

Who is GTC?

The **Grove Takedown Club** (GTC) is a non-profit youth wrestling club located in Grove, OK committed to providing boys and girls ages 4-15 in the surrounding Grand Lake area, the opportunity to wrestle in a safe and positive environment.

The GTC annual membership fee is \$65 (\$45 for additional siblings) and includes a GTC t-shirt for the wrestler. Part of this fee covers the membership to [Oklahoma Kids Wrestling Association \(OKWA\)](#), which is required to participate in OKWA sanctioned tournaments.

GTC sign-ups typically begin in OCT with practices beginning in NOV and tournaments beginning in DEC through mid-FEB. Practices are offered 3 times a week (M/T/Th) from 6-7pm for beginners (1st or 2nd year; Novice) and 6-8pm for advanced (Open), held in the Grove High School wrestling room inside the GHS fieldhouse (located on west side of school). Most tournaments are held on Saturdays, with the exception of a few on Sundays. Examples of past locations include Sallisaw, Tulsa, Skiatook, Vinita, Salina, Locust Grove, etc.

Tournament participation is not mandatory. You decide which tournaments your wrestler will attend. GTC's team schedule will be determined based upon release of the [OKWA tournament schedule](#). Most tournament registration fees are \$15 (plus \$1 processing fee), and due 24 prior to the tournament entry deadline as outlined on the week's tournament flyer. Payments are to be made to Grove Takedown Club and the GTC Board will handle enrolling wrestlers through the OKWA website for the weekend tournament. Girls only divisions are gaining ground and offered across the state, but ultimately determined by the tournament host.

Weigh-ins are held on Friday evenings prior to the weekend tournament. GTC has been allowed remote weigh-in and designated an official weigh-in location in past seasons, and we would expect the same for the current season. Your wrestler **MUST** weigh-in at an official weigh-in location on Friday night to be eligible to participate in the Sat/Sun tournament. There are a few special instances (i.e. Tulsa Nationals, OKWA State) that require mandatory ONSITE weigh-in, in which case you would need to travel to that location the night prior to the tournament.

Practice gear requirements are simply t-shirt/shorts/socks, with wrestling shoes preferred but not mandatory. GTC has used wrestling shoes available to borrow, on a first come first serve basis. GTC club singlets are available to check-out for \$25 for the season, to be worn at tournaments, but again, not mandatory.

Refer to the [OKWA bylaws](#) to stay current on rules regarding wrestler classification, uniform, and headgear.

What is classification, and what does it mean?

According to OKWA BYLAWS Article 11, classification is designed to regulate competition among wrestlers with similar abilities. When a wrestler has achieved the Open class benchmarks listed below, they will have demonstrated their ability to compete at the next level.

NOVICE class is temporary and only recognized as a starting point.

(Typically refers to 1st or 2nd year wrestler.)

- Any wrestler who has placed 1st through 4th less than 6 times in a bracket of 6 or more wrestler, including themselves, at any tournament.
- All 1st year wrestlers are eligible to participate in Novice State.

OPEN class is the ultimate goal and recognized as the measure for our wrestlers.

- A wrestler who places 1st or 2nd at Novice State in a bracket of 6 or more including themselves.
- A wrestler who places 1st at any open tournament in a bracket of 6 or more including themselves.
- A wrestler who has placed 1st or 2nd in any Open or Novice MULTI-STATE tournament in a bracket of 6 or more including themselves.

*(bracket of 6 or more) - minimum of 5 other wrestlers and yourself.** combined brackets, of 6 or more do not count as placement. Example, combining 2 different weight classes and the resulting number of wrestlers in a bracket is 6 or more.

A lot of regular season tournaments (including GTC's) do not offer a Division I (six and under) **NOVICE**, as most at this age are beginners anyway. In this case, they simply wrestle as 'Division I Open'.

Attending the **OPEN REGIONAL** tournament and placing is what earns qualification to attend the **OPEN STATE** tournament.

A lot of regular season tournaments offer **GIRLS only** Divisions (including GTC), but **GIRLS** are allowed to sign up for either Division. (i.e. GTC tournament states if they want to sign up for boys, they must also sign up for girls only.)

Current OKWA standardized weight divisions can be found here:

<http://okwa.info/weights.html>