

MatStats - The Moneyball of Wrestling

Episode # 41

Wednesday February 19th, 2025

3PM EST

**I am woman, watch me wrestle.
I've been down on the mat
and no ones gonna keep me down again.**

Episode
41-1

MatStats does a shout out to the NCAA for approving women's wrestling a championship sport. We do a quick history of women's intercollegiate sports organizations. MatStats dives into the chronology of women's national tourneys and the numbers in the 2024- & 2025-women's teams, conferences and national tourneys. We also explain how you become an NCAA sport and the growth of NCAA women's wrestling.

A tribute to Helen Reddy's
famous women's
empowerment song
In 1972.

In This Episode

Episode
41-2

I Am Woman, Watch Me Wrestle

Topic	Slide #		Topic	Slide #
Why we do this	3		Dates & locations 2025 women's national tourneys	29
Number of 4-year colleges	6		Info on regionals, teams, & qualifiers for national tourneys	30
NCAA approves women's wrestling	7		What is Emerging sport status and championship status in the NCAA	43
Show Topic	10		NCAA women's wrestling growth	47
Quick history of women's collegiate sports organizations	11		KevNotes	52
Chronology of women's wrestling	13		Next Show	54

The MatStats Show is Here to Create a Library of Statistical Analysis for the NWCA.

Episode
41-3

- Mike Moyer, the Executive Director of the NWCA, approached the MatStats gang to create a library of statistical analysis for the NWCA.
- This is an effort to help grow the sport and educate the wrestlers, coaches, and fans.
- When MatStats was created in 2020 (book) and 2021 (monthly show), there was a serious need for statistical analysis.

Are there any disclaimers MatStats needs to let everyone know about their shows?

The Opinions Expressed on this show do not necessarily reflect any policies or opinions of the NWCA. Also, the MatStats guys do not always agree on all things discussed on their shows.

Episode
41-4

- MatStats is a subsidiary of the NWCA but is a separate entity that voices its own opinions on its statistical analysis.
 - MatStats three hosts, Gormley, Bryant, and Hazard are all equally responsible for all the good outcomes. Gormley for the bad feedback.
- Gormley writes the Power Points and selects the topics. Gormley uses the term MatStats often, but many times it is Gormley's opinion alone.
- Gormley does the stats work and then the three hosts & occasionally guests brainstorm about Gormley's findings and ideas.
 - MatStats is designed to have educated thoughts and opinions to help the world's oldest and greatest sport.
- Wrestling is all about settling disagreements. The hosts are too old to settle these disagreements on the mat.
- Sometimes we agree, sometimes we disagree. It makes the world go round.

How is MatStats different than most shows we see on TV/Internet in today's world?

Episode
41-5

MatStats is based on numbers, stats, and analyzation. It starts with facts not opinions.

- MatStats is a numbers show.
- Thus, the name MatStats. Not MatOpinions.
- Gorms was remiss not explaining this from the get-go. Gorms lives in a numbers world and is starting to get the feeling not everyone does lol.
- Feedback from the Tribe alumni during this show has made Gorms realize he needs to address this and try to educate people with numbers. Thank you, Dr. Powell, for one of your texts.

How many 4-year collegiate teams are there in the 3 wrestling organizations?

As of 2/14/25, there are projected to be 721 wrestling teams at 4-year colleges in 2025-26.

Episode
41-6

Category	Men	Women	Total
NCAA	286	111	397
NAIA	73	45	118
NCWA	125	81	206
Total 4-Year	484	237	721

Note - The NCWA number here does not include 9 trade/juco teams nor the 4 transitioning to the NCAA. It does include the 5 Puerto Rico schools. If we count Canada, we should count PR.

Big news & change in the show topic.

Episode
41-7

- Gorms, we were originally scheduled to do this show on the business & logistics of collegiate sports especially wrestling.
- What happened to change the topic?

What is the biggest news in our sport since the last MatStats show?

NCAA Approves Women's Wrestling As a Championship Sport!!

