

# 2022-23 AIA BOYS & GIRLS WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

PRESENTED BY THE MARINES

**Feb. 4 · Sectional Tournaments (Girls) (Various Sites)** 

Feb. 10-11 • Sectional Tournaments (Boys) (Various Sites)

Feb. 16-18 • State Tournament (Boys and Girls) (Veterans Memorial Coliseum)

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The AIA would like to thank the following individuals for helping make the AIA state championships happen. Brian Raper and Bryan Smith from Moon Valley High School for running the championships, Meghann Topilko, Evelyn Bader and Mariah Merchant at Veterans Memorial Coliseum, Chris White with Sound Image, Dan Daack, Dick Baniszewski, and all the personnel at sectional tournament sites who are assisting with the events.

Wrestling tournament coordinator: Dean Visser

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Willsey, Brian M. Burgner Jr., Jason Urasky

Inside cover photo: Steve Paynter/Paynter's Pics

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### ARIZONA INTERSCHOLASTIC

# Welcome to the State Championships



On behalf of the Arizona Interscholastic Association, I would like to welcome all the participants, coaches, family and friends to our state championships. It is our pleasure to create an event that fans will enjoy and think about for years to come.

The AIA recognizes the hard work and strength it took to get here, as well as the sacrifices made along the way. The membership continues to grow, opening more avenues for participation. And for that, we say thank you. The student-athletes, administrators, coaches and families have all earned our gratitude. You are what drives us.

While attending this championship, we hope that it is an enjoyable experience for all. The lessons learned regarding sportsmanship and fair play are elevated here. Athletics are an extension of the classroom, which is why we accentuate the "student" in student-athlete.

This past year showed us that by working as one statewide unit for the greater good we can achieve anything. It remains a priority to adhere to guidelines and respect rules that are in place for the safety and well-being of our participants. With your help we can show all those involved that we can overcome external difficulties by coming together as an AIA community. These championships are only possible because of you.

State championships are just a springboard to the success these student-athletes will achieve when the competition is over. In the process of deriving enjoyment from participation in athletics, our student-athletes are learning lifelong skills that will help them develop into healthy adults and productive citizens. National research continues to validate that students involved in extracurricular activities attend more days of school, perform better in the classroom and have less behavioral issues. This also includes lower dropout, alcohol and drug abuse rates as compared to those who do not participate. The benefits of participation are extensive.

Since the AIA's inception in 1913, the association vigorously defends and promotes the positive developments of athletics, creates a culture that fosters self-governance and ethical behavior, and teaches, enforces, advocates and models the principles of the Arizona Accord and "Pursuing Victory With Honor." Today, over 130,000 student-athletes statewide benefit from the leadership of our Board, administrators and hard-working coaches on an annual basis as we are "building character now ... for the future."

As you enjoy all the championship contests, please show respect to those around you. Displays of good sportsmanship will place you in high regard along with your school and your community, and remind us all that, sports are meant to be fun and enjoyed by not only those participating, but those in attendance.

The AIA hopes this championship, as well as any others you may attend, achieves the level of excellence our student-athletes deserve. Remember that these are "our students, our teams ... our future."

**DAVID HINES** AIA Executive Director



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## **DIVISION I AND GIRLS PREVIEW**

## By Andy Morales AZPreps365.com

For the girls, only 10 weight classes were recognized in 2019, the first year the AIA held a state-wide wrestling championship for girls. There were no team scores offered that inaugural season but the sport was up and running and former Shadow Ridge standout Lexi Borunda became the first state champion ever and she won at the 101-pound weight class.

The same 10 weight classes were offered again in 2020 and Sierrah Thrun of Corona del Sol, Carolina Moreno of Kofa and Mia Didur of Centennial became the first wrestlers to win two individual championships in Arizona history. 2021 brought us a leap forward with 14 weight classes offered and programs began competing for a team championship for the first time in Arizona history. Basha came away with the first state championship in the sport's history and two more wrestlers added their names to the list of two-time state champions in Goldwater senior Bree Garcia (2020, 2021) and Naomi Norton of Arizona Lutheran (2020, 2021).

Garcia became the first girl to win three state championships in 2022 and her graduation means there will be no four-time state champions this winter but the list of wres-

tlers with three state titles can grow with Liberty senior Bella Bocenagra competing in the 100-pound bracket, Sunnyside junior Audrey Jimenez competing in the 114 weight class and Casteel senior Isabelle Munoz at 145. The weight classes were reduced to 12 last year and the same 12 are offered this year.

Two weight classes will feature two returning champions with Canyon del Oro senior Sophia Gilbert (2021) and Bisbee senior Adacelli Noriega (2020) competing in the 120-pound weight class. Noriega beat Gilbert to win the Section VII championship. Winslow senior Charry Benecke (2021) and Mohave junior Payton Welt (2022) are in the 235-pound bracket. Seven of the 12 weight classes are wide open with no returning champion. Jimenez moved up from 107 to 114 and Munoz moved up from 132 to 145.

Basha held off Liberty and Winslow last year to win the second team championship ever offered by the AIA and Sunnyside, known for dominance on the boys' side, will jump into the mix after scoring a dominating 195.5 points at sectionals.

728 wrestlers competed at the eight section tournaments and that number was cut down to the 286 wrestlers competing at state this year from 115 teams with Basha and Sunnyside bringing nine each. Liberty and Round Valley qualified eight each.



Bisbee senior Adacelli Noriega (Andy Morales photo/AZPreps365)

#### **RETURNING STATE CHAMPIONS**

100: Bella Bocenagra, Sr. Liberty (2021, 2022)

114: Audrey Jimenez, Jr. Sunnyside (2021, 2022)

120: Sophia Gilbert, Sr. Canyon del Oro (2021)

120: Adacelli Noriega, Sr. Bisbee (2020)

145: Isabelle Munoz, Sr. Casteel (2021, 2022)

235: Charry Benecke, Sr. Winslow (2021)

235: Payton Welt, Jr. Mohave (2022)

The Division I battle on the boys' side of the equation will once again feature Sunnyside and Liberty along with Desert Vista and Mesa Mountain View. Sunnyside beat Liberty in 2021 and 2022 for the 34th and 35th championship in program history and the Blue Devils qualified 13 wrestlers with 11 section champions this year.

Liberty will bring a full slate of 14 state qualifiers with seven of those coming in with section championships, Desert Vista will also bring 14 state qualifiers with six section championships and Mesa Mountain View has 14 state qualifiers with five section championships. The Blue Devils won eight individual titles last year so the list of returning champions is somewhat limited

#### RETURNING STATE CHAMPIONS

120: James Armstrong, Sr. Sunnyside (2020, 2021, 2022)

126: Sergio Vega, So. Sunnyside (2022)

132: Carlos Stanton, So. Sunnyside (2022)

132: Logan Smith, Sr. Desert Vista (2020)

144: Cristian Rivera, Jr. Sunnyside (2022)

157: Job Lee, Sr. Sunnyside, (2020, 2022)

165: Michael Avelar, Sr. Sunnyside (2022)

James Armstrong can be the latest wrester to win four state championships and his teammate Job Lee can win his third. The Blue Devils have seven of the 14 top seeds including Armstrong and Lee. Division I will start wrestling Thursday morning at 8:30 a.m. with Division II coming in at 1 p.m. Wrestling for Division I will begin again on Friday night at 5 p.m. with semifinals taking place around 7 p.m. More wrestling on Saturday beginning at 11 a.m. and the Parade of Champions for all five divisions will begin at 4:40 p.m.



