

## WWB Modifications (final) to FILA Grappling Rules (basic short form)

**\*\*Modified 09 September 2014**

### A. Gender/Age/Weight Categories (WWB Modification):

The same age/weight/gender categories as the WWB FreeStyle Wrestling apply:

1. Separate Male and Female categories (requires legal proof like a Passport or Driver's License)
2. **OPEN 35 and under as of date of competition weigh-in**
3. **MASTERS 36 – 49 as of date of competition weigh-in**
4. **VETERANS 50 and over as of date of competition weigh-in**
5. Kilograms: 48 52 57 62 68 74 82 90 100 130 +130 corresponds to  
Pounds: 105.5 114.5 125.5 136.5 149.5 163 180.5 198 220 286 +286
6. Tournament Pairers will handle exhibition bouts in the event there is not at least a 3 person Round Robin per bracket. Refer to the WWB Pairings Process document.

### B. Skill/Belt Categories:

1. GGs9 Grappling Competition is primarily focused on White Belts.
- \*\*2. Grapplers **can** provide proof of their Belt with contact information (email address) of school and/or instructor that awarded the Belt **if they choose to. IT IS NOT REQUIRED, but it helps the Pairing Process!**
3. There will be no submission joint holds below the waist, no wrist or finger locks, and no neck cranks like can openers.
- \*\*4. There **could** be a separate Blue/Purple/Black Belt competition if there are enough registrants who qualify and register. However we will not know those numbers until **August**. We welcome Blue/Purple/Black Belts to also help us run the tournament. If there is a critical mass of Blue/Purple/Black Belts who wish to compete, mutually agreed upon rules will be adjusted more appropriately at that time by the officials and the competitors. **Otherwise those above White Belt will compete under WWB Modified FILA White Belt rules!**

### C. Skin Checks & Blood Rule (WWB Modification 28<sup>th</sup> July 2014):

1. **The standard USA Wrestling/FILA skin checks by a dermatologist will occur at the common weigh-in with the FreeStyle wrestlers at the Sunday Weigh-Ins**
2. The standard **USA Wrestling/FILA Blood Rule** will apply... i.e... Bout will be stopped when there is blood. Bout will be resumed when bleeding has stopped and the blood on the mat is cleaned up.

### D. Required Gear (WWB Modification):

1. Singlet or NO-GI RashGuard or BareChest, with Compression Shorts or Board Shorts w/ no buckles or pockets..  
**red/blue gear preferred**
2. Wrestling Shoes or Bare Feet
3. No earrings or piercings
4. Cup optional
5. HeadGear permitted if BOTH competitors agree to it..

### E. Maximum Duration of the match (WWB Modification 28<sup>th</sup> July 2014):

**OPEN 7 minutes**  
**MASTERS 6 minutes**  
**VETERANS 5 minutes**

### F. Starting Positions:

1. Neutral Start Default is Standing.. WWB modification: Grapplers can choose to start on their knees facing each other **if they both agree at the start of the bout**
2. Neutral/Open Guard Restart (go out of bounds or stoppage with leg defenses in play)
3. Side Control Restart (go out of bounds or stoppage after points for side mount)
4. Mount Restart (go out of bounds or stoppage after points for full mount)
5. Back Control Restart (go out of bounds or stoppage after points for back mount)

### **G. Technical Points:**

- Takedown 1 point
- Side Mount 2 points
- Full Mount 3 points
- Back Mount 4 points
- Pass Guard 1 point
- Re-establishing Neutral 1 point (closed guard is the only recognized neutral ground position)
- Reversal 1 point (reversals from a disadvantaged position or any bottom position without direct establishment of a dominant position)

*Control must be established for a count of 3 seconds to score any of the points.*

### **H. Situations of Pulling Guard:**

1. Jumping or sitting into guard from a standing position *with* contact and *with* a deliberate attempt of a submission move or takedown will *NOT* be penalized by a caution and will *NOT* award 1 point TakeDown to the opponent... This is initiating pulling Guard from standing, and considered Neutral (**FILA** and **NAGA** are the same).

