%

In the 25 years of NCWA, 35 have moved to NCAA or NAIA, or 1.4 teams per year.

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- This is an organic growth mechanism for the NCAA & NAIA.
- The schools already have NCWA programs, so you are not starting from the ground floor.
- Some schools park their teams in NCWA until they jump to NCAA or NAIA.
- Bucknell was a classic example. Thank you, Bill Graham. A fellow Penn Charter grad with Gorms.
- Emory & Henry and Allen are currently doing the same thing.
- Some big NCAA D1 schools (16) have NCAA & NCWA teams. The NCWA team must be a NCWA D2 team. At times kids go from the NCWA to NCAA at that school.
- With the current transfer mania in college sports, the NCWA provides an opportunity to wrestle at an NCWA school and then transfer to an NCAA or NAIA school.

Do any of the Power 5 schools have NCWA Teams?

The NCWA has 25% MORE Power 5 Schools than the NCAA

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Conference	NCWA Teams	NCAA Teams	% More NCWA Teams
Pac 12	8	3	167%
SEC *	7	2	250%
Big 10	7	14	<50%>
ACC	7	6	17%
Big 12 *	6	3	100%
Total	35	28	25%

* - New Conference Alignments

How Many schools have teams are there in all 3 Organizations?

There are more schools with Men's (482) & Women's (173) Teams (655 Total) across the 3 Organizations than ever Before.

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Organization	# Men's School Teams	# Women's School Teams	# Total School Teams
NCAA	269	63	332
NAIA	78	42	120
NCWA *	135	68	203
Total Unique School Teams	482	173	655

* - NCWA has a few non-traditional/ non-4 year schools. The 135 & 68 counts unique schools only.

How does the number of teams compare to the “glory years” of 1981-82 when there were so many Men’s teams?

Calling 1981-82 the glory years of wrestling is like saying “The Boys Of Summer” were the glory years of Baseball. The Dodgers moved to LA in 1957 due to a lack of attendance in Brooklyn in the 50’s.

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Year	# Men’s Teams NCAA, NAIA, NCWA (est. 1997)	% Increase over the “glory years” 1981-82	# Women’s Teams NCAA, NAIA, NCWA (est. 2007)	% Increase over the “glory years” 1981-82	# Total Teams	% Increase over the “glory years”
1981-82	419	N/A	0	N/A	419	N/A
2022-23 unique (announced Teams)	482	15%	173	Can’t do % over 0	655	56%
2022-23 total programs (announced)	498	19%	173	Can’t do % over 0	671	60%

How does the 671 wrestling programs across all 3 organizations compare with football numbers?

Football has 768 teams, Wrestling 671. How many would have guessed it was this close?

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Category	Football 2021-22	Category	Wrestling 2021-22 (Announced)
NCAA	657	NCAA	332
NAIA	96	NAIA	120
Sprint	15	NCWA	219
Total	768	Total	671

Where does NCWA rank among all Organizations in Men's Teams?

NCWA ranks 2nd out of 3 or 2nd out of 6 if broken down by NCAA Divisions

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Rank	Organization	# Men's Teams
1	NCAA All Divisions	269
2	NCWA	151
3	NCAA D3	120
4	NCAA D1	80
5	NAIA	78
6	NCAA D2	69

Where does the NCWA rank among all 3 Organizations in Women's teams?

NCWA ranks 1st in Women's Teams

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Rank	Organization	# Women's Teams
1	NCWA	68
2	NCAA All Divisions	63
3	NAIA	42
4	NCAA D3	36
5	NCAA D2	23
6	NCAA D1	4

Where does the NCWA rank with the other collegiate wrestling organizations with men & women's teams combined?

NCWA ranks 2nd out of 3 or 2nd out of 6 if broken down by NCAA Divisions.

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Rank	Organization	# Men & Women's Teams
1	NCAA All Divisions	332
2	NCWA	219
3	NCAA D3	156
4	NAIA	120
5	NCAA D2	92
6	NCAA D1	84

How many Men's wrestlers are there in the NCWA? Where do they rank? What percentage wrestle in the NCWA?

There are 1,686 male wrestlers in the NCWA and 14% of all 3 Organizations. We can't ignore 14%.

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Organization	# Men's Wrestlers 2020	% of Total Men's Wrestlers 2020
NCAA D1	2,548	22%
NCAA D2	2,001	17%
NCAA D2	3,124	26%
NCAA All Divisions	7,673	65%
NAIA	2,449	21%
NCWA	1,686	14%
Total	11,808	100%

How many women wrestlers are there in the NCWA? Where do they rank? What percentage wrestle in the NCWA?

There look to be 374 women wrestlers in the NCWA in 2023 and 20% of all organizations. Once again, the NCWA can not be ignored.

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Category	# Women Wrestlers Projected 2023	% of Total Women's Wrestlers Projected 2023
NCAA	908	49%
NAIA	588	31%
NCWA	374	20%
Total	1870	100%

Women's wrestling is growing so fast, MatStats used their projected numbers for 2022-23 based on announced Teams and current roster sizes.

How about a new trivia question each month on MatStats?

Great Idea. Here is the first monthly trivia question

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- What is the only school to be ranked #1 in NCAA D1 at some point in time in
 - Football
 - Men's Basketball
 - Women's Basketball
 - Baseball
 - Softball

- And have an NCAA D1 wrestling national Champion?????

Answer - Tennessee Vols

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- The Vols have a NCWA Men's wrestling team.
- Chris Edmunds was the wrestling national Champion.
- Edmunds won in 1985 at 167# in OK City.
- Vols are one of two schools to have been ranked number one in football, men's basketball, women's basketball, baseball, and softball.
- Texas is the other school, but the Horns have never had an NCAA wrestling champion.
- But the Horns do have an NCWA Men's and women's team.

Next Month Show - Wednesday 6/15/22 3PM EDT

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- Topic - Renovating NCAA D1 Men's Wrestling
- Possible Conference Realignment
- Helping our sport keep and add more teams at the highest collegiate level
- How more and smaller conferences can help the sport
- How we can best succeed in an NCAA world that is set up around football and basketball
- Overcome many geographical barriers