Episode
41-8

- On 1/17/25, the NCAA approved women's wrestling as a championship sport.
- It becomes the 91st championship.
- The first NCAA women's championship will be in 2026.
- Gorms is still hoping one day the NCAA men's & women's will be at the same arena, same time, same weekend.
- All 3 divisions will compete in the same championships until there are enough teams in a level to break away on its own.
- The NCAA was formed in 1906.
- It took 118 years, but finally the NCAA has wrestling for both sexes as championship sports.

Episode #41 - Show topic.

Episode
41-9

- Can we have a quick preview on the new topic for this episode?

What is the topic for Episode #41?

Episode #41 is a brief history of women's collegiate sports & the national women's wrestling tourneys for NCAA, NAIA, & NCWA.

Episode
41-10

The topics MatStats addresses in this show

- 1) Quick history of women's intercollegiate organizations.
- 2) Chronology of women's national tournaments.
- 3) The number of NCAA, NAIA, NCWA women's teams.
- 4) The number of conference qualifiers for NCAA, NAIA, & NCWA and the number of qualifiers in 2024 & 2025.
- 5) How a sport becomes an NCAA sport.
- 6) The growth of women's NCAA wrestling.

Can you provide a little history of women's collegiate sports for the viewers?

A quick history of women's collegiate sports organizations.

Episode
41-11

- Women's intercollegiate athletics were first formed on a national basis in 1941.
- In 1956 the Division of Girls & Women's Sports (DGWS) was formed by representatives of 3 organizations - the National Association for Physical Education for College Women, the National Association for Girls and Women's Sports, & the American Federation of College Women.
- In 1971 the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW) was formed.
- 1972-73 was the first academic year for AIAW championships. It had 8 different sports.

Can you provide a little history of women's collegiate sports for the viewers?

A little more history of women's collegiate sports organizations.

Episode
41-12

- In 1981-82 the NCAA included women's sports.
- After the 1981-82 academic year the AIAW was legally dissolved.
- During the 1981-82 season, there were some female sports that had NCAA & NAIA championships.
- During the 1981-82 basketball season, 17 of the top 20 teams opted for the NCAA over the AIAW, this proved the end of the AIAW.
- At its peak, the AIAW had almost 1,000 member schools and 19 different sports.

The start of women's intercollegiate wrestling

Episode
41-13

- Enough on the big picture of the DGWS, AIAW, & NCAA, let's explain the beginning and early days of women's intercollegiate wrestling.

A women's collegiate national tourney began in 2004 and in 2008 it begat the WCWA.

Episode
41-14

- Before there was NCAA, NAIA, and NCWA women's national tourneys there was an independent national championships for women.
- This started in 2004.
- Bring together women's collegiate wrestlers and let's see who is the best.
- In 2008, the Women's College Wrestling Association (WCWA) was formed to provide a competitive structure.

Can MatStats provide the viewers with the past WCWA team champions?

The past Women's Collegiate Wrestling Association (WCWA) champions

Episode
41-15

Year	Host City	Winner	Runner Up
2004	Marshall, MO	Missouri Valley	Univ of the Cumberlands
2005	Atherton, CA	Missouri Valley	Pacific
2006	Williamsburg, KY	Univ of the Cumberlands	Missouri Valley
2007	Forest Grove, OR	Univ of the Cumberlands	Missouri Valley
2008	OK City, OK	Univ of the Cumberlands	Oklahoma City U
2009	Marshall, MO	Oklahoma City U	Univ of the Cumberlands
2010	Marshall, MO	Oklahoma City U	Univ of the Cumberlands
2011	Atherton, CA	Oklahoma City U	Simon Fraser
2012	Bristol, TN	Oklahoma City U	King
2013	Bristol, TN	Simon Fraser	Oklahoma City U
2014	St Louis, MO	King	Oklahoma City U
2015	St Louis, MO	King	Campbellsville
2016	OK City, OK	King	Oklahoma City U
2017	OK City, OK	King	Simon Fraser
2018	Campbellsville, KY	Campbellsville	Simon Fraser
2019	Marietta, GA	Menlo	Simon Fraser
2020	Marietta, GA	Campbellsville	Life

Note - From 2004-07 the Women's Nationals were an Independent Championships before the WCWA was formed.