#### Bella Bocenagra, LIBE, 29-2, 12 - D - 1st OUR STUDENTS, OUR TEAMS . . . OUR FUTURE Bye Bye Haley Heath, SHLO, 25-3, 11 - H - 3rd Alani Chairez, FLWE, 25-6, 11 - G - 2nd Madi Behmer, CS, 21-5, 9 - C - 2nd 33 Jolene Ostrander, COOL, 12-11, 9 - A - 3rd Bye Freeman, POBU Amryn Freeman, POBU, 15-9, 12 - B - 1st Bye Akshaya Lord, NORT, 26-1, 12 - F - 1st Lord, NORT 21 Allie Franks, MARA, 27-11, 11 - G - 3rd Ameerah Colon, MOPO, 16-5, 9 - A - 2nd Lexi Salazar, ROVA, 25-5, 12 - H - 2nd Maya Mitchell, BOCR, 8-6, 11 - C - 3rd Bye Farrar, GIRI Kennedy Farrar, GIRI, 25-2, 10 - E - 1st 59 Arianna Sarrett, MORE, 16-1, 12 - H - 1st 1ST Sarrett, MORE Bye 25 Lillyana Estrada, GILB, 4-6, 9 - B - 3rd Divina Diaz Rios, YUMA, 18-2, 11 - E - 2nd 39 Edyn Hartman, DEVA, 26-5, 11 - D - 2nd Penelope Pina, TOLL, 22-7, 10 - F - 3rd 27 Bye Birk, PINN Jessica Birk, PINN, 14-1, 12 - C - 1st Jacianna Beltran, SU, 13-4, 9 - G - 1st Beltran, SU 13 Bye 29

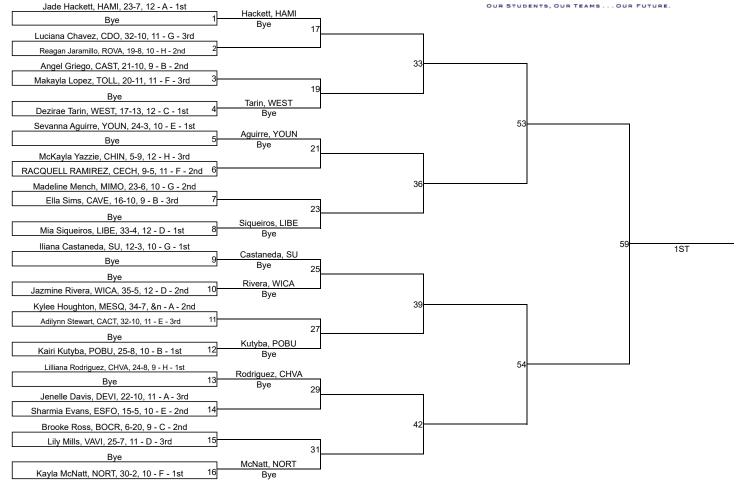
Valenzuela, BASH Bye **100** 

**AIA Girls State Championships** 

Jinni Suttles, MOHA, 19-8, 11 - D - 3rd Amy Ramirez, ARLU, 25-4, 10 - F - 2nd Mia Espalin, CAST, 18-7, 10 - B - 2nd Khyla Lipumano, YUCA, 27-5, 9 - E - 3rd Bye

Athea Valenzuela, BASH, 33-3, 9 - A - 1st





#### Audrey Jimenez, SU, 4-0, 12 - G - 1st Jimenez, SU Bye Bye 17 Aryana Thomas, MDN, 20-7, 9 - A - 3rd Liliana Voakes, POBU, 27-8, 12 - B - 2nd Ellie Salazar, ROVA, 13-8, 10 - H - 2nd Adianna Ponce, PARK, 6-1, 10 - D - 3rd Bye Lechuga, ARLU Rhea Lechuga, ARLU, 18-6, 11 - F - 1st Lucille Laracuente, AGFR, 25-1, 11 - E - 1st Laracuente, AGFR Bye 21 Alexa Garcia, HIGL, 5-5, 10 - B - 3rd Lola Hunt, LIBE, 36-4, 10 - D - 2nd 36 Wiseon Hwang, DEVI, 21-11, 12 - A - 2nd Becynthi Bryant, SHPR, 7-5, &n - H - 3rd 23 Gaccion, PINN Ashley Gaccion, PINN, 8-2, 11 - C - 1st Bye 59 Adriana Gomez, BASH, 43-4, 12 - A - 1st 1ST Gomez, BASH Bye Bye 25 Samantha Roriguez, TOLL, 14-12, 9 - F - 3rd Olivia Baily, BOCR, 30-4, 12 - C - 2nd Mlyah Palacios, SAHS, 21-3, 11 - G - 2nd Samantha Rodriguez, DEED, 13-2, 9 - E - 3rd Bye Nockideneh, PAGE Tea Nockideneh, PAGE, 22-4, 12 - H - 1st Bye Kathryn Sims, CAVE, 21-5, 12 - B - 1st Sims, CAVE Bye Bye 29 Sophia Renteria, RIRI, 33-9, 12 - G - 3rd Addyson Navarro, GIRI, 11-11, 9 - E - 2nd

31

Bamba, PEOR Bye 42

114

**AIA Girls State Championships** 

Aneth Campos, GLEN, 19-8, 11 - F - 2nd Ella Greiner, PAVA, 6-2, 10 - C - 3rd

Jussiah Bamba, PEOR, 22-0, 10 - D - 1st





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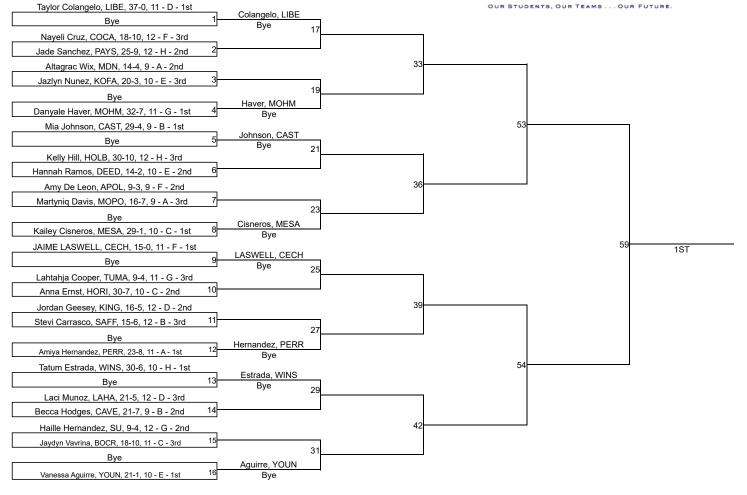
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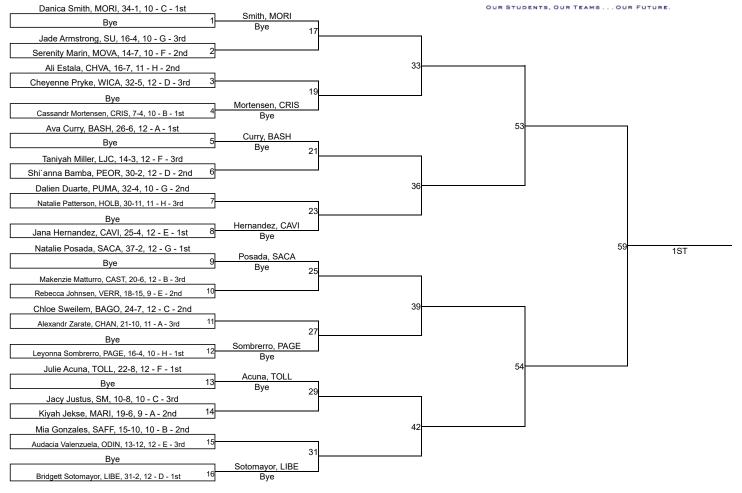




