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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

State Team Wrestling Tournament

BROOKLYN CENTER, Minn. --- A team champion in wrestling has been crowned at the Minnesota State High School League's state tournament since 1938. The annual tradition continues Thursday, Feb. 28 with 24 teams in three enrollment classifications chasing a championship. Here is a look at the team tournament:

Fast Facts

The schedule:

Thursday, Feb. 28, at Xcel Energy Center

Class A

Quarterfinals

Bertha-Hewitt/Verndale/Parkers Prairie (19-3) vs. No. 2 Tracy-Milroy-Balaton/Westbrook-Walnut Grove (29-4), 11 a.m.

Aitkin (15-12) vs. No. 3 Kenyon-Wanamingo (23-9), 11 a.m.

Goodhue (25-8) vs. No. 1 Long Prairie-Grey Eagle/Browerville (24-1), 11 a.m.

No. 5 Badger/Greenbush-Middle River (19-9) vs. No. 4 Atwater-Cosmos-Grove City (28-2), 11 a.m.

Championship semifinals --- 1 p.m.

Consolation semifinals --- 1 p.m.

Consolation final --- 5 p.m.

Third place --- 5 p.m.

Championship --- 7 p.m.

Class AA

Quarterfinals

Mahtomedi (22-13) vs. No. 2 Simley (26-2), 9 a.m.

Totino-Grace (16-5) vs. No. 3 Waconia (16-4), 9 a.m.

Mora (18-9) vs. No. 1 Perham (29-1), 9 a.m.

No. 5 Foley (31-3) vs. No. 4 Marshall (18-1), 9 a.m.

Consolation semifinals --- 11 a.m.

Championship semifinals --- 1 p.m.

Consolation final --- 5 p.m.

Third place --- 5 p.m.

Championship --- 7 p.m.

Class AAA

Quarterfinals

East Ridge (18-11) vs. No. 2 Stillwater Area (23-0), 9 a.m.

Eden Prairie (15-14) vs. No. 3 St. Michael-Albertville (20-5), 9 a.m.

Northfield (26-5) vs. No. 1 Shakopee (34-2-1), 9 a.m.

No. 5 Forest Lake (22-9) vs. No. 4 Bemidji (20-9), 9 a.m.

Consolation semifinals --- 11 a.m.

Championship semifinals --- 1 p.m.

Consolation final --- 5 p.m.

Third place --- 5 p.m.

Championship --- 7 p.m.

Webcast: The tournament will be streamed live and free of charge at

www.prepspotlight.tv .

Tickets: Single session --- \$16 adults, \$10 students. Daily pass --- \$30 adults, \$18 students.

Gates open: The Xcel Energy Center opens its gates to fans one hour prior to the first scheduled match of the session.

Match results: Posted on the League's website at www.mshsl.org

Social media: Follow the tournament on the League's Facebook page and on Twitter at @MSHSL and @MSHSLJohn.

Media credentials: A media credential is required to cover this event. Approved accredited media members and photographers must have credentials visible and must follow the guidelines in the MSHSL's Media Policy Manual.

State Tournament Notes

Class A

Long Prairie-Grey Eagle/Browerville earned the top seed in Class A following a 24-1 into the state tournament. Their only loss this season was to Detroit Lakes a month ago. In the 2018 tournament, LP-GE/B finished fourth in the eight-team field. **Tracy-Milroy-Balaton/Westbrook-Walnut Grove** is the No. 2 seed. They finished third in the 2018 tournament with a 38-18 victory over LP-GE-B in the third-place match. **Kenyon-Wanamingo**, the No. 3 seed this season, wrestled two matches in the 2018 tournament. It is the fourth consecutive trip for the program that was the Class A champion in 2016. **No. 4 Atwater-Cosmos-Grove City** is making its 12th state tournament trip. The Falcons have the Class A championship in 2007 and a runner-up finish in 2014 on its resume. **Badger/Greenbush-Middle River** is the No. 5 seed and making its sixth state tournament trip and first since 2012. **Aitkin** is making a state tournament trip for the first time since 2008 and fifth trip overall. **Goodhue** is making its first state tournament trip since 2002 and 13th overall. The Wildcats were the 1980 Class A co-champion and the 2001 Class A champ. **Bertha-Hewitt/Verndale/Parkers Prairie** is making its sixth state tournament trip and first since 2014.

Class AA

Perham is the top seed in the Class AA field. The Yellowjackets, making their fifth consecutive state trip and 12th overall, are seeking their first state team title. Perham's only loss this season was a 35-33 setback to Waverly (Iowa) Shell Rok during the Clash Duals. **Simley** defeated three-time defending Class AA champion Kasson-Mantorville in the section final. Simley, the most successful Class AA wrestling program, has won seven crowns at this enrollment level. The Spartans, the No. 2 seed this season, lost to Perham 38-22 earlier this month. No. 3 seed **Waconia** made its only other state tournament appearance as Waconia/Mayer Lutheran in 1999. **Marshall**, the No. 4 seed, is making its state tournament debut. The Tigers' only loss is to Fairmont/Martin County West. No 5 **Foley**, making its 12th consecutive state tournament trip, is seeking its first

state title since a Class A co-championship in 1994. **Mahtomedi** is making its state tournament debut, too. The Zephyrs open against Simley in the quarterfinals, a team they lost to during the Metro East Conference schedule. During the season, Mahtomedi had a nine-dual winning streak. **Totino-Grace** is making its seventh consecutive state tournament trip. The Eagles made eight in a row from 1999-2006. This is the third trip for **Mora** and first since 2016.

Class AAA

Shakopee was awarded the top seed in the big-school class. The Sabres were the Class AAA runner-up to St. Michael-Albertville during the 2018 state tournament. Shakopee's only two dual losses this season were to outstate schools at the Clash Duals. No. 2 **Stillwater** is making its third consecutive state tournament trip and seventh overall. Tim Hartung, a two-time national champion with the University of Minnesota, is in his first season as the Ponies' head coach. **St. Michael-Albertville**, the No. 3 seed, is the defending champion and making its 21st consecutive state tournament trip. **Bemidji** is the No. 4 seed and in the tournament for the first time since 2011. The Lumberjacks open against No. 5 **Forest Lake** in the quarterfinals. Earlier this month, Bemidji defeated Forest Lake 37-29. Forest Lake is making its first state tournament trip since a dominating run to a Class AA championship in 1993. **East Ridge**, making its first state tournament trip, faces Stillwater in the quarterfinal. The Raptors lost to the Ponies in a Suburban East Conference dual earlier this season. **Eden Prairie** is making its third state tournament trip and faces STMA in the quarterfinals. STMA joins Eden Prairie in the Lake Conference this fall. **Northfield** returns for the second time and first since 2010.