



UNITED WORLD  
**WRESTLING**

# Beach Wrestling World Series

Rules





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## **SECTION ONE - GENERAL RULES**

### **Article 1 - Mission statement and philosophy**

In accordance with its Constitution, United World Wrestling recognizes Beach Wrestling as an integrant part of Wrestling in all her styles, promotional and educational discipline practiced around the world in view of promoting their cultural and social values and protecting this world heritage upon which all modern wrestling styles are based.

Countless variations of traditional wrestling practiced on sand (referred to as “beach wrestling”) can be identified and they should all receive equal attention from the international community. However, common grounds had to be found in order to allow sportsmen from the different regions and countries to compete in official championships and games. The present rules offer a unified competition system that encompasses all major trends of beach wrestling and make the sport easy to understand by the spectators and media and easy to judge by the referees.

The Beach Wrestling World Series was created by United World Wrestling to contribute to the structuring and promotion of Beach Wrestling in order to include the sport in all official multi-sport events.

### **Article 2 - Objectives**

The international rules set forth in the present document constitute the framework within which Beach Wrestling World Series is conducted and promoted and have as their specific objectives to:

- Establish the competition system, classification, technical points, penalties, eliminations, etc.
- Define and specify the practical and technical conditions under which a match is to take place.
- Determine the value to be assigned to actions and holds.
- List the situations and prohibitions.
- Determine the technical duties of the refereeing body.

### **Article 3 - Application of the Rules and United World Wrestling Licence**

The rules defined in the present document shall be in effect for all United World Wrestling Beach Wrestling World Series sanctioned events in order to ensure optimal safety of the athletes and a healthy growth of the discipline.

The United World Wrestling license is mandatory for all Beach Wrestling World Series sanctioned events. The United World Wrestling insurance will apply to all United World Wrestling Beach Wrestling World Series sanctioned events.

## **SECTION TWO - MATERIAL STRUCTURE**

### **Article 4 - Age and Weight Divisions for Men and Women**

All contestants shall be able to provide a passport proving their age and nationality.

A National Wrestling Federation can enter a maximum of 3 athletes per weight category. \*

\* United World Wrestling President may issue a special authorization to increase the number of athletes of the same category per country if the brackets are not full.



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The United World Wrestling Beach Wrestling World Series is disputed in the following age group, genders and categories:

## Seniors (20 and older\*\*)

### Women

- 50 kg
- 60 kg
- 70 kg
- +70 kg

### Men

- 70 kg
- 80 kg
- 90 kg
- +90 kg

\*\* From 18 with medical certificate

The weight categories for the other age groups can be founded under the appendix 3.

## Article 5 - Wrestlers' Uniforms and Appearance

For all Beach Wrestling World Series sanctioned events, ALL athletes must comply with the UWW Beach Wrestling World Series Uniform Guidelines. These Guidelines are intended to allow innovative design features in conformity with the rules and regulations for beach wrestling.

### Responsibility of compliance

At all United World Wrestling Beach Wrestling World Series events, the National Federations are responsible for ensuring that the items worn or used by the members of their delegation comply with the terms of these rules.

### Violations

At the weigh-in, the referee must check that each competitor satisfies the requirements of the UWW Beach Wrestling World Series Uniform Guidelines. The wrestler must be warned at the weigh-in, if his appearance is non-compliant. If the wrestler fails to comply the wrestlers' federation will be fined at the conclusion of the competition and the wrestler WILL NOT be allowed to compete. If the wrestler enters the call room with the incorrect uniform designated for the match, officials will allow maximum two minute in order for him to comply. If, after this time, the wrestler is still at fault, he will lose the match by forfeit.

It is prohibited to:

- Wear the emblem or abbreviation of another country.
- Apply any greasy or sticky substance to the body.
- Arrive at the call room perspiring for the beginning of the match.
- Wear bandages on fingers, wrists, arms or ankles except in the case of injury and on doctor's orders. These bandages must be covered with elastic straps.
- Wear any object that might cause injury to the opponent, such as rings, bracelets, prosthesis, piercing, etc.
- Wear under-wired bras for Women's wrestlers.

Also:

- Wrestlers' fingers and toenails shall be neatly trimmed with no sharp edges.
- Long-haired athletes must attach them or have a pony tail.
- Wrestlers shall be well groomed and their hair and skin shall be free of any greasy, oily or sticky substance.
- The referee may require a wrestler to towel off at any time during the match.

At weigh-in, a United World Wrestling official shall check that all competitors satisfy the requirements of this article. The athletes must be warned that if their appearance or uniform are not compliant, they will not be allowed to enter the competition.