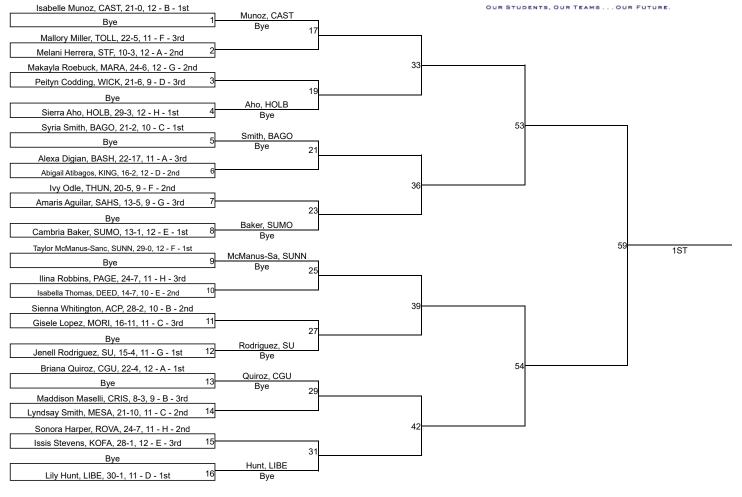




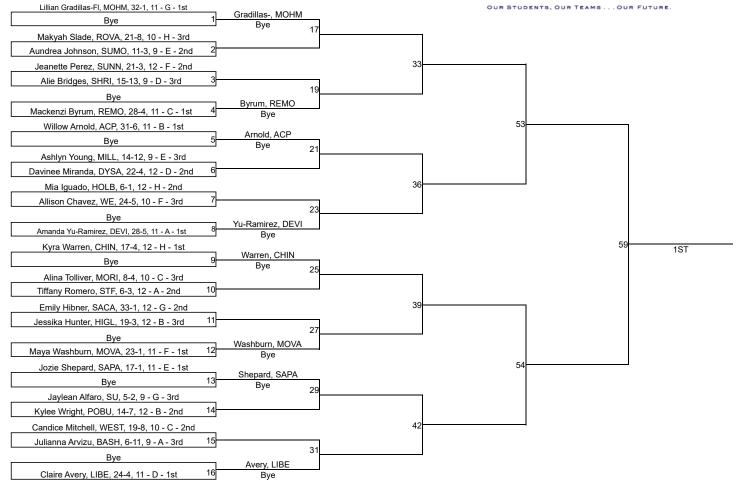




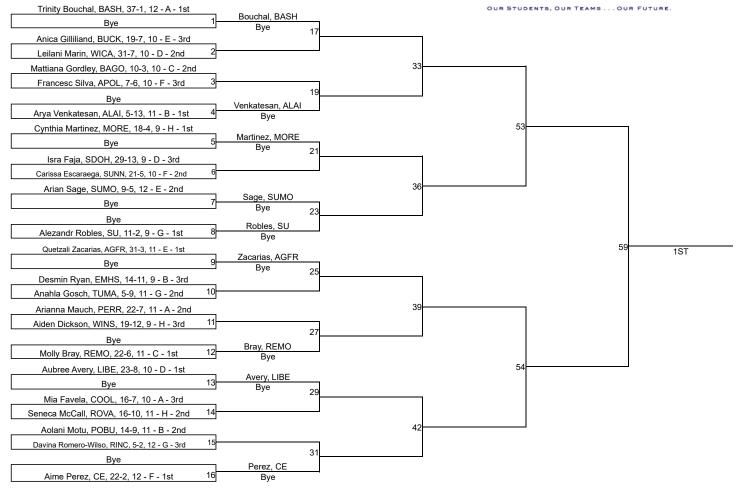
















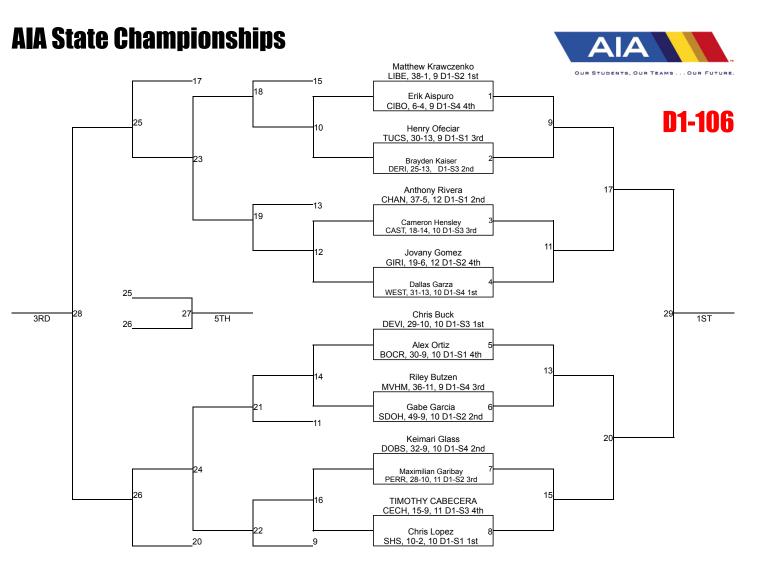


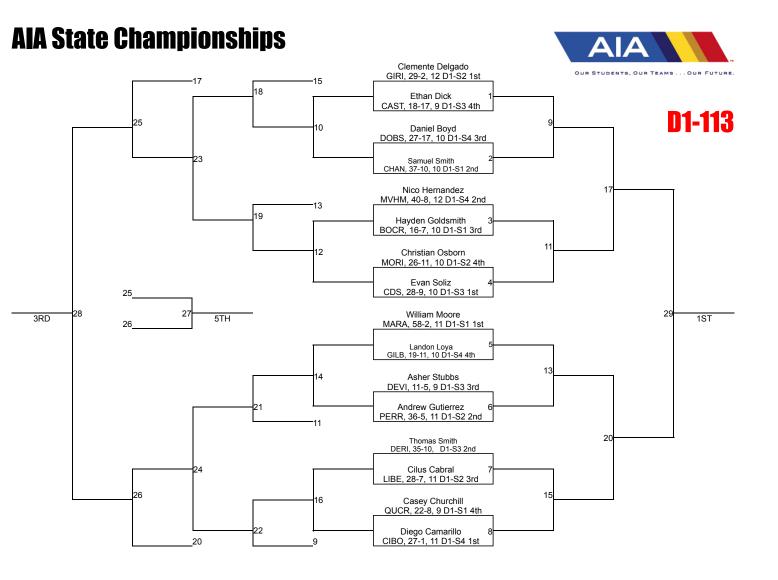


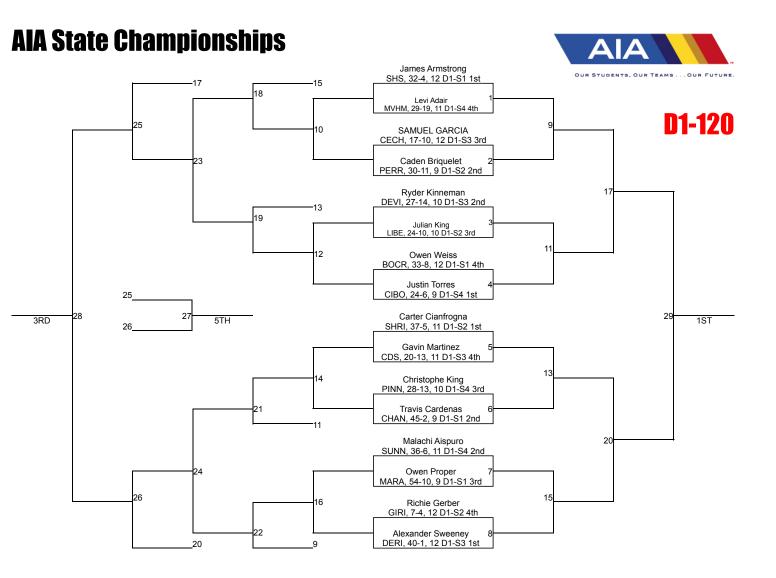
Play for everything. Play for nothing. Play to join. Play to escape. Play to win. Play to learn how to lose. Play to prove. Play to improve. Play to show them. Play to show yourself. Whatever you play for, however you play. Play inspired.