Note - 3X Champion The University of the Cumberlands is in Williamsburg, KY. Why does that school in another Williamsburg (VA) not have two wrestling teams?

21 years of intercollegiate women's wrestling national tourneys.

Episode
41-16

- We have had women's wrestling national intercollegiate tourney since 2004. This is older than YouTube or Twitter. It is old enough to drink legally.
- Chronologically, what developed after the WCWA?

In 2009, the NCWA became the 2nd organization to provide a women's intercollegiate national tourney.

**Episode
41-17**

- In 2009, the NCWA started to include a women's national wrestling tourney.
- The NCWA was formed in 1997 to fill a gap in the wrestling community. It was designed to provide more opportunities for people to wrestle in college.
- The NCWA is a much more budget friendly option than the NCAA or NAIA.

Can MatStats provide the viewers with a list of past team champions of the NCWA women's division?

Past Team Champions of the NCWA Women's National Championships.

Episode
41-18

Year	NCWA Women's Team Champ
2009	Yakima Valley CC
2010	Yakima Valley CC
2011	Yakima Valley CC
2012	Southwestern Oregon CC
2013	Southwestern Oregon CC
2014	Southwestern Oregon CC
2015	Southwestern Oregon CC
2016	Southwestern Oregon CC
2017	Southwestern Oregon CC
2018	Southwestern Oregon CC
2019	Grays Harbor
2020	Schreiner
2021	No Tourney
2022	Big Bend CC
2023	Ottawa (AZ)
2024	Grays Harbor
2025	????

After the NCWA

Episode
41-19

- Chronologically, what came after the NCWA?

When did the NAIA approve women's wrestling championships?

The NAIA approved a women's wrestling championships on 4/9/22. They had a national invitational starting in 2019.

**Episode
41-20**

- The NAIA voted to approve women's wrestling as its 28th national championship on April 9, 2022. Prior to this, there had been three NAIA women's wrestling national invitational championships. The winners of the Invitational Championships are still recognized as National Champions.**

The past NAIA women's team champions

NAIA Women's Wrestling Championships

Year	Host City	Winner	Runner Up
2019	Jamestown, ND	Menlo	Oklahoma City U
2021	Jamestown, ND	Campbellsville	Life
2022	Jamestown, ND	Campbellsville	Southern Oregon
2023	Jamestown, ND	Southern Oregon	Life
2024	Jamestown, ND	Menlo	Life
2025	Wichita, KS	??	??

It is fitting that Jamestown hosted the first NAIA championships. Another Jamestown (VA) was the site of the first permanent English settlement in America.

NCWWC & NCAA

Episode
41-22

- What is the NCWWC & when did they join the party?

What exactly is the NCWWC?

The NCWWC is the precursor to the NCAA for women's wrestling.

Episode
41-23

- The National Collegiate Women's Wrestling Championship (NCWWC) is the precursor to the NCAA Women's Wrestling Championships.
- Since women's wrestling only recently (2020-21 season) became an NCAA Emerging Sport (ESS) and the NAIA had its first women's championships (as an NAIA invitational) in 2019, the WCWA was on its way out.
- The WCWA had its last national championships in 2020.
- The schools from the NCAA needed their own championship and they could not call it the NCAA Championships until the NCAA announced women's wrestling was a championship sport. That starts in 2026.
- The NCAA schools had their championships and called it the NCWWC.

The first NCWWC tourney was in 2020, the first NCAA tourney will be in 2026.

Episode
41-24

- The NCWWC, the de facto NCAA women's wrestling tourney began in 2020.
- Champ sport
- We will have the 1st official NCAA tourney in 2026.
- Since we now had an NAIA, NCWA, & NCAA national tourneys, the WCWA dissolved and passed the baton.
- Thanks for all the work the WCWA put in to make this all a possibility.

Can MatStats provide the viewers with the past NCWWC team champions?

The past NCWWC team champions.