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The wrestlers who enter the call room with an appearance that does not conform to the present regulations will be given 2 minutes to change it; otherwise they will lose the match by forfeit.

### **Country's abbreviation**

The wrestlers shall wear the abbreviation of their country's name on their competition shorts or bathing suits.

### **Advertising on clothing**

Wrestlers may wear sponsors' names or symbols on their competition uniforms as long as they don't interfere with the identification of the uniforms' colour and country's abbreviation.

### **Shoes**

No shoes are allowed in any of the beach wrestling styles and the bout must be bare foot.

### **Appearance and hygiene**

Wrestlers are prohibited from wearing bandages on the wrists, arms or ankles except in the case of injury or on doctor's orders. Wrestlers are prohibited from wearing any object that might cause injury to an opponent such as necklaces, bracelets, anklets, toe rings, finger rings, piercing of any kind, prosthesis, etc. Wrestlers' fingers and toenails shall be neatly trimmed with no sharp edges. Long-haired athletes must attach them or have a pony tail. Wrestlers shall be well groomed and their hair and skin shall be free of any greasy, oily or sticky substance.

### **Article 6 - Competition Area**

All United World Wrestling sanctioned events take place in a 7-meter circle designed by a 8-10-centimeter ribbon of a contrasting color that must contain no metal parts. It must be filled with a 30-centimeter (minimum) layer of fine sand free from any stones, shells, or other objects.

## **SECTION THREE - COMPETITION PROCEDURE**

### **Article 7 - Competition System**

The United World Wrestling Beach Wrestling World Series events have an ideal number of 24 wrestlers per weight category.

With less than 6 athletes in a weight category, one group is established and disputed with the Nordic system. No final is organized for such format. The ranking of the group will be the ranking of that weight category.

With 6 or 7 wrestlers, there will be organized 2 groups of 3 or 4 wrestlers. Each group is disputed as a Nordic system. The top 2 wrestlers of the 2 groups advance to the semifinals.

With 8 wrestlers, there will be organized 2 groups of 4 wrestlers. Each group is disputed as a Nordic system. The top 2 wrestlers of the 2 groups advance to the semifinals.

With 8, 7 or 6 wrestlers, the semi-finals will be composed by the Winner of Group A vs Second of Group B and Second of Group A vs Winner of Group B.

With 12 wrestlers, there will be organized 3 groups of 4 wrestlers. Each group is disputed as a Nordic system. The top wrestler of the 3 groups and the best 2<sup>nd</sup> advance to the semifinals. The semi-finals will be composed by the Winner of Group A vs best second place and Winner of Group C vs Winner of Group B.

With 16 wrestlers, there will be organized 4 groups of 4 wrestlers. Each group is disputed as a Nordic system. The top 2 wrestlers of the 4 groups advance to the Quarter of Final.



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With 20 wrestlers, there will be organized 5 groups of 4 wrestlers. Each group is disputed as a Nordic system. The winners of the 5 groups and the best three 2<sup>nd</sup> places advance to the Quarter of final.

With 24 wrestlers per category, the athletes are grouped with a seeded system, in 6 groups of 4 wrestlers each. Each group is disputed as a Nordic system. The winners of the 6 groups and the best two 2<sup>nd</sup> places advance to the Quarter of final.

In the odd situation where we don't have a perfect number of entries (8, 12, 16, 20 or 24), there will be a knockout qualifier amongst the lowest ranked wrestlers (or the ones with the highest numbers picked at the draw).

If more than 24 wrestlers per category are entered, and there are not at least 24 top seeded ranked wrestlers, the host country, under the supervision of the United World Wrestling Beach Wrestling World Series Competition Management Team, can organize a Qualifier to fill the bracket with 24 wrestlers in the said category or categories. If there are 24 or more top seeded wrestlers, the top 24 are entered.

For all these cases, a bout for the 3<sup>rd</sup> place will be organized between the two losers of the semi-finals.

### Ranking criteria

Each athlete will be ranked in their group based on the number of victories. In case of a tie in the group (same number of victories), if it concerns only two wrestlers, their direct match will determine the ranking.

If it concerns more than two athletes, the ranking will be determined following these criteria, across the all competition:

- The highest classification points
- The highest technical points scored
- The fewest technical points given
- The weight of the athletes\*
- The lowest draw/rank number

\* Their weights (at the official weigh-in) will be checked and the lighter (lightweight) one will be declared as the winner.

These criteria are also used to determine the best 2<sup>nd</sup> places that will move to the direct elimination phase. It is clear that the first criteria remain the number of victories.