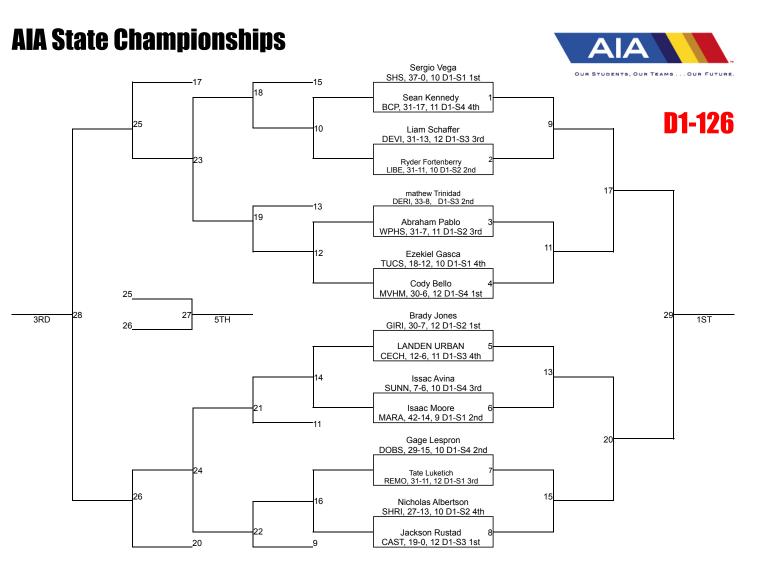


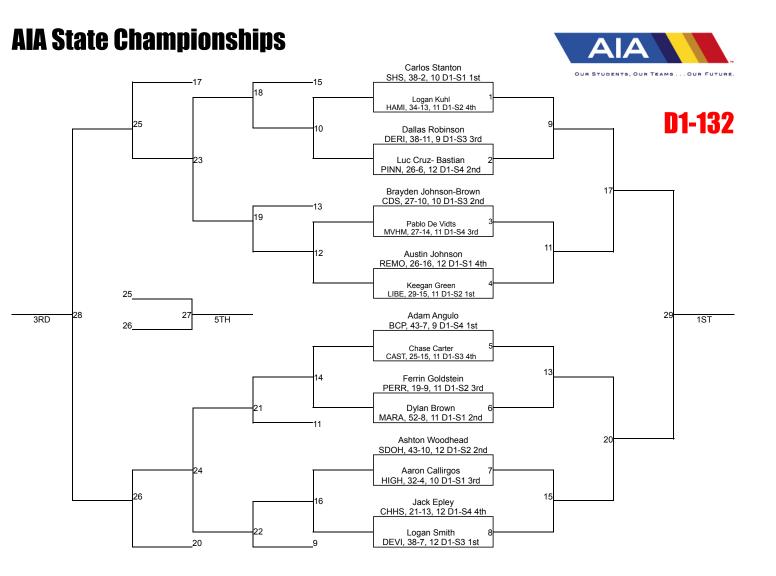


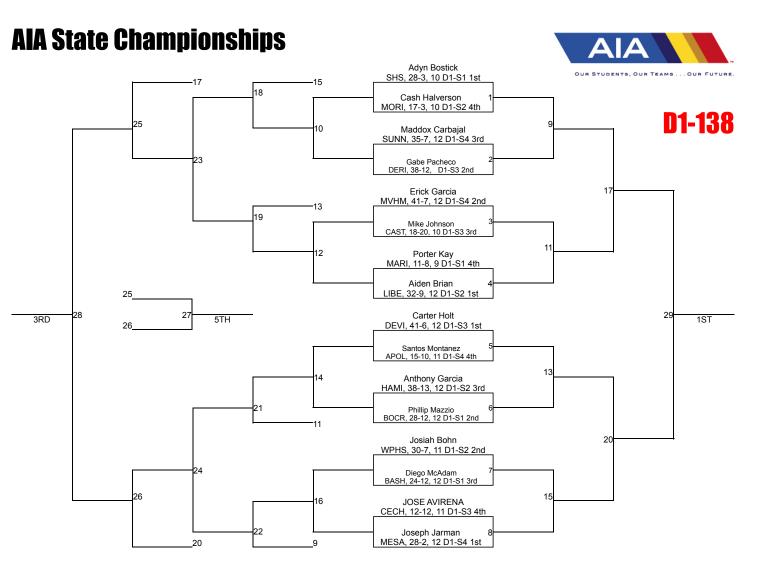


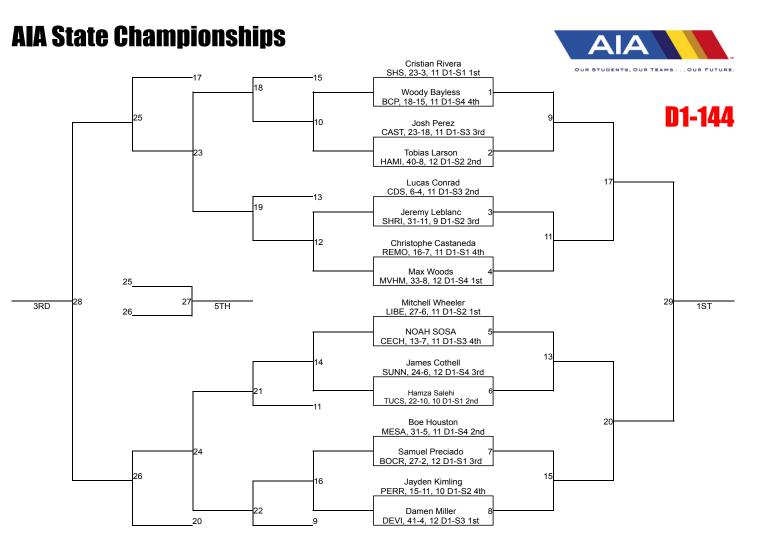


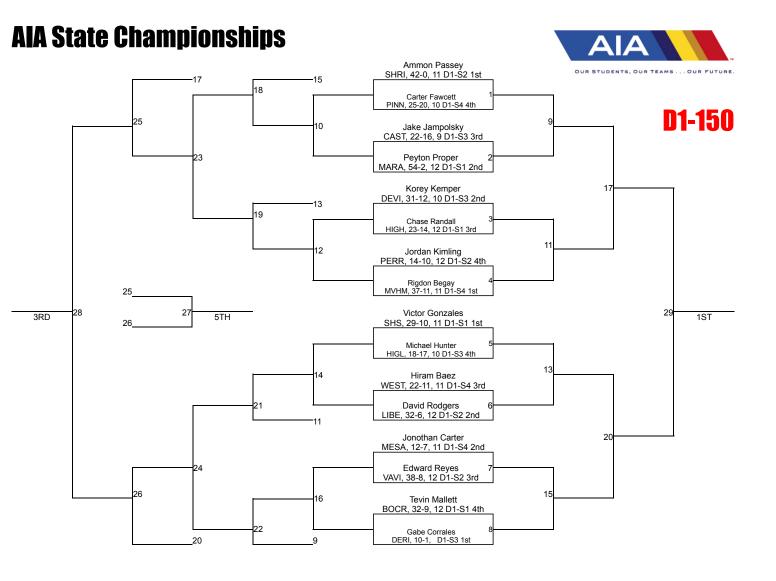












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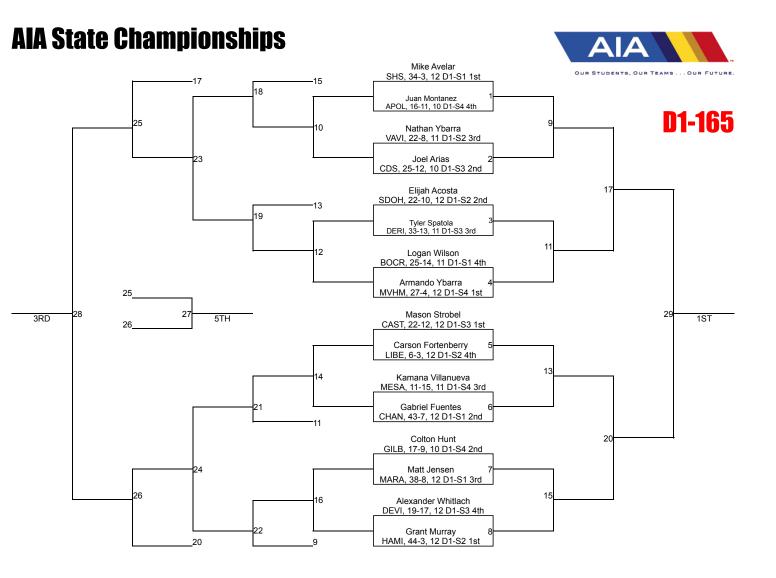
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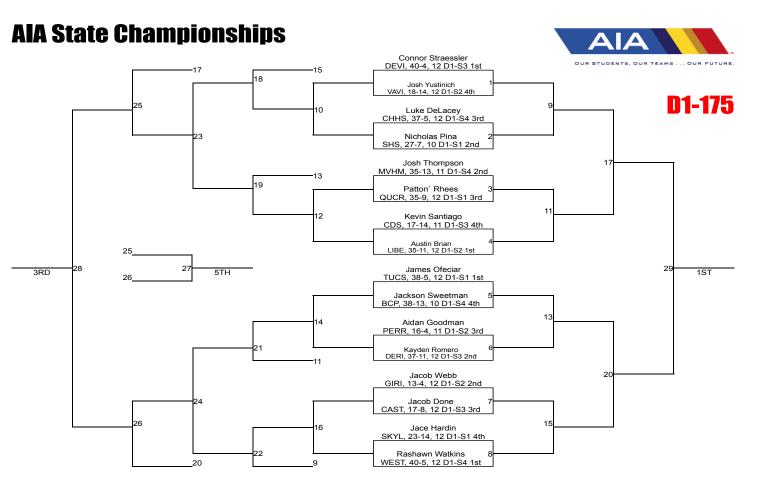