Episode
41-25

National Collegiate Women's Wrestling Championships (NCWWC)

Year	Host City	Winner	Runner Up
2020	Adrian, MI	McKendree	Simon Fraser
2021	Tiffin, OH	McKendree	King
2022	Adrain, MI	McKendree	King
2023	Cedar Rapids, IA	North Central	King
2024	Cedar Rapids, IA	Iowa	North Central
2025	Coralville, IA	????	????

Chronology of intercollegiate women's wrestling

Episode
41-26

- Gorms, this is a great brief history for the NCAA, NAIA, NCWA, & WCWA for women's wrestling.
 - There are so many dates on so many slides.
 - Can you give us a timeline in one chart?
- This could be a good reference slide for the chronology of intercollegiate women's wrestling for our viewers.

Timeline of Intercollegiate women's wrestling.

Episode
41-27

Year	Event for Intercollegiate Women's Wrestling
2004	First Independent National Championships
2008	First WCWA National Championships
2009	First NCWA National Championships
2019	First NAIA National Championships Invite Tournament
2020	Last WCWA National Championships
2020	First NCWWC Championships
2021	First full year NCAA Emerging Sport Status
2022	NAIA approves national championships
2023	First official NAIA National Championships
2025	NCAA approves National Championship Status
2025	Last NCWWC National Championships
2026	First NCAA National Championships

2025 Women's National Tournaments

Episode
41-28

- When and where are the NCAA, NAIA, & NCWA women's national tournaments in 2025?

Where and when are the NCAA, NAIA, & NCWA women's national tournaments in 2025?

Dates & Locations for the 3 Women's national tournaments with 4-year schools.

Episode
41-29

Organization	Location Nationals	2025 Date
NCWWC (NCAA)	Coralville, IA	3/7-8
NAIA	Wichita, KS	3/14-15
NCWA	Shreveport, LA	3/13-15

Numbers in the 2024- & 2025-women's national tournaments

Episode
41-30

- Thanks for the chronology of women's wrestling national tournaments and where & when they are in 2025. Very informative.
- Now, let's dive into the numbers for the 2024 & 2025 national women's wrestling tournaments. That's why we are called MatStats.

How many regions are there in the NCWWC? How many teams per regions?

The NCWWC (NCAA) has increased from **58** teams in **6** regions to **96** teams in **8** regions from 2024 to 2025.

Episode
41-31

2025 NCWWC			2024 NCWWC	
Region	Teams		Region	Teams
1	12		1	12
2	12		2	8
3	13		3	10
4	13		4	9
5	12		5	9
6	11		6	10
7	12		Total	58
8	11			
Total	96			

How many teams are there in the NCWWC? How many national qualifiers?

In 2025, the NCWWC (NCAA) will have **96** teams and **320** national qualifiers.

Episode
41-32

Category	Weights	Regionals	Total Qualifiers	AAs/ weight	Teams	Teams w/ Qual
NCWWC 2024	10	6	240	8	58	50
NCWWC 2025	10	8	320	8	96	??

Note - In 2024 & 2025 the top 4 per weight per region all qualify for the NCWWC National Championships.

How large of a tourney is the 2025 NCWWC to the 2025 NCAA Men's D1 Championships?

The 2025 NCWWC is essentially the same size as the 2025 Men's NCAA D1 Championships.

Episode
41-33

Tournament	Teams	Qualifiers	Conferences
2025 Men's NCAA D1	79	330	8
2025 NCWWC	96	320	8

How many NAIA women's teams are there in 2025?

In 2024-25 there are 45 NAIA women's teams.

Episode
41-34

Category	Teams 2023-24	New Teams	Moved to D2	Teams 2024-25
NAIA Women's Teams	42	5	2	45

Menlo and Vanguard are now NCAA D2 teams.

NCAA Transition quick summary

Episode
41-35

- For years, the NCAA forced a school transitioning from one division to another to wait 4 years before they could compete in the national championships.
- There is also a waiting period for teams that move from NAIA to NCAA.
- Dues to this Menlo & Vanguard can not compete in the 2025 NCWWC.
- Vanguard is competing the NCWA national championships in 2025.
- Yet another reason Jim Giunta and the NCWA makes more sense than some of the archaic rules at the NCAA.