The Final ranking of each weight category will be based on the number of victories and the above criteria will be used if there is tie(s). Please note that the athletes who will be qualified for the elimination phase (1/4<sup>th</sup> of final and so on) will be ranked above the ones who didn't pass the group phase.

The pairing and competition system are detailed in Appendix 1.

The program of the event is detailed in Appendix 2 but can be adapted if needed by the United World Wrestling Beach Wrestling World Series Competition Management Team.

### Article 8 - Weigh-In and Medical examination

Weigh-in should be conducted the same day (two hours before the competition) and last 30 minutes. Athletes shall present their United World Wrestling license and accreditation to the appointed referees in charge of the weigh-in. Athletes shall wear their competition uniform (shorts or underwear) and be allowed to check their weight on the scales as many times as they wish within the official weigh-in time frame. No weight tolerance shall be granted at the United World Wrestling sanctioned events. The exact weight of each athlete has to be compiled in the weigh-in list by the referee delegate.

The Medical Examination will be organized simultaneously with the weigh-in.



## Article 9 - Drawing of Lots

In principle, there will be no drawing of lots. The athletes will be paired according to a seeded system pulled from the Beach Wrestling World Series ranking.

In case of the participation of unseeded wrestlers, an automatic and random draw will be organized (for these athletes) by the competition management team right after the weigh-in. The officials shall also enter the lot number onto the weigh-in list.

## SECTION FOUR - THE MATCH

### Article 10 - Duration and Basic Rule

The match consists in 1 period of 3 minutes for all age categories.

Beach wrestling is only practiced in standing position. The use of the legs is allowed in all actions.

### Article 11 - Call and Start of the Matches

Both wrestlers' names shall be called in a loud clear voice. Wrestlers shall be called 3 times with at least a 30-second time interval between each call. If after the third call a wrestler has not checked in at the call room he/she shall be disqualified and default the match.

When their name has been called, the wrestlers shall stand in the spot corresponding to their assigned color and wait for the Call Room Manager to call them to his/her side. The Call Room Manager shall inspect their competition uniform. The Call Room Manager shall also inspect the wrestlers to make sure that their skin is not covered with any greasy or sticky substance, or with perspiration. After the Call Room Manager has completed his/her inspection, the two wrestlers can proceed to FOP where the central referee greets them and makes them shake hands and begin the match as the referee's whistle.

### Article 12 - Start and Restart Position

Neutral position occurs at the beginning of the regular period and after all match interruptions. Both wrestlers stand opposite one another in the center of the circle and wait for the referee's whistle to start wrestling.

### Article 13 - Scoring for Actions and Holds during the bout

#### 1 point is the awarded to:

- the wrestler who manages to bring any of his opponent's body part to the ground, except the hands.
- the wrestler who manages to bring any of his opponent's body part out of the competition area.
- the wrestler whose opponent has received a caution for illegal action.

Note: the attacker (and only the attacker) can put one knee to the ground when executing an action if this action is finished by the opponent in the ground.

#### 3 points are awarded to:

- the wrestler who manages to expose his opponent's back to the ground during a takedown or a throw.

### Article 14 - Injury and Blood Time

The referee must stop the match and call for injury time if a wrestler is temporarily injured due to an incidental blow (i.e. eye poke, head collision, etc.). Injury/blood time per match cannot exceed 2 minutes per athlete otherwise the athlete loses his bout by injury.



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In the event of a wrestler bleeding, the referee shall stop the match and make the competition doctor intervene. The bleeding wrestler must get out of the competition area in order to be treated. Proper cleaning utensils and disinfectant solutions must be readily available at the doctor table. It is the competition doctor duty to determine whether the bleeding and spread of blood have been effectively stopped and whether or not the athlete may continue competition. In the case of a bloodied or torn garment that must be replaced, all athletes must have a backup uniform available by their corner.

## **Article 15 - Interruptions of the Match**

If for any reason the match must be interrupted (referees' consultation, etc.), the two wrestlers shall stand in the center of the circle facing the referees' table, without talking to anyone or taking liquids, and wait for the referee to call them back and resume the match.

## **Article 16 - End of the Match**

The first athlete to 3 points wins the match. If there is a tie at the end of the match, the following criteria will be used to declare the winner:

- Last point scored
- Weight of the athletes\*
- The lowest (smallest) number pulled during the draw/rank

\*Their weights (at the official weigh-in) will be checked and the lighter (lightweight) one will be declared as the winner.

