

Episode 17 Wednesday January 18, 2023, 3PM EST

What I've learned so far from researching is that to win the Stanley Cup, you have to make the playoffs.

-Ted Leonsis (Owner of the Washington Capitals)

Episode
17-1

The MatStats boys research the conference qualifiers. They inform the viewers how you qualify for the Men's & Women's NCAA & NAIA national championships. The gang also does a statistical dive into the inordinate number of defaults in the placement bouts in the NCAA Men's (D1, D2, & D3) conference qualifiers. They explain why this happens and how other sports are affected.

I Feel Like A Number

Episode
17-2

To the fans I'm just a drone
To my wireless service I'm just another phone
I'm just a statistic on a bout sheet
To the teachers I'm just another child
To the IRS I'm just another file
I'm just a correlation on the stat sheet

I feel like a number
I feel like a number
I'm not a number, I'm not a number

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
17-3

- 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.

What is the most memorable, talked about, and important thing in college wrestling?

The national tournaments are the focal point of college wrestling. The NCAA Men's D1 championships are easily the most attended.

Episode
17-4

- The Men's D1 NCAA is the Super Bowl of college wrestling.
 - Everything else takes a backseat.
- Even the USA Olympic qualifiers and the Olympic wrestling do not compare with attendance or interest.
 - MatStats has been a strong proponent of including NCAA women's wrestling on the same weekend, same arena, and same time as the NCAA Men's D1 championships.
- This could help grow women's wrestling in number of teams, number of women's wrestlers, and interest in women's wrestling.

How do wrestlers get to the national tournaments?

Wrestlers qualify for their respective national tournaments in 2022 in conference qualifying tournaments.

Episode
17-5

- College wrestling has national qualifying tournaments across all divisions.
- It is the primary way to qualify for the national tournaments.
- NCAA Men's D2 & D3 qualifying tournaments take the top 3 in each weight to the respective NCAA tournaments.
- NCAA Men's D1 has pre-allocated qualifiers based on conferences and weights. There are also at-large bids.
- NAIA Men have 9 qualifiers.
- NCAA Women have 4 regionals with top 5 in each weight qualifying.
- NAIA Women is an invitational.

How many wrestlers qualify for the Men's NCAA D1 Championships in 2022 & 2023?

There are 330 wrestlers in the 2022- & 2023-Men's NCAA D1 Championships. 33 in each weight class.

Episode
17-6



The 330 wrestlers are selected based on pre-allocated spots per conference per weight class and at large selections.



The pre-allocation is based on record, your opponents record, and your opponents' opponents record.



There is also a human element with coaches weighing in on who should be in the NCAA Men's D1 Championships.

In 2022 & 2023, there are 7 qualifying tournaments for the Men's NCAA D1 Championships.

Episode
17-7

- The 7 Qualifying Tournaments for Men's NCAA D1 are -
- 1) ACC
- 2) Big 12
- 3) Big 10
- 4) EIWA
- 5) MAC
- 6) Pac 12
- 7) Southern

How many qualifiers in the 2022 Men's NCAA D1 Championships were pre-allocated before the qualifying tournaments?

In 2022 the Men's NCAA D1 Championships, 287 of the 330 spots (87%) were pre-allocated to conferences and weights.

Episode 17-8

[illegible]

What percentage of the 2023 Men’s D1 NCAA Championships are pre-allocated?

Currently 80% of all qualifiers for the Men’s 2023 NCAA D1 Championships are pre-allocated.

Episode
17-9

2023	Men’s	NCAA D1	Championships
Pre-allocated	266	80.61%	subject to change
At large	64	19.39%	
Total	330	100%	

How common were defaults in the 2022 Big 10 Championships?

Episode
17-10

In 2022, the Big 10 has 33% Defaults for 3rd,5th,7th places, 20% defaults in championship matches, and 8% of all matches are defaults in the normal modified double elimination rounds.