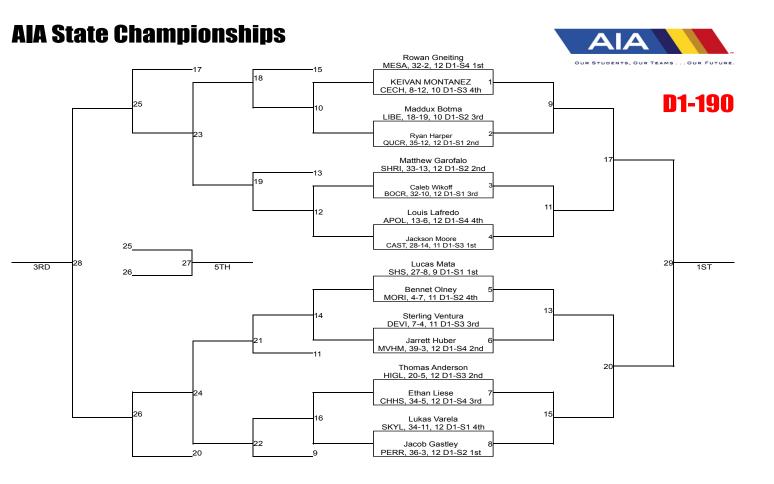
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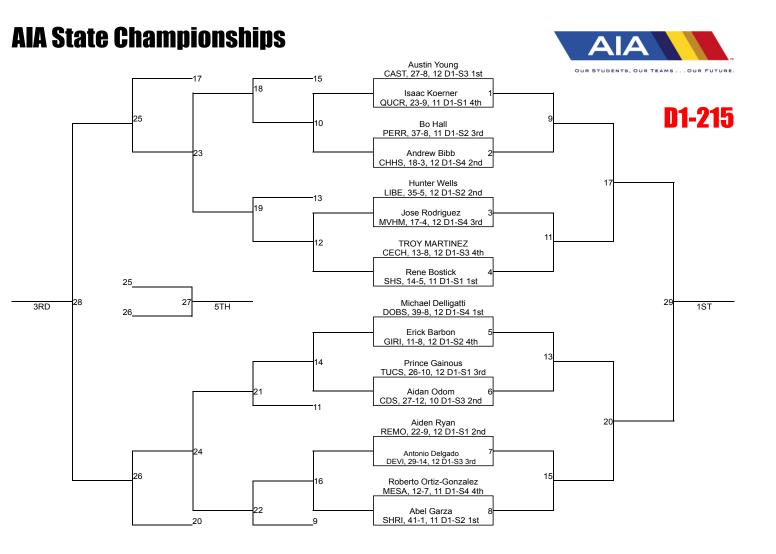
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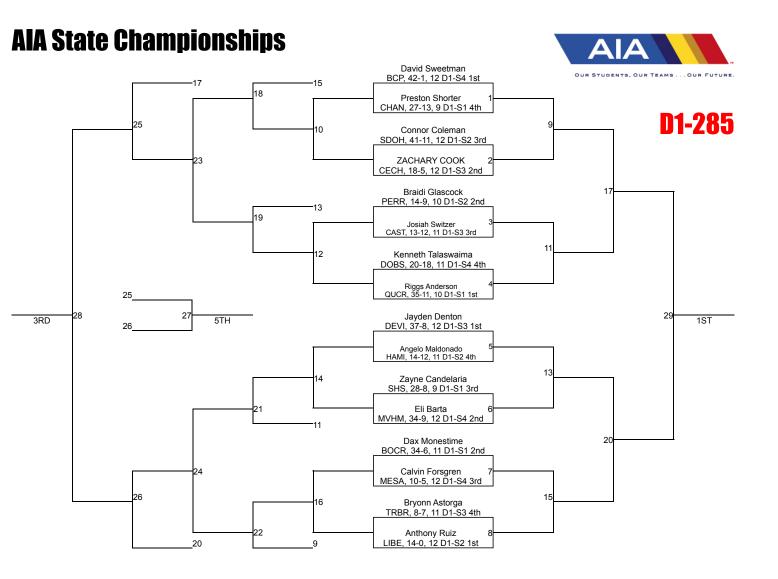














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# **DIVISION II PREVIEW**

# By Les Willsey AZPreps365.com

Division II programs don't mind Casteel has exited the D2 ranks for D1. Casteel won the last two D2 titles (2021 with a 16-point advantage over Marana Mountain View and 2022 by a whopping 107-points over runner-up Canyon View). Schools finishing behind Casteel last year - runner-up Canyon View and third-place Ironwood - believe they can be a factor this time around. Team section winners last week were: Canyon View (Section 1), Ironwood (Section 2), Horizon (Section 3) and Flowing Wells (Section 4). The likes of Kofa, Williams Field, Centennial Campo Verde and Thunderbird are eager to make noise.

#### **RETURNING 2022 INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS**

Gabriel Ramirez, Canyon View (106 champ); Clemente Delgado, Gila Ridge (113 champ); Skyler Hickman, Canyon View (126 champ); Pablo Macias, Ironwood (144 champ); Trent Wikel, Desert Mountain (150 champ); Markel Rivera, Canyon View (175 champ); Majel Morones, Campo Verde (215 champ).

# 2023 SECTION CHAMPIONS Section I (at Buckeye HS)

106: Daniel Alire, Kofa. 113: Gabriel Ramirez, Canyon View. 120: Giovanni Martinez (Chavez), Canyon View. 126: Andrew Ramirez, Canyon View. 132: Giosue Hickman, Canyon View. 138: Skyler Hickman, Canyon View. 144: Trayvon Frazier, Buena. 150: Arturo Anaya, Kofa. 157: Dominik Fimbres, Canyon View. 165: Abram Sanchez, Verrado. 175: Andrew Manore, Willow Canyon. 190: Asher Villalpando, Canyon View. 215: Dominic Jewell, Willow Canyon. 285: Xander Flowers, Lake Havasu.

## Section II (at Ironwood HS)

106: Logan Dartt, Bradshaw Mtn. 113: Caden Leyba, Centennial. 120: Vonn Fenn, Thunderbird. 126: Julian Macias, Ironwood. 132: Ian Grubbs, Cactus Shadows. 138: JOrdan Beauvais, Ironwood. 145: Colbyn Ryan, Raymond Kellis. 150: Pablo Macias, Ironwood. 157: Asher King-Orlando, Bradshaw Mtn. 165: Antonio Calles, Centennial. 175: Tyler Potts, Sunrise Mtn. 190: Markell Rivera-Cain, Ironwood. 215: Gabriel Ricketts, Bradshaw Mtn. 285: Cristian Haro-Torres, Centennial.



Canyon View 113-pounder and returning state champ Gabriel Ramirez.

#### Section III (at Campo Verde HS)

106: Alexander Davidson, Horizon. 113: Ethan Madson, Horizon. 120: Micah Madson, Horizon. 126: Logan Lopez, Horizon. 132: Mitchell Jones, Campo Verde. 138: Nolan Field, Arcadia. 144: Matthew Hernandez, Horizon. 150: Kellen St. Louis, Williams Field. 157: Trent Winkel, Desert Mtn. 165: Marlin Whyte, Mtn. Pointe. 175: RJ Robinson, Desert Mtn. 190: Sean Mowery, Horizon. 215: Jame DuComb, Arcadia. 285: Majel Morones, Campo Verde.