## **Article 17 - Type of Victories (Classification points)**

- VFA - Victory by a 3-point takedown or throw, loser with no points:  
4 points winner - 0 points loser
- VFA1 - Victory by a 3-point takedown or throw, loser with points:  
4 points winner - 1 point loser
- VSU - Victory with 3 points but without a 3-point takedown or throw, loser with no points:  
2 points winner - 0 point loser
- VSU1 - Victory with 3 points but without a 3-point takedown or throw, loser with points:  
2 points winner - 1 point loser
- VPO - Victory with less than 3 points:  
1 point winner - 0 point loser
- VFO - Victory by forfeit:  
2 points winner - 0 point loser
- DSQ - Victory by disqualification:  
4 points winner - 0 point loser
- 2DSQ - Double disqualification:  
0 point for both wrestlers
- VIN - Victory by injury:  
1 point winner - 0 point loser
- VCA - Victory by 3 cautions:  
2 points winner - 0 point loser





## **SECTION FIVE - TECHNICAL INFRACTIONS**

### **Article 18 - Illegal Holds and Actions**

All offenses fall under the central referee's authority. If a wrestler violates the United World Wrestling Code of Ethics in a blatant and unsportsmanlike manner, the central referee (with the competition responsible agreement) shall disqualify him/her from the match or from the competition.

Cautions for illegal actions award 1 point to the opponent up to a total of 3 points during the same match, which results in the end of the match.

#### **Illegal actions include:**

- Holds causing dislocations
- Neck cranks
- Biting, punching, kicking, head butts, malicious cross faces
- Eye, ear, or nose gouging, fish hooking
- Pulling of hair, nose, ears, or attacking the groin
- Standing throws onto the head or neck (spikes)
- Coating the skin with any kind of greasy or slippery substance
- Stopping the match or leave the competition area for any reason
- Pretense of injury

## **SECTION SIX - REFEREEING BODY**

### **Article 19 - Composition**

All matches shall be refereed by a central referee and a technical secretary.

In major competitions, the members of the refereeing body shall in no case be of the same nationality or officiate in matches involving compatriot wrestlers.

### **Article 20 - Uniform**

The central referees and the technical secretary shall wear gray shorts and a white (or red according to the determination of the referee delegate) United World Wrestling Referee's polo. In addition, they shall wear a whistle around their neck and a black band on their left wrist and a white band on their right wrist.

### **Article 21 - General Duties**

The refereeing body shall perform all the duties set forth in these Regulations and in any special provision that might be established for the organization of a particular competition. The central referee is required to use the basic United World Wrestling terminology and signals appropriate to their respective roles when conducting the matches. The central referee's main duty consists in starting and interrupting the match, awarding the points, and imposing the penalties in order to determine the legitimate winner and loser.

At the end of the match the central referee and the technical secretary must sign the score sheet.



## **Article 22 - The Central Referee**

The central referee is responsible for the orderly conduct of the match that he shall direct according to the official United World Wrestling rules. He shall command the respect of the contestants and exercise full authority over them so that they immediately obey his orders and instructions. Similarly, he shall conduct the match without tolerating any irregular and outside interventions. After the execution of an action, he shall indicate the point by raising the hand corresponding to the color of the wrestler who scored.

The central referee's decisions prevail, but in case of doubt he may consult the technical secretary. In case no agreement can be reached, the Head Referee in charge of the competition will have the final say.

The central referee must stop the bout and replace the wrestler in the center of the circle if the action finished to the ground or to announce the winner. The central referee must also take care that the wrestlers stayed in the competition area until the results of the match is announced.

## **Article 23 - The technical secretary**

The technical secretary shall follow the course of the match very closely without allowing himself to be distracted in any way. Following each action and on the basis of the central referee's indications, he shall write the corresponding points on the score sheet.

### **Technical secretary's specific duties:**

- Fill in the score sheet
- Communicate with the central referee
- Control the announce of the matches
- Sign the score sheet

## **SECTION SEVEN - MEDICAL SERVICES**

The organizers of United World Wrestling events are responsible for providing medical service. The medical staff will be under the authority of a sport doctor in charge and will be responsible for conducting all medical examinations as well as giving medical surveillance during the entire event. During the competition, the medical staff shall be ready to intervene in the case of an accident or injury and decide whether a wrestler is fit to continue the match.

The Head medical officer has full authority to stop a match at any time if he deems either wrestler to be in danger. He may also stop a match if he feels a wrestler is medically unfit to continue. A wrestler shall not leave the circle in the event of a serious injury. In such case, the referee shall immediately stop the match and ask the Head medical officer to examine the wrestler on the spot.