	Big 10	2022		Champi	onships		Defaul	ts					
	125	133	141	149	157	165	174	184	197	285	Total	Matches	%
Champ before semis	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	100	1%
Champ semi	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	20	10%
Champ Finals	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	10	20%
Conso before semis	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	80	1%
Conso semi	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	20	15%
3 5 7	2	1	1	2	0	1	2	1	0	0	10	30	33%
1 3 5 7	2	1	2	2	0	1	2	1	0	1	12	40	30%
Total	5	2	6	4	0	4	6	2	0	2	21	260	8%

19 of the 21 defaults in the 2022 Big 10's were in matches where the defaulting wrestler already had qualified.

How common were defaults in the 2021 Big 10 Championships?

In 2021, the Big 10 Championships had 10% defaults in the 3rd, 5th, 7th place bouts and 2% of all matches were defaults in the normal modified double elimination rounds.

Episode
17-11

Big 10 2021			Defaults										
	125	133	141	149	157	165	174	184	197	285	Total	Matches	%
Champ Before semis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	99	0%
Champ Semis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	20	5%
Champ Finals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0%
Conso Before Semis	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	79	3%
Conso Semis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0%
3 5 7	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	30	10%
Total	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	1	6	258	2%

How common were defaults in the 2020 Big 10 Championships?

In 2020, the Big 10 Championships had 13% of all 3rd, 5th, 7th place matches and 5% of all matches were defaults in the normal modified double elimination rounds.

Episode
17-12

Big 10 2020	125	133	141	149	157	165	174	184	197	285	Total	Matches	%
Champ before semis	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	99	2%
Champ Semis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0%
Champ Finals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0%
Conso Before semis	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	4	79	5%
Conso semis	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	20	10%
3 5 7	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	4	30	13%
Total	0	0	1	1	2	3	0	2	3	0	12	258	5%

How common were defaults in the 2022 Men's EIWA qualifier?

In the 2022 EIWA, there were 30% defaults in the 5th place bout and 7.5% for all placing bouts.

Episode
17-13

EIWA	2022	Defaults										
	125	133	141	149	157	165	174	184	197	285	Total	%
1st	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
3rd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
5th	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	30.00%
7th	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	7.50%

In the 3 defaults in the EIWA 5th place bouts, none of these had a pre-allocated qualifying bid on the line.

How common were defaults in 2022 Big 12 Championships?

In the 2022 Big 12 Championships, there were 20% defaults in the 5th place bouts and 5% for all placing bouts.

Episode
17-14

Big 12	2022	Defaults										
	125	133	141	149	157	165	174	184	197	285	Total	%
1st	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
3rd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
5th	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	20.00%
7th	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	5.00%

In the 2022 Big 12, there were 2 defaults. Neither had a pre-allocated bid on the line.

How common were defaults in the 2022 Pac 12 Championships?

In the 2022 Pac 12 Championships there were 20% defaults for the 5th place bouts and 6.67% in all the placing bouts.

Episode
17-15

Pac 12	2022	Defaults										
	125	133	141	149	157	165	174	184	197	285	Total	%
1st	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
3rd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
5th	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	20.00%
Total	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	6.67%

There were 2 defaults in the 2022 Pac 12's, none were for pre-allocated bids.

How common were defaults in the 2022 ACC Championships?

The ACC had 10% defaults in the 3rd place bouts and 4% in all placing bouts. They only wrestle for 5th if there is a bid on the line.

Episode
17-16

ACC	2022	Defaults										
	125	133	141	149	157	165	174	184	197	285	Total	%
1st	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
3rd	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10.00%
5th		0			0			0				0.00%
Total	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4.35%

The 1 default in the 2022 ACC's was not for a pre-allocated bid.

How common were defaults in the 2022 MAC Championships?

In 2022, The MAC had 20% defaults in both the 5th & 7th place bouts and 10% for all placing bouts.