Does this NCAA transition rules make any sense?

Good luck trying to understand the logic in the NCAA school transition rules.

Episode
41-36

- Gorms does not work for the NCAA and never has.
- Therefore, Gorms does not understand the logic or reason for this rule.
- Gorms is old enough to not try and figure somethings out that large organizations and their attorneys do.
- So much is changing in the NCAA (transfer rules, NIL) and coaches come and go so quickly at times that Gorms would not be surprised if the transition rule will change soon.
- On the other hand, the transition rule might be so far on the back burner, it could be here for a while.

How many women qualified for the 2024 NAIA championships?

There were 208 women qualifiers at the 2024 NAIA women's championships.

**Episode
41-37**

NAIA Conference	Teams 2023-24	Allocated Qualifiers	Wild Card & National at Large	Total Qualifiers
Kansas Collegiate	11	19	13	32
Heart of America	8	29	9	38
Sooner	6	28	9	37
Mid-South	10	39	8	47
Cascade Collegiate	7	43	11	54
Total	42	158	50	208

How many women qualified for the 2024 NCWA National tourney?

In 2024, the NCWA had **162** women national qualifiers from **9** regions.

Episode
41-38

Category	Weights	Regionals	National Qualifiers (2024)	AA's/weight	Teams
2025 NCWA Women's	11	9	162	6	85

Note - The number of women's teams (85) in this table include JUCO's/CC.
In Slide #41-5, the number (81) only includes 4-year colleges.

NCWA women's 2025 national duals

Episode
41-39

- Last month's show was on the multi divisional national duals.
- The NCWA did not have their dual meet women's tourney before we did the show, could you please quickly tell us about it.

The NCWA had a round robin for 7 teams at the championships.

Episode
41-40

- The 2025 NCWA National Duals were in St. George, UT.
- The NCWA usually has much smaller budgets than the NCAA or NAIA teams.
- The travel can be cost prohibitive for many schools.
- The NCWA had a round robin format.
- All 7 schools wrestled the other 6 schools.
- The placements were determined based on the round robin records.

MatStats covered the NCAA & NAIA women's duals in our last episode. The NCWA has held theirs since.
Can MatStats let the viewers know their results?

Results from the NCWA National women's dual meet championships.

Episode
41-41

2025 NCWA Women's National Duals		
Place	School	Record
1	Washington State	6-0
2	Utah Tech	5-1
3	Ottawa	4-2
4	UNLV	3-3
5	Western Washington	2-4
6	Colorado State	1-5
7	Fresno State	0-6

Which teams won the women's national dual meet championships in the 3 wrestling organizations in 2025?

Iowa, Life, & Washington State won the 3 women's national dual meet tourneys.

Episode
41-42

2025 National Duals	NCAA	NAIA	NCWA
Team Champion	Iowa	Life	Washington State

**NCAA women's wrestling emerging status,
championships status, only 1 division.**

**Episode
41-43**

- Can we get a quick explanation on the
NCAA Emerging Sport Status,
championship status, and why there is
only 1 NCAA division?**

What are the requirements for a women's sport to become an Emerging sport and a championship Sport in the NCAA?

The 20/10/40 rule in the NCAA for ESS & Championship Status.

Episode
41-44

To be considered for Emerging Sport status, the sport must meet the following requirements:

- The sport meets the NCAA definition of a sport
- At least 20 varsity or competitive club teams exist at NCAA member schools
- At least 10 NCAA member schools sponsor or intend to sponsor the sport

The Committee on Women's Athletics can recommend an emerging sport to become an NCAA Championship sport once 40 NCAA member schools sponsor it. Once added to the Emerging Sports list, a sport has 10 years to achieve NCAA Championship status, after which it may be removed from the list.

Currently there is just 1 division in NCAA women's wrestling.

