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NCAA RECOMMENDS EMERGING SPORTS STATUS FOR WOMEN'S WRESTLING

Women's Wrestling hits historic mark in the collegiate realm

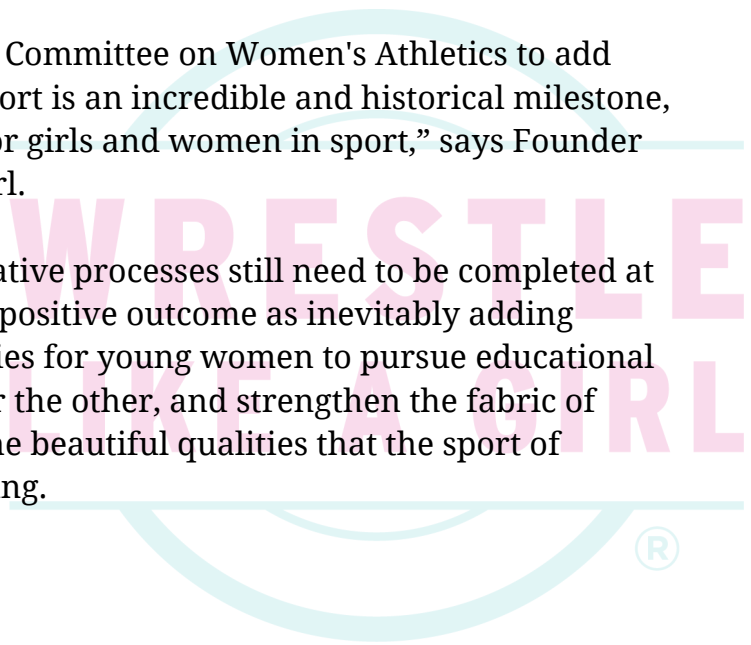
WASHINGTON, DC (6-1-2019) -- On Wednesday May 29th, the National Collegiate Athletic Association, (NCAA) Committee on Women's Athletics recommended NCAA Emerging Sports Status for "all three Divisions of the NCAA governance structure [to] add women's wrestling as an NCAA emerging sport, effective August 1, 2020."

This historic moment in the sport of wrestling is celebrated with a dedicated, collaborative effort among the leading wrestling entities; Wrestle Like A Girl, National Wrestling Hall of Fame, National Wrestling Coaches Association, USA Wrestling, NCWA, and the United States Olympic Committee.

After a month long review and consideration, the NCAA's Committee for Women's Athletics governance envisions the increase in opportunities for women through the collegiate sport of wrestling both on and off the mat.

"Attaining recommendation from the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics to add women's wrestling as an NCAA emerging sport is an incredible and historical milestone, and is a testament to the power of Title IX for girls and women in sport," says Founder and Executive Director of Wrestle Like A Girl.

"We understand that governance and legislative processes still need to be completed at each division (I,II, III). We are hopeful for a positive outcome as inevitably adding women's wrestling will increase opportunities for young women to pursue educational and athletic goals without sacrifice to one or the other, and strengthen the fabric of campuses and greater communities given the beautiful qualities that the sport of wrestling brings, but this is only the beginning.



Our focus is pivoting to supporting the build-out of women's wrestling programs to attain the 40 schools needed across divisions (I, II, & III) to attain Championship Status. Wrestle Like A Girl is honored to lead this effort in collaboration with the U.S.'s leading wrestling institutions: NCWA, USA Wrestling, National Wrestling Hall of Fame, and the USOC."

In addition, there are a total of 83 collegiate programs and counting that offer women's wrestling withing the NCAA, NAIA, and JUCO structures.

Girls wrestling is one of the fastest growing sports in the country with a total of 16 sanctioned states: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, Tennessee, Texas, Oregon, Washington, Washington, DC.

Along with the collaborative efforts of the National Wrestling Coaches Association, National Wrestling Hall of Fame, USA Wrestling, National Collegiate Wrestling Association, and the Untied States Olympic Committee, Wrestle Like A Girl is excited and humbled to be a part of this process and continue to persevere until Championship Status is attained, and thereafter.

Congratulations to everyone who helped make this a reality!



For inquiries please contact Victoria Diaz at vdiaz@wrestlelikeagirl.org

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ABOUT WRESTLE LIKE A GIRL

WRESTLE LIKE A GIRL, INC. IS A 501(C)3 WHOSE MISSION IS TO EMPOWER GIRLS AND WOMEN THROUGH THE SPORT OF WRESTLING TO BECOME LEADERS IN LIFE.
MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT WRESTLELIKEAGIRL.ORG.