Episode
17-17

MAC	2022	Defaults										
	125	133	141	149	157	165	174	184	197	285	Total	%
1st	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
3rd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
5th	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	20%
7th	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	20%
Total	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	4	10%

In the 2022 MAC's there were 4 defaults, none of them involved pre-allocated bids.

How common were defaults in the 2022 Southern Championships?

In 2022 there were NO defaults in their 20 placing bouts. This was the only conference in NCAA D1, D2, & D3 in 2022 without any defaults in the placing rounds.

Episode
17-18

Southern	2022	Defaults
	Total	%
1st	0	0.00%
3rd	0	0.00%
Total	0	0.00%

The Southern Conference was the only qualifier in all the Men's NCAA (D1, D2, & D3) not to have any defaults in placement bouts.

In 2022 at the NCAA D1 Men's qualifying tournaments how many defaults were there in placing bouts?
How many of these defaults were in bouts where qualification was on the line?

At the 2022 Men's D1 qualifying tournaments, there were 25 defaults (11%) in the placing bouts. None of these defaults were in bouts where you had to win to qualify.

Episode
17-19

NCAA	Men's	D1	2022	
Conference	Placing bouts Defaults	Placing bouts	% Defaults in Placing bouts	% Defaults in qualifying bouts
Big 10	12	40	30%	0%
EIWA	3	40	8%	0%
Big 12	2	40	5%	0%
MAC	4	40	10%	0%
Pac 12	3	30	10%	0%
ACC	1	23	4%	0%
Southern	0	20	0%	0%
Total	25	233	11%	0%

How many wrestlers qualify for the Men's NCAA D2 Championships? How many qualifiers are there?
How many wrestlers qualify at each weight at each qualifier?

The Men's NCAA D2 Championships has 180 wrestlers, 18 in each weight class, the top 3 at each weight qualify for the NCAA's.

Episode
17-20

- There are 180 wrestlers in the Men's NCAA D2 Championships.
 - This was for the 2022 Men's NCAA D2 Championships.
 - It is scheduled this way for 2023-2026.
 - There are 6 Super Regional Qualifying Tournaments.
 - Each Super Regional brings 30 wrestlers to the NCAA's.
 - Each qualifier has 6 place winners in each weight.
- The top 3 wrestlers in each weight advance. Each weight has 18 wrestlers.
- This makes the 3rd place bout the most meaningful to many wrestlers, teams, and coaches.

How common were defaults in the 2022 Men's NCAA D2 Qualifiers?

In the 2022 Men's NCAA D2 Qualifiers 19% of the 1st & 5th place bouts were defaults.

Episode
17-21

NCAA	D2 23-26				18/weight	top 3	2022	Defaults			
		1st	%	3rd	%	5th	%	Total	%	Tot w/o 3	%
Super Reg 1	30	0	0%	0	0%	3	30%	3	10%	3	15%
Super Reg 2	30	3	30%	0	0%	4	40%	7	23%	7	35%
Super Reg 3	30	2	20%	0	0%	6	60%	8	27%	8	40%
Super Reg 4	30	0	0%	0	0%	2	20%	2	7%	2	10%
Super Reg 5	30	0	0%	0	0%	2	20%	2	7%	2	10%
Super Reg 6	30	0	0%	0	0%	1	10%	1	3%	1	5%
Total	180	5	8.33%	0	0%	18	30.00%	23	12.78%	23	19.17%

There are no defaults in the 3rd place bouts which are the bouts you must win to advance.

How many wrestlers qualify for the Men's NCAA D3 Championships? How many qualifiers are there?

How many wrestlers qualify at each weight at each qualifier?

The Men's NCAA D3 Championships has 180 wrestlers, 18 in each weight class, the top 3 at each weight qualify for the NCAA's.