Episode
41-45

- When the NCAA announced championship status for women's wrestling on 1/9/25 there were 96 NCAA teams eligible to compete in the NCWWC tournament across all 3 divisions.
- There were not enough (40) in each division to have 3 divisions.
- Eventually there will be with the way Moyer and so many others have been successful in starting women's teams.
- This is the way it works. Be patient. Start more teams.
- Gorms & Hazard are old enough to remember when there was only 1 national championship division for women's basketball. This was before women were part of the NCAA.

Can MatStats provide the historical numbers for NCAA women's wrestling?

The NCAA has **111** announced women's wrestling teams as of 2/16/25. We went over the ESS number in **2020-21** & championship in **2022-23**.

Episode
41-46

Year	NCAA D1	NCAA D2	NCAA D3	Total
2018-19	0	2	2	4
2019-20	0	3	6	9
2020-21	1	13	16	30
2021-22	2	15	22	39
2022-23	2	19	30	51
2023-24	3	27	46	76
2024-25	4	32	60	96
Announced as of 2/16/25.	5	34	72	111

Note - the numbers from 2018-19 to 2023-24 come from the NCAA Sports Sponsorship and Participation Rates Report 9/19/24. Since this report only comes out annually, the numbers from 2024-25 come from Jason Bryant's website. The announced numbers comes from the NWCA, Bryant, and MatStats daily updates.

Women's wrestling team growth compared to other NCAA women's team growth.

Episode
41-47

- So, you need 20 teams (+10 already sponsored or about to be) to be ESS and 40 teams to be Championship status.
- Eventually with the growth of our sport we will have more than 1 NCAA division, but for now we have 1.
 - Can you let us know where the women's wrestling team numbers rank in the NCAA compared to other sports?
 - Also how does the women's wrestling team growth numbers rank?

Where does wrestling rank in the NCAA in the number of women's teams?

Women's wrestling is **#15** on the number of women's NCAA teams.

Episode
41-48

Rank	NCAA Sport	Teams	Category	Rank	NCAA Sport	Teams	Category
1	Basketball	1081	Champ	16	Bowling	100	Champ
2	Volleyball	1053	Champ	17	Beach Volleyball	96	Champ
3	Cross Country	1048	Champ	18	Gymnastics	85	Champ
4	Soccer	1023	Champ	19	Water Polo	64	Champ
5	Softball	982	Champ	20	Equestrian	46	ESS
6	Track Outdoor	959	Champ	21	Fencing	44	Champ
7	Track Indoor	874	Champ	22	Acrobatics & Tumbling	43	ESS
8	Tennis	848	Champ	23	Triathlon	37	ESS
9	Golf	704	Champ	24	Skiing	34	Champ
10	Swimming	554	Champ	25	Squash	31	Other
11	Lacrosse	519	Champ	26	Rugby	27	ESS
12	Field Hockey	281	Champ	27	Stunt	26	ESS
13	Rowing	147	Champ	28	Rifle	25	Champ
14	Ice Hockey	117	Champ	29	Esport	24	Other
15	Wrestling	111	Champ	30	Synch Swimming	4	Other

All numbers
Come from the
09/2024 NCAA
Report Except for
Wrestling. Those
Numbers are for
Announced teams
As of 2/16/25.

Where does wrestling rank in NCAA women's team growth since 2018-19?

Wrestling is by far the highest growing women's NCAA sport since 2018-19. We have 52.5% of all the NCAA team's growth.