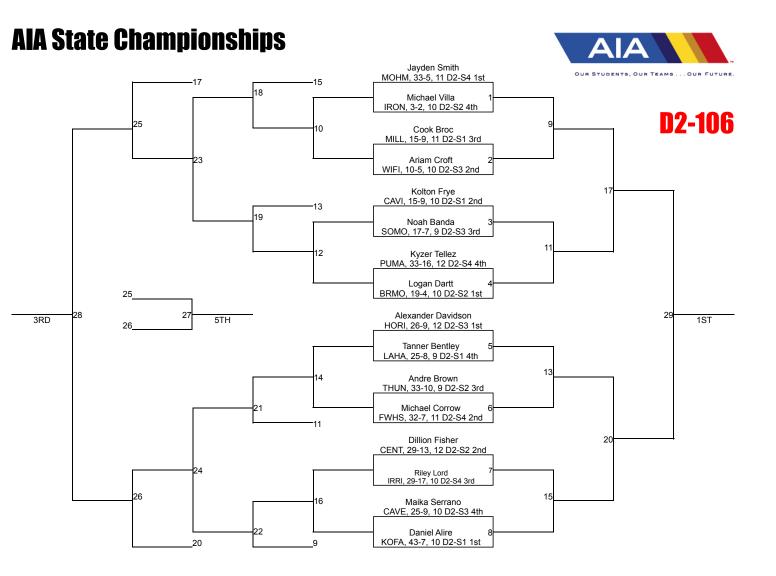
## Section IV (at Flowing Wells HS)

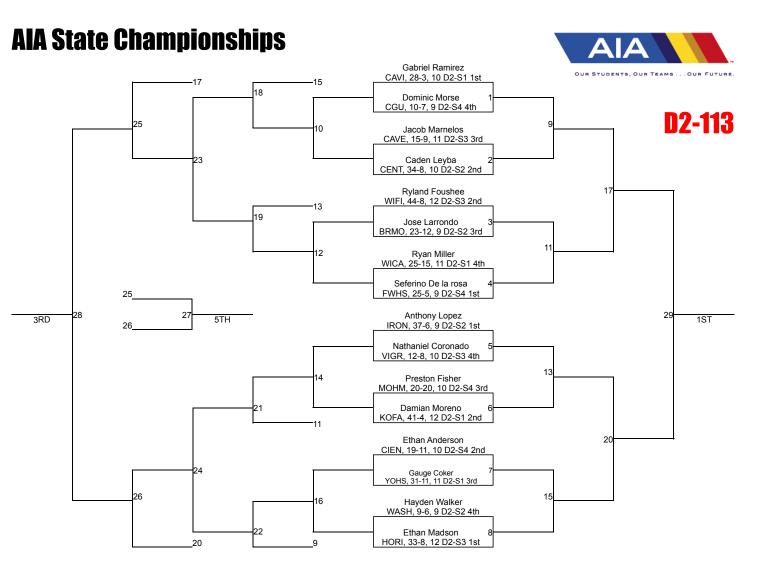
106: Jayden Smith, Marana Mtn. View. 113: Seferino de la rosa, Flowing Wells. 120: Robert Hernandez, Flowing Wells. 126: Enzo Spina, Ironwood Ridge. 132: Danie Miranda, Marana Mtn. View. 138: Atticus Comer, Canyon del Oro. 144: Shiwoko Shiwoko, Desert View. 150: Jozeph Smith, Pueblo. 157: Charles Croci, Canyon del Oro. 165: Adrian Parra, Flowing Wells. 175: Nathaniel Angle, Buena. 190: Austin Ferguson, Flowing Wells. 215: Kayden Luke, Canyon del Oro. 285: Jacob Acedo, Marana Mtn. View.

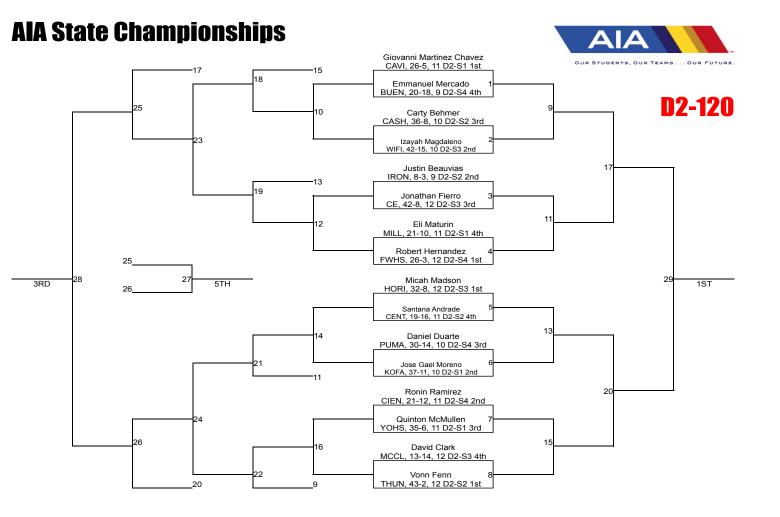
### **TOP 5 WRESTLER RANKINGS (Prior to sectionals)**

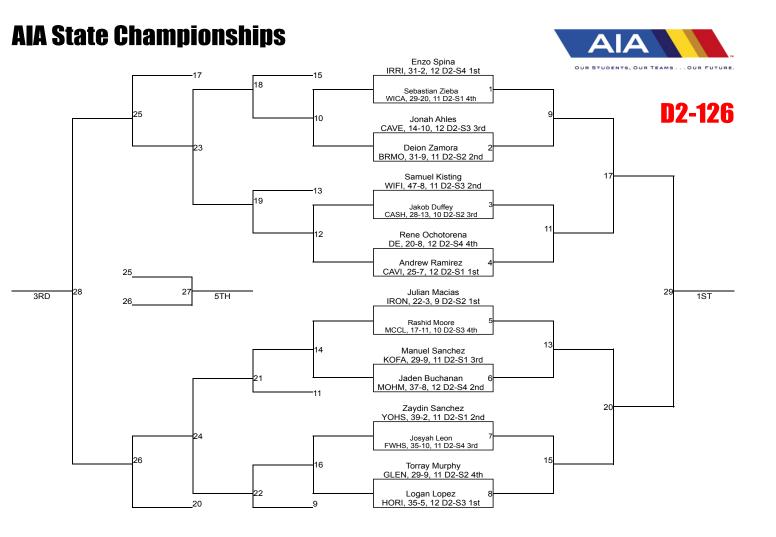
- **106:** 1. Daniel Alire, Kofa. 2. Jayden Smith, Ma. Mtn. View; 3. Alexander Davidson, Horizon. 4, Seth Lopez, Willow Canyon. 5. Dillion Fisher, Centennial.
- **113:** 1. Gabriel Ramirez, Canyon View; 2. Damian Moreno, Kofa; 3. Anthony Lopez, Ironwood; 4. Ethan Madson, Horizon; 5. Caden Leyba, Centennial.
- **120:** 1.Giovanni Martinez Chavez, Canyon View; 2. Vonn Fenn, Thunderbird; 3. Micah Madson, Horizon; 4. Robert Hernandez, Flowing Wells; 5. Jonny Tapia, Canyon View.
- **126:** Enzo Spina, Ironwood Ridge; 2. Logan Lopez, Horizon; 3. Julian Macias, Ironwood; 4. Andrew Ramirez, Canyon View; 5. Samuel Kisting, Williams Field.
- **132:** 1. Daniel Miranda, Ma. Mtn. View; 2. Giosue Hickman, Canyon View; 3. Eduardo Grageda, Campo Verde; 5. Marcus Burca, Youngker.
- **138:** 1. Skyler Hickman, Canyon View; 2. Gunnar Legrand, Lake Havasu; 3. Jesse Cooper, Centennial; 4. Aaron Manone, Ironwood; 5. Atticus Comer.