Episode
17-22

- There are 180 wrestlers in the Men's NCAA D3 Championships.
 - This was for the 2022 Men's NCAA D3 Championships.
 - It is scheduled this way for 2023-2026.
 - There are 6 Regional Qualifying Tournaments.
 - Each Regional brings 30 wrestlers to the NCAA's.
 - Each qualifier has 8 place winners in each weight.
 - The top 3 wrestlers in each weight advance. Each weight has 18 wrestlers.
- This makes the 3rd place bout the most meaningful to many wrestlers, teams, and coaches.

How common were defaults in the 2022 Men's D3 qualifiers?

In 2022, the percentage of defaults in the Men's NCAA D3 placing bouts (excluding 3rd place) was 14%.

Episode
17-23

Men's	NCAA	D3	Championships				Defaults		18/weight		Top 3	Advance	
		1st	%	3rd	%	5th	%	7th	%	Total	%	Tot w/o 3	%
Central	30	2	20%	0	0%	1	10%	3	30%	6	15%	6	20%
Upper Midwest	30	1	10%	0	0%	3	30%	1	10%	5	13%	5	17%
Southeast	30	2	20%	0	0%	2	20%	1	10%	5	13%	5	17%
Lower Midwest	30	1	10%	0	0%	2	20%	4	40%	7	18%	7	23%
Mideast	30	1	10%	0	0%	0	0%	1	10%	2	5%	2	7%
Northeast	30	0	0%	0	0%	1	10%	0	0%	1	3%	1	3%
Total	180	7	11.67%	0	0%	9	15.00%	10	16.67%	26	10.83%	26	14.44%

There were no defaults in the 3rd place bouts which is the match you must win to advance.

In all (D1, D2, & D3) the 2022 NCAA qualifiers, how many defaults were there in placing bouts?
How many of these defaults were in placing bouts you had to win to qualify?

In NCAA Men’s D1, D2, & D3 qualifiers in 2022, there were 74 (11%) defaults in placing bouts. There were 0 in placing bouts you had to win to qualify for NCAA’s.

Episode
17-24

NCAA	Men	D1 D2 D3	2022	
Division	Defaults in Placing Bouts	Number of Placing Bouts	% of Defaults in Placing Bouts	% Defaults in Qualifying Bouts
Men's D1	25	233	11%	0%
Men's D2	23	180	13%	0%
Men's D3	26	240	11%	0%
Total	74	653	11%	0%

How many qualifying tournaments were there for men in the NAIA for 2022?

In 2022, the NAIA had 9 conference qualifying tournaments and 280 wrestlers in their National tournament. New in 2023 there will be 28 in each weight.

Episode
17-25

- In 2022, the Men's NAIA wrestling had 9 Conference qualifying tournaments.
- 1) American Midwest
- 2) Appalachian Athletic
- 3) Cascade Collegiate
- 4) Great Plains
- 5) Heart of America
- 6) Kansas Collegiate Athletic
- 7) Mid-South
- 8) Sooner Athletic
- 9) Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic

The 2022 NAIA Men's National Championships had 281 wrestlers.

The NCAA for women was not an official NCAA event in 2022 and we saw the first NAIA Women's National Championships.

Episode
17-26

- This show is biased on the amount of information, data, and time spent on NCAA men.
- MatStats had to do this because of the amount of data available and the time the qualifiers have been in existence.
- There were also more requests from fans on the NCAA Men's D1 qualifiers to MatStats.
 - MatStats takes all collegiate wrestling seriously and thinks they are all equally important.
- MatStats next episode (Wednesday 2/15/23) is dedicated to only women's wrestling.

How did the women qualify for the NCAA in 2022? How many regionals were there? How many women qualified?

In 2022 in the women's NCAA, there were 4 regionals, there were 40 teams, 32 teams had qualifiers, and 191 qualifiers.

Episode
17-27

NCAA	Women	2022	max 15/team
Region	Teams	Team with Qualifiers	Qualifiers
Northeast	12	11	49
Southeast	8	7	44
Northwest	10	7	48
Southwest	10	7	50
Total	40	32	191

The top 5 placers
At each weight at
each qualifier
Advance to the NCAA
(Cliff Keen) Wrestling
Championships in 2022.