## **Article 24 - Anti-Doping and Sanitary conditions**

All athletes participating in United World Wrestling sanctioned events agree to submit themselves to the United World Wrestling Anti-Doping Regulations and to the World Anti-Doping Code.

## **FINAL PROVISIONS**

The present Rules were approved by United World Wrestling and can be modified at any time if slight improvements are deemed necessary.

In case of a dispute regarding their interpretation and application, it is specified that the French version prevails.



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The contestants in beach wrestling events agree not to bring a dispute to civil court. Every disagreement will be settled by the Beach Wrestling Commission, the organ of appeal being the United World Wrestling Executive Committee. If no settlement is established, the parties can bring the case, at their own expense, to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), located in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Corsier-sur-Vevey, June 2019



## Appendix 1 - Pairing and Competition System

### Group stage

	Round 1			Round 2			Round 3			Classification		
	Num	Country		Num	Country		Num	Country		Rank	Country	Name
Group A	1			1			1			1 <sup>st</sup>		
	12			13			24			2 <sup>nd</sup>		
	13			12			12			3 <sup>rd</sup>		
	24			24			13			4 <sup>th</sup>		
Group B	2			2			2			1 <sup>st</sup>		
	11			14			23			2 <sup>nd</sup>		
	14			11			11			3 <sup>rd</sup>		
	23			23			14			4 <sup>th</sup>		
Group C	3			3			3			1 <sup>st</sup>		
	10			15			22			2 <sup>nd</sup>		
	15			10			10			3 <sup>rd</sup>		
	22			22			15			4 <sup>th</sup>		



Group stage

Group D	Round 1			Round 2			Round 3			Classification		
	Num	Country		Num	Country		Num	Country		Rank	Country	Name
	4			4			4			1 <sup>st</sup>		
	9			16			21			2 <sup>nd</sup>		
	16			9			9			3 <sup>rd</sup>		
	21			21			16			4 <sup>th</sup>		

Group E	Round 1			Round 2			Round 3			Classification		
	Num	Country		Num	Country		Num	Country		Rank	Country	Name
	5			5			5			1 <sup>st</sup>		
	8			17			20			2 <sup>nd</sup>		
	17			8			8			3 <sup>rd</sup>		
	20			20			17			4 <sup>th</sup>		

Group F	Round 1			Round 2			Round 3			Classification		
	Num	Country		Num	Country		Num	Country		Rank	Country	Name
	6			6			6			1 <sup>st</sup>		
	7			18			19			2 <sup>nd</sup>		
	18			7			7			3 <sup>rd</sup>		
	19			19			18			4 <sup>th</sup>		



With 20 wrestlers, the positions of the seeds are the same but by only using 5 groups instead of 6, as follows:

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Group E
1	2	3	4	5
10	9	8	7	6
11	12	13	14	15
20	19	18	17	16

With 16 wrestlers, the positions of the seeds are the same but by only using 4 groups instead of 6, as follows:

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
1	2	3	4
8	7	6	5
9	10	11	12
16	15	14	13

With 12 wrestlers, the positions of the seeds are the same but by only using 3 groups instead of 6, as follows:

Group A	Group B	Group C
1	2	3
6	5	4
7	8	9
12	11	10

With 8 wrestlers, the positions of the seeds are the same but by only using 2 groups instead of 6, as follows:

Group A	Group B
1	2
4	3
5	6
8	7

With 7 wrestlers, the positions of the seeds are the same but by only using 2 groups instead of 6, as follows:

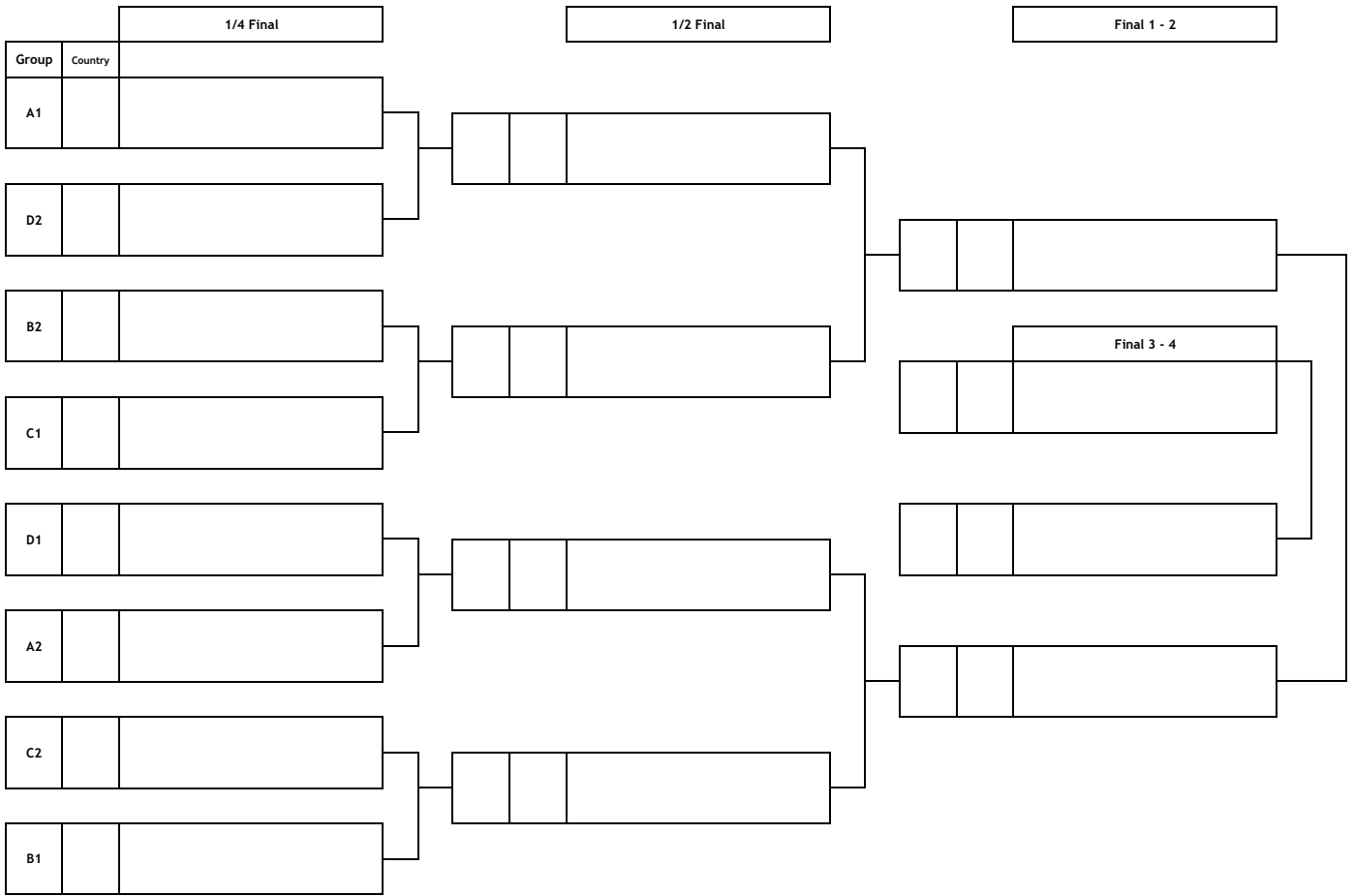
Group A	Group B
1	2
4	3
5	6
-----	7

With 6 wrestlers, the positions of the seeds are the same but by only using 2 groups instead of 6, as follows:

Group A	Group B
1	2
4	3
5	6

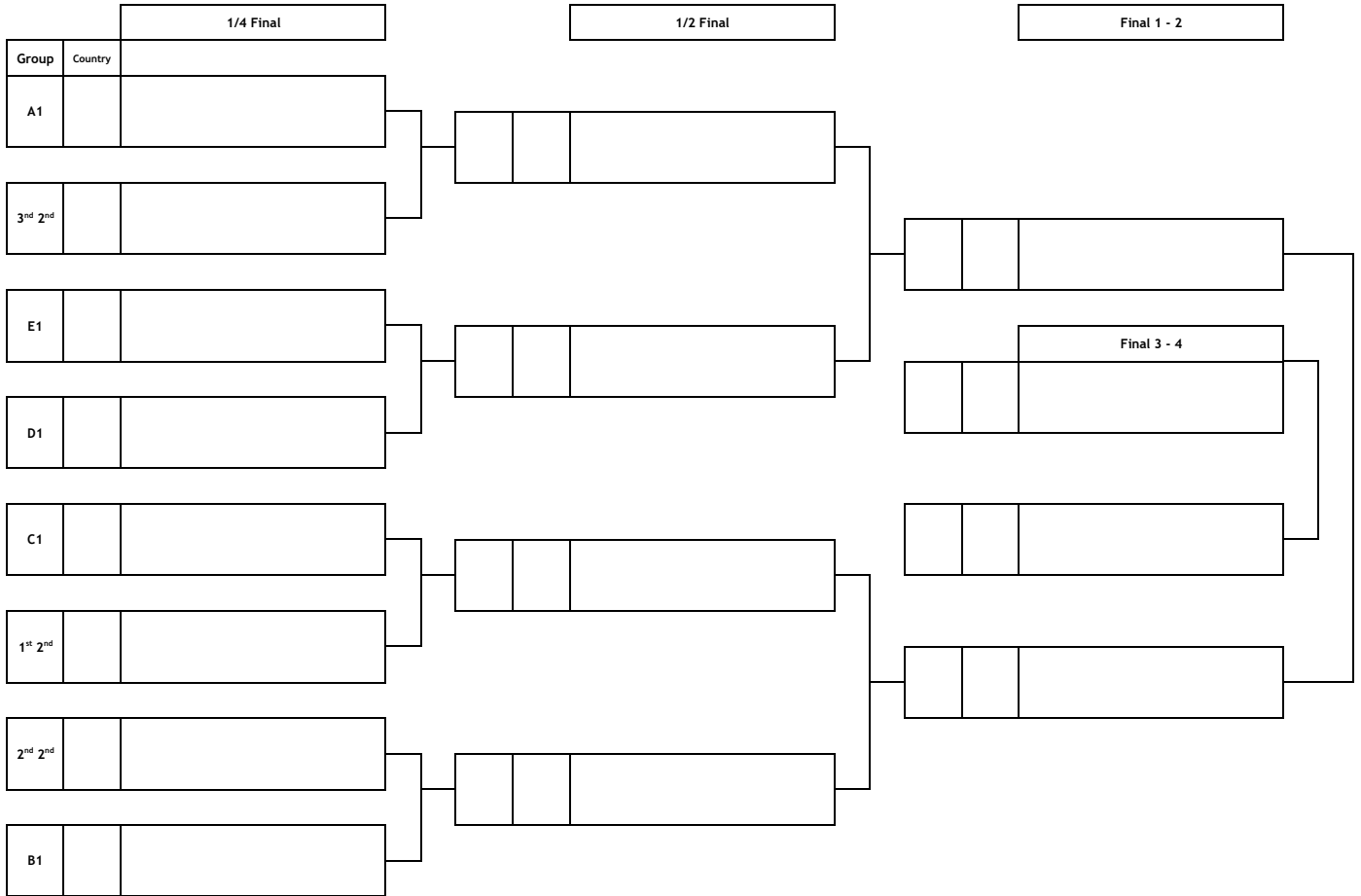


**Elimination stage (16 athletes)**





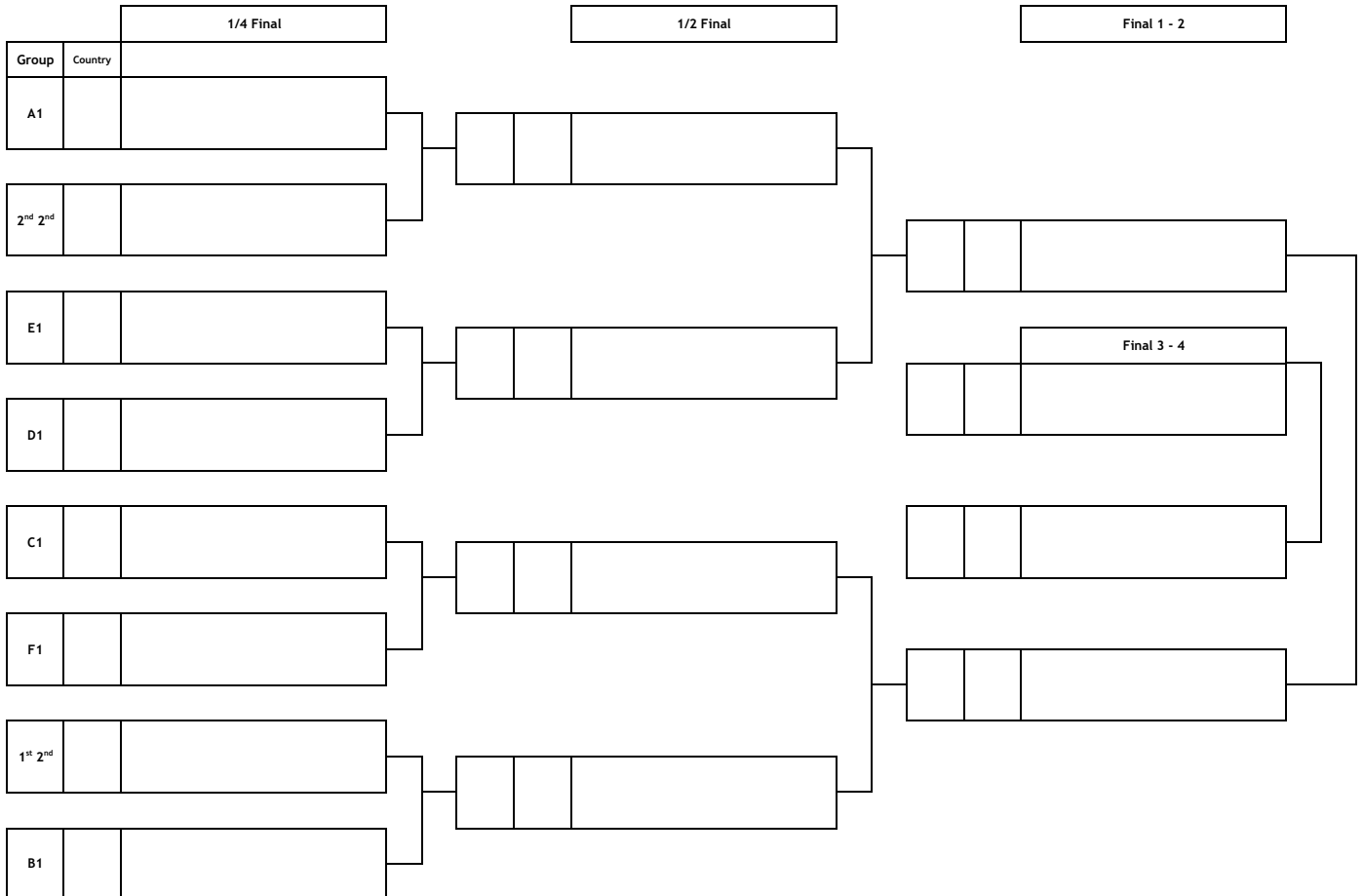
Elimination stage (20 athletes)