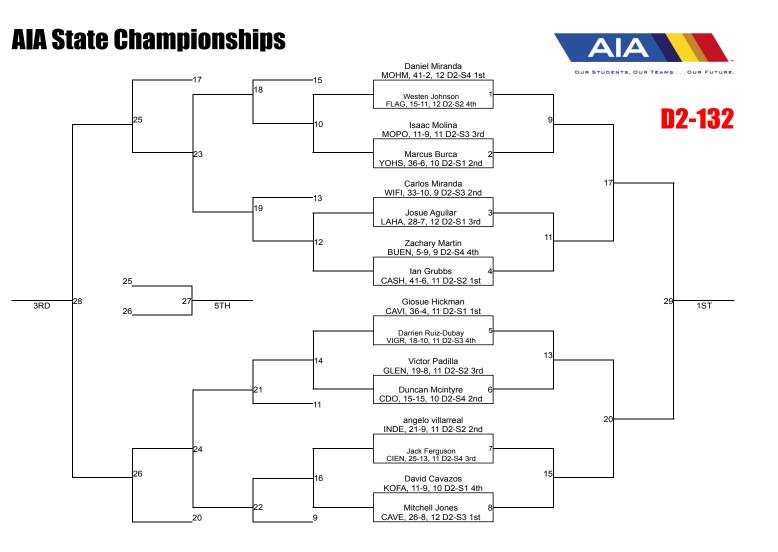
- **144:** 1. Matthew Hernandez, Horizon; 2. Jordan Beauvais, Ironwood; 3. Robert Minden, Lake Havasu; 4. Kellen Monroe, Centennial; 5. Jahari Mcquiller, Westview.
- **150:** 1. Colby Ryan, Raymond Kellis; 2. Ruben Lerma, Ironwood; 3. Jozeph Smith, Pueblo; Kellen St. Louis, Williams Field; 5. Mateo Rodriguez, Arcadia.
- **157:** 1. Trent Wikel, Desert Mtn.; 2. Pablo Macias, Ironwood; 3. Dominik Fimbres, Canyon View; 4. Asher King-Orlando, Bradshaw Mtn; 5. Arturo Anaya, Kofa. 165: 1. Aiden Larsen, Horizon; 2. Marlin Whyte, Mtn. Pointe; 3. Adrian Parra, Flowing Wells; 4. Daniel McCarthy, Ironwood; 5. Kai Langlais, Ironwood Ridge.
- **175:** 1. RJ Robinson, Desert Mtn.; 2. Sir Friday, Canyon View; 3. Enrique Galvez, Campo Verde; 4. Adrian Calleros, Kofa; 5. Tyler Potts, Sunrise Mtn.
- **190:** 1. Markell Rivera-Cain, Ironwood; 2. Asher Villalpando, Canyon View; 3. Tristan Bacon, Raymond Kellis; 4. Andrew Chase, Buena; 5. Loren Phillips, Kofa.
- **215:** 1. Kayden Luke, CDO; 2. Shane Huran, Ironwood; 3. James Ducomb, Arcadia; 4. Raymond Aragon, Flowing Wells; 5. Gabriel Ricketts, Bradshaw Mtn.
- **285:** 1. Majel Morones, Campo Verde. 2. Jacob Acedo, Marana Mtn. View; 3. Tonfiaolii Fruean, Buena; 4. Xander Flowers, Lake Havasu; 5. Cristian Haro-Torres, Centennial.

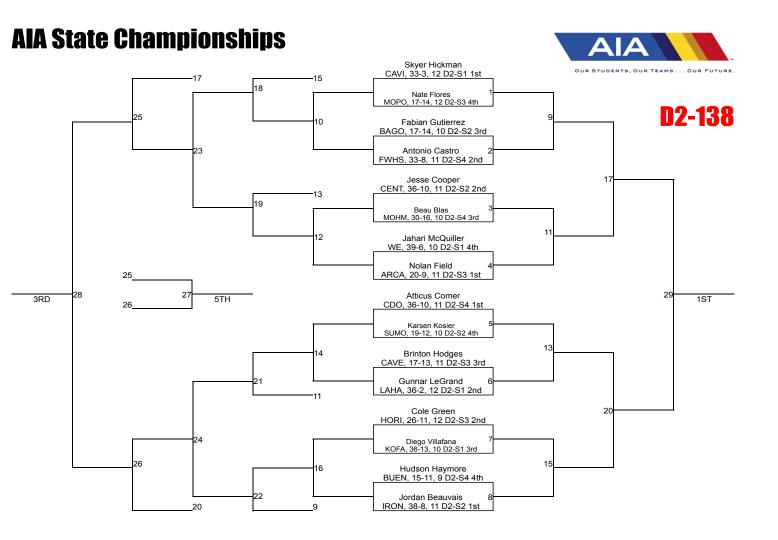












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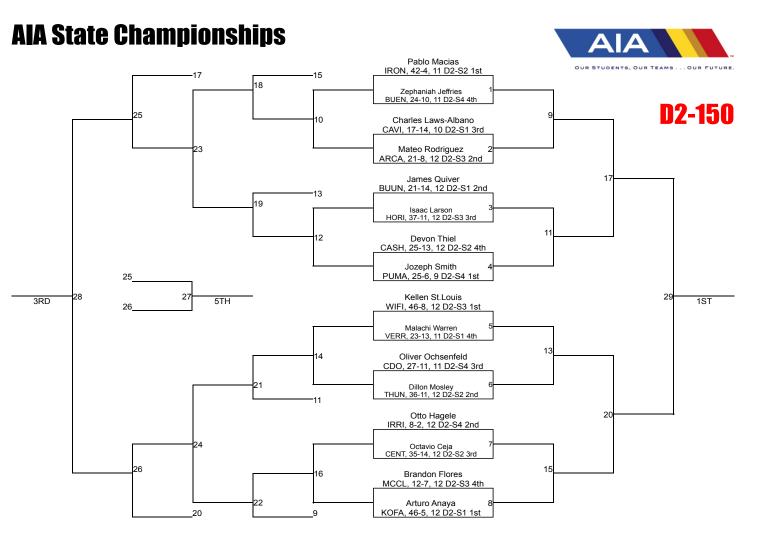