Here are the updates for the 2023 NCAA Women's qualifiers.

Episode
17-28

- 4 Regions.
- Top 4 in each region advance.
 - A true 4th place.
- A school can have 15 wrestlers advance at most.
 - Two per weight class.

How did the NAIA women qualify for the 2022 NAIA national tournament?

Episode
17-29

In 2022, the NAIA women's national tournament was an invitational. 2023 will be the first NAIA women's championships.

- Brackets were designed by the NAIA-Wrestling Coaches Association Bracketing Committee, considering the number of byes and teammate pairings. The brackets are subject to change and are not considered official until ratified by the NAIA-Wrestling Coaches' Association Bracketing Committee.
- 2023 is the inaugural NAIA Women's Wrestling National Championships.
 - NAIA women have 5 regional qualifiers.
- There will be 210 qualifiers. 160 are allocated by rankings, then conference at large, then an additional 10 National at large.
 - The start of something great!

How do the men & women qualify for the national tournament at the NCWA?

The NCWA Men & Women qualify for their national tournaments through 9 different regional qualifiers. The NCWA Nationals are in Puerto Rico in 2023.

Episode
17-30

- The 9 regional qualifiers in the NCWA are -
- 1) Great Lakes
- 2) Mid-Atlantic
- 3) Mid-East
- 4) Northeast
- 5) Northwest
- 6) Puerto Rico
- 7) Southeast
- 8) Southwest
- 9) West Coast

Should there be an NCAA D1 Men's Dual Meet Team Championship?

MatStats will have a future episode on the thought of a Men's NCAA D1 Dual Meet national championship.

Episode
17-31

- We just saw the Multi-Divisional National Dual Meet championship.
- It was great. A good time was had by all.
- Why was the NCAA Men's D1 no there?
- Everyone was in Louisville for the world's largest indoor cocktail party. Even that there was no alcohol.
- Should we have an NCAA D1 Dual Meet Team Championship.
- This will be discussed by NWCA MatStats on a future show.
- Feel free to contact us with ideas.
- Twitter @NWCAMatStats

Episode 17 MatCliff's Notes #1

Episode
17-32

- 1) People remember the NCAA Championships more than the qualifiers of regular season.
- 2) The Men's NCAA D1 Championship tournament is the biggest wrestling event. One of the biggest in all of college sports.
- 3) We should have women at the same time, same place as the men at the NCAA D1 Championships. We would be the only NCAA sport to do that.
- 4) NCAA Men's D1 qualify from a combination of pre-allocated spots (based on a formula) and coaches at-large bids.
- 5) NCAA Men's D2 & D3 qualify top 3 at each weight at all 6 regional qualifiers.

Episode 17 MatCliff's Notes #2

Episode
17-33

- 6) In 2022, there were 74 defaults or 11% across all conference qualifiers in all 3 divisions in placing bouts.
- 7) In 2022, NONE of these defaults in placing matches were in bouts you need to win to go to the NCAA's.
- 8) Only the MAC had no defaults in their placing rounds in 2022.
- 9) Basketball is not like this because in many conferences you must win to advance, there are no 3rd, 5th, 7th place games. There is too much money on the line with TV for a Power 5 team to default in a conference championship game.
- 10) The NFL has already seen this, and NCAA football could be next to prevent injuries before the playoffs.

Episode
17-34

- Grow
Women's
Wrestling!



What is the topic next month (Wednesday 2/15/23 3PM EST)?

Status of Women's Wrestling

Episode
16-35

- Tune In Next Month
 - Same Mat Time
 - Same Mat Channel
- Next month show is on the Women's Wrestling.
- MatStats will explore the stats in the Women's Collegiate Wrestling.
- MatStats hopes to see everyone Wednesday 2/15/23 at 3PM EST.