Elimination stage (24 athletes)





**Appendix 2 - Competition Schedule**

Day	Date	Session	Start Time	End Time	Event
1	Friday	Morning	10:00	13:00	R1 W Women's 50kg R1 W Women's 60kg R1 W Women's 70kg R1 W Women's +70kg R1 M Men 70kg R1 M Men 80kg R1 M Men 90kg R1 M Men +90kg
		Afternoon	15:00	18:00	R2 W Women's 50kg R2 W Women's 60kg R2 W Women's 70kg R2 W Women's +70kg R2 M Men 70kg R2 M Men 80kg R2 M Men 90kg R2 M Men +90kg
2	Saturday	Morning	10:00	13:00	R3 W Women's 50kg R3 W Women's 60kg R3 W Women's 70kg R3 W Women's +70kg R3 M Men 70kg R3 M Men 80kg R3 M Men 90kg R3 M Men +90kg
		Afternoon	15:00	18:00	QUARTER AND SEMI FINALS E W Women's 50kg E W Women's 60kg E W Women's 70kg E W Women's +70kg E M Men 70kg E M Men 80kg E M Men 90kg E M Men +90kg FINALS (1-2 & 3-4) F W Women's 50kg F M Men 70kg F W Women's 60kg F M Men's 80kg MC W Women's 50kg MC M Men's 70kg MC W Women's 60kg MC M Men's 80kg F W Women's 70kg F M Men's 90kg F W Women's +70kg F M Men's +90kg MC W Women's 70kg MC M Men's 90kg MC W Women's +70kg MC M Men's +90kg

Key: R1 = Group Stage Round 1 R2 = Group Stage Round 2 R3 = Group Stage Round 3 E = Elimination Stage F = Finals MC = Medal Ceremony M = Men W = Women

**Notes to the Competition Schedule:**

The session times are based on current knowledge of the anticipated athlete entries and are subject to change.



## Appendix 3 - Other age groups and competition system

### **A. Age and Weight Divisions for other age groups - Men and Women**

All contestants shall be able to provide a passport proving their age and nationality. Any athlete found competing in an age group lower than his/her designated age category shall be automatically disqualified from the immediate competition.

A National Wrestling Federation can enter a maximum of 3 athletes per weight category.

Note: If several age divisions are on the program of a United World Wrestling sanctioned event, athletes may only compete in one age group.

Cadets (16-17 years old\*)

- Men: 60,70, +70kg
- Women: 50, +50 kg

Juniors (18-20 years old\*\*)

- Men:60,70,80, +80kg
- Women: 50, 60, +60 kg

\*Cadets (from 15 with medical and parental certificate)

\*\*Juniors (from 17 with medical and parental certificate)

### **B. Competition System on other events**

The same competition system should be used in all Beach Wrestling events.



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