Episode
41-49

Rank	Sport	Delta 2018-19 to 2023-24	Category	Rank	Sport	Delta 2018-19 to 2023-24	Category
1	Wrestling	107	Champ	17	Lacrosse	0	Champ
2	Track Indoor	48	Champ	17	Water Polo	0	Champ
3	Acro & Tumble	43	ESS	17	Squash	0	Other
4	Track Outdoor	31	Champ	20	Rowing	-1	Champ
5	Stunt	26	ESS	20	Skiing	-1	Champ
6	Esport	24	Other	22	Equestrian	-4	ESS
7	Beach Volleyball	20	Champ	22	Rifle	-4	Champ
8	Triathlon	19	ESS	24	Swimming	-6	Champ
9	Bowling	17	Champ	25	Soccer	-15	Champ
10	Ice Hockey	11	Champ	26	Volleyball	-16	Champ
11	Rugby	10	ESS	27	Softball	-16	Champ
12	Golf	4	Champ	28	Basketball	-20	Champ
13	Field Hockey	3	Champ	29	X Country	-24	Champ
14	Gymnastics	2	Champ	30	Tennis	-56	Champ
15	Fencing	1	Champ		Total	204	N/A
15	Synch Swimming	1	Other		% Wrestling	52.50%	N/A

Team growth
From 2018-19
To 2023-24.

2018-19 was
First year
The NCAA
Had women's
Wrestling.

Can MatStats explain the previous chart in layperson's terms for the viewers?

Women's wrestling has a larger increase in the number of women's NCAA teams than all other sports combined since 2018-19.

Episode
41-50

- We selected 2018-19 as the starting year because that was the first year the NCAA listed women's wrestling teams in their report.
- Wrestling does have an advantage here because it was our starting year and only growth could have happened for us to reach championship status.
- Many of the other sports are well established and do not have seen a decrease in the number of teams. Of the top 11 sports (if you still count wrestling), 5 are ESS.
- This is a growth vs mature industry situation we talked about in past shows.
- However, anyway you want to slice it wrestling is easily at the top of the list and has accounted for 52.5% of all team growth in the NCAA since 2018-19.
- That means wrestling has seen more growth than the other 29 sports combined.
- That is great news for our sports future.

NCAA women's wrestling has very strong team growth numbers.

Episode
41-51

- Women's wrestling ranks #15 in NCAA women's team numbers.
 - We will soon pass Ice Hockey and rowing in team numbers.
- The growth of NCAA women's teams is lead far and away by women's wrestling since 2018-19.
 - The future is bright.
- Three years ago (2/16/22), we did a show on women's wrestling.
- The name of the show was, "*The future of Women's Wrestling is so Bright, I gotta wear shades.*"
 - The title has aged like a fine wine.

Episode 41 Kev's Notes #1

Episode
41-52

- 1) On 1/17/25 the NCAA approved women's wrestling as a championship sport, becoming the 91st NCAA championship (41-8).
- 2) Women's intercollegiate athletics was not formed on a national basis until 1941 (41-11).
- 3) The first intercollegiate women's wrestling championship was started in 2004 as an independent event. It was followed in 2008 by the WCWA (41-14).
 - 4) In 2009, the NCWA followed with its own women's national championship (41-20).
- 5) On 4/9/22, the NAIA approved an official national championship for women's wrestling (41-20).

Episode 41 Kev's Notes #2

Episode
41-53

- 6) The NCWWC is a placeholder for the NCAA until NCAA has their first championship for women's for women's wrestling in 2026 (41-23).
- 7) The NCWWC increased from 58 teams in 6 regions to 96 teams in 8 regions from 2024 to 2025 (41-32).
- 8) The NCAA women's wrestling championship will only have 1 division as of 2025. This will change as the sport grows (41-45).
- 9) The NCAA has 111 announced women's wrestling teams as of 2/16/25. This places them 15th of 30 on the number of women's teams in all sports (41-46 & 41-48).
- 10) NCAA Women's wrestling has a larger increase than all other NCAA women's sports combined since the 2018-19 season (41-49).

What is the topic next month (Wednesday 3/19/24 3PM EST)?

Preview to the 2025 NCAA D1 Men's Championships

Episode
41-39

- **Tune In Next Month**
 - Same Mat Time
 - Same Mat Channel
 - Next months show is a preview to the 2025 NCAA Men's D1 Championships.
 - The show is a podcast/video teaser of Jason Bryant's comprehensive "The Guide - 2025 NCAA Division 1 Men's Wrestling Championship Digital Fan Guide."
 - Pre-order wrestlingpreviewguide.com
- Save \$10 on it by using discount code "matstats" at checkout