**2. Jumping or sitting into inviting guard from a standing position without having made contact to avoid standing or ground fight will be penalized by a caution and will award a 1 point TakeDown to the opponent as soon as he makes contact. This is standard FILA (NAGA treats this as a NEUTRAL like #1 above). The WWB Modification is to follow the FILA interpretation stressing to the officials the initiated contact aspect of 'Inviting Guard' from standing. E.g... In UFC MMA, a grappler who invites guard without initiated contact is ordered to stand up after a few seconds.**

### **I. Passivity:**

When the action has stalled, the referee shall stimulate the athletes with verbal commands ("Action" or "Open" Red/Blue) without interrupting the match. If the passivity does not stop, the referee shall indicate the passive grappler by raising the fist bearing the corresponding color and give the appropriate penalty according to following progression: **Warning, 1st caution = 1point, 2nd caution = 1 point, 3rd caution = disqualification**

### **J. Illegal Techniques:**

All offenses fall under the central referee's authority who shall give the appropriate penalties according to the following progression: **1st caution = 1point, 2nd caution = 1 point, 3rd caution = disqualification** . Any illegal action executed to counter a submission will result in immediate disqualification.

### **K. Overtime:**

**1 minute.** The first point scored wins the match. The choice of position (either open guard top or bottom or standing) is given according to the following criteria: 1) most passivity infractions, 2) lowest value of points, 3) coin flip. The grappler who gets to choose the position must score otherwise his opponent receives 1 point and wins the match.

Types of Victories:

1. Submission (5-0)
2. Forfeit / Default (5-0)
3. Disqualification (5-0)
4. Technical Superiority (4-0) or (4-1)
5. Decision (3-0) or (3-1)
6. Overtime (2-0) or (2-1)

For Technical Superiority, Decision, and Overtime victories, 1 match classification point will be awarded to the loser if he managed to score 1 or more technical points during the match.

### **Notes:**

These WWB Modifications to the standard FILA Rules were done with extensive input and evaluation of FILA and NAGA Rules, as well as overriding deference to SAFETY and the GayGames standard of **Inclusion, Participation, and Personal Best**. . This working group included direct and indirect input from many qualified grapplers and instructors with exceptional gravitas (Purple/Black Belt champion competitors, revered icons (like one of the BJJ Gracie family), and many average Blue Belt competitors). The strong consensus reached balanced a lot of factors and (*except for the H2 FILA/NAGA Rule difference on pulling guard from standing*) was reassuring to WWB which has taken on the difficult task of finally getting this very popular grappling event into the GayGames under FILA aegis. This was the criteria that WWB used:

1. FILA is the sanctioning body for the GayGames Wrestling and Grappling event because they have supplied the basic rules, insurance, and officials as a package deal through their local organizations to the GayGames and the local WWB clubs since 1982.
2. All competitors in Freestyle and Grappling will be required to obtain the **-same-** FILA local affiliate membership card (~\$50 in the United States and Canada). Serious competitors should already have them if they are in FILA affiliated clubs. This is normal procedure for getting medical and liability insurance coverage for practices and tournaments. Competitor cards can be obtained at <http://themat.com> . This 'common licensing' permits competitors to compete in BOTH FreeStyle and Grappling events under a single sanctioning umbrella. This will be different when the GGs Host is not in the USA.
3. WWB appreciates that NAGA is more widespread and popular for Grappling in the United States and Canada, while FILA is more European focused. However the rule differences **for the competitor** were considered negligible. This decision does not preclude revisiting this FILA/NAGA sanctioning issue in the future, where it is the hope that more grappling oriented people will step up in WWB and manage this grappling section of the WWB/GayGames RedBook.
4. FILA through their local affiliates (like New South Wales Wrestling in 2002) have been receptive to WWB Modifications in the GayGames RedBook that enhance SAFETY and **Inclusion, Participation, and Personal Best**. The expanded current FILA Grappling Rules are not up to the standards of their current Olympic FreeStyle and GRECO rules, and reflect an older deference to the more militaristic SAMBO, especially around health and safety, hence the WWB Modifications to the exclusionary HIV/HEP 'Blood rule' and the implied drug testing.
5. It was deemed too burdensome at this time to evaluate and procure a NAGA Sanctioning given WWB has no LGBT history with them.