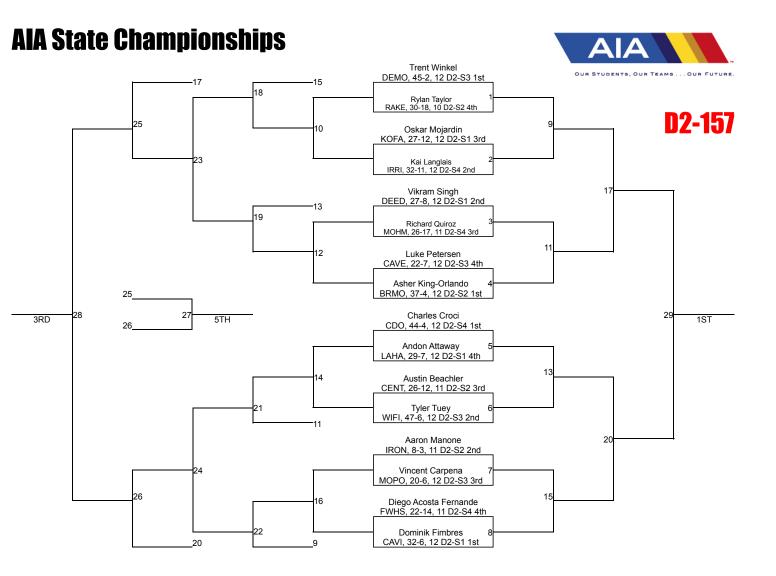


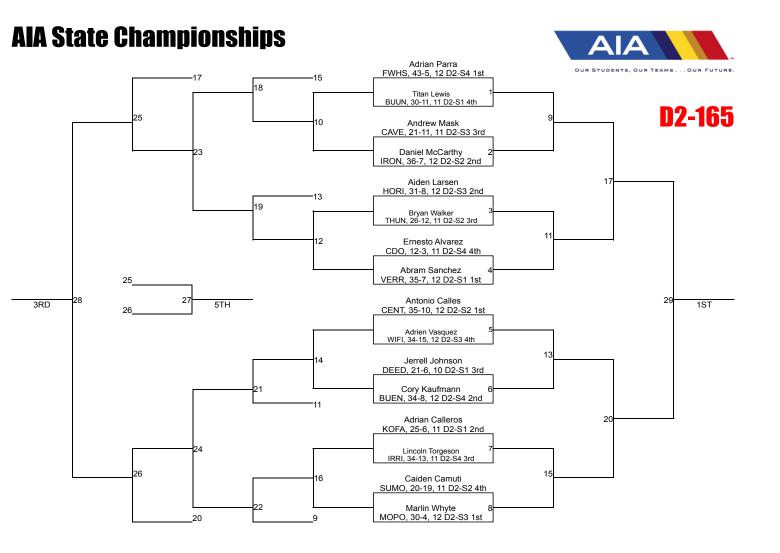


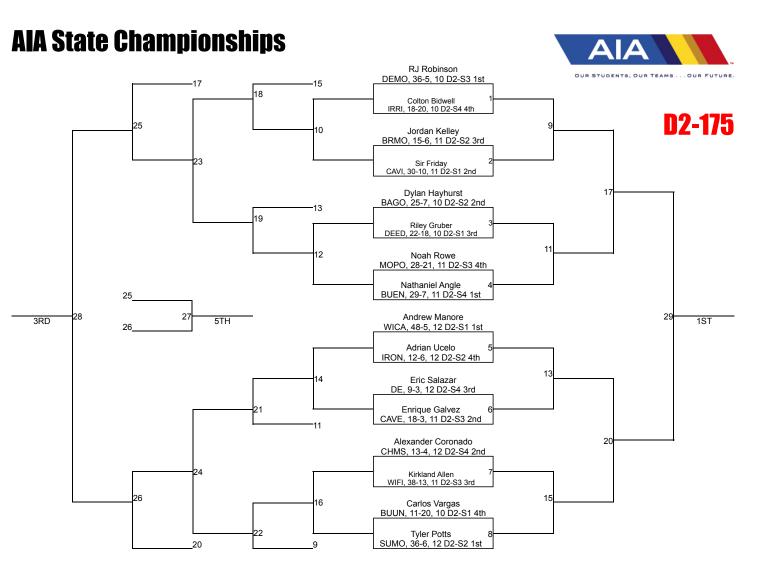


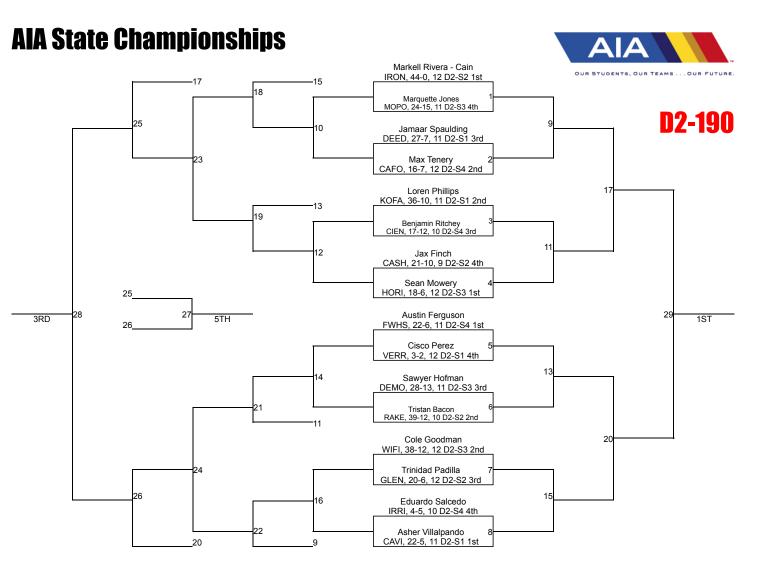


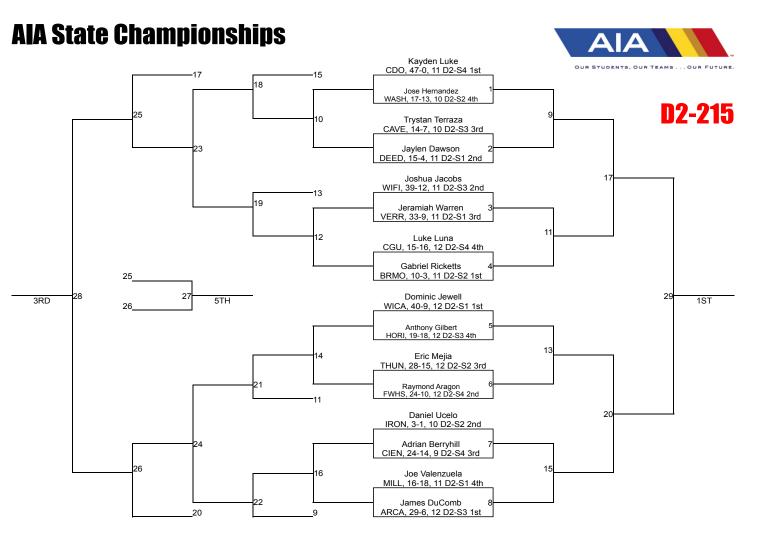


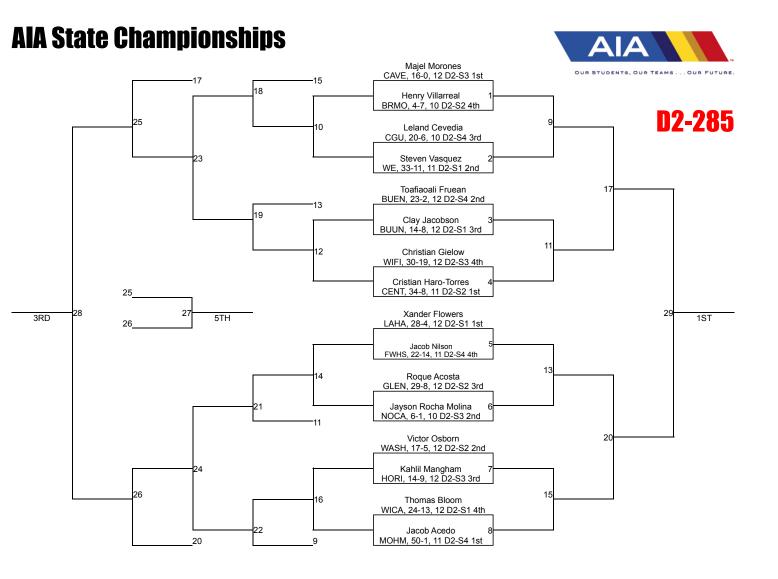












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# **DIVISION III PREVIEW**

By Brian M. Burgner Jr. AZPreps365.com

Having claimed a Division III state championship a year ago, wrestling powerhouse Sahuarita is ready to make another go of it in 2023, but other grappling kings such as ALA-Gilbert, Mica Mountain, Safford and even Walden Grove may have something to say about that before it's all said and done.

#### THE FAVORITE

The Mustangs scored 160.5 points to take home the team title a season ago, just outlasting Walden Grove's 144 points, while ALA-Gilbert North was a distant third at 122.5.

Sahuarita returns three state champion wrestlers in Gabriel Gallardo (150 lbs.), Sergio Pena (144 lbs.) and Julian Prieto (157 lbs.) to go along with 138-pound two-time state finalist Christian Lopez and medalists Daniel Guerrero (106 lbs.), Justin Fox (120 lbs.) and Isaiah Miller (132 lbs.).

Guerrero, Lopez, Gallardo and 113-pound Sebastian Serrano all claimed a section championships in their respective weight classes last weekend.

"We believe we will be competing for the team championship," Sahuarita head coach Paul Vasquez said.

Sahuarita wrestling poses for a photo this season. The Mustangs are the favorite to win the D-III state team title this season. (Paul Vasquez, Sahuarita Athletics/Courtesy)

#### THE CHALLENGER

Walden Grove head coach Victor Gonzalez conceded that Sahuarita is the favorite to win a D-III state crown this month, but he's hoping his kids have something to say about it.

"We have worked extremely hard this entire year to give ourselves a shot this coming weekend and it's up to us to make the most of it," Gonzalez said. "We are hoping to make a run and contend for the team state title."

The Red Wolves will need to do it with four outstanding grapplers, Zack Bates (120 lbs.), Pedro Mendoza (126 lbs.), Enzo Morales (144 lbs.) and Esteban Carrillo (157 lbs.).

#### THE DARK HORSE

Poston Butte's 12th place finish at state a season ago with 54 points was only the beginning of its ascension in D-III wrestling.

Last weekend, Poston Butte claimed the D-III-Section II team title with three section champs and two runner ups.

Andrew Williams at 106 pounds, Shevy Landis at 126 and Armando Herring at 144 all claimed a Section II title Feb. 11. Joshua Furman (157 lbs.) and Robert Gaitan (215 lbs.) were runner up.

"Poston Butte's team goal is to finish in the Top 5 at the Division III state tournament next weekend after a great showing at sectionals," Poston Butte head coach Traston Yates said.



The Walden Grove wrestling team poses for a photo earlier this season. Walden Grove aims to challenge Sahuarita for a title this season. (Victor Gonzalez, Walden Grove Athletics/Courtesy)

It is the first time Poston Butte won a section title in school history and have qualified 10 grapplers for state competition.

#### **OTHERS TO WATCH**

Although it may not have a wrestler in every weight class come Feb. 16 at Arizona Veterans Memorial Coliseum, Coconino has four grapplers ready to battle anyone that comes its way.

Cooper French (165 lbs.), Reed Merrell (175 lbs), Bridger French (150 lbs.) and Nolan Wilson (132 lbs.) were all section finalists this season.

"My expectations are the same as every year – bring the best possible version of ourselves and compete with the best in the state," Coconino head coach Mike Schmieder said.

#### AND DON'T FORGET

Don't sleep on Yuma, which finished ninth overall a season ago with 67.5 points and is back in 2023.

Led by Sabian Russell, who just won sectionals at 132 pounds, making him a three-time section champ, Yuma has a few others to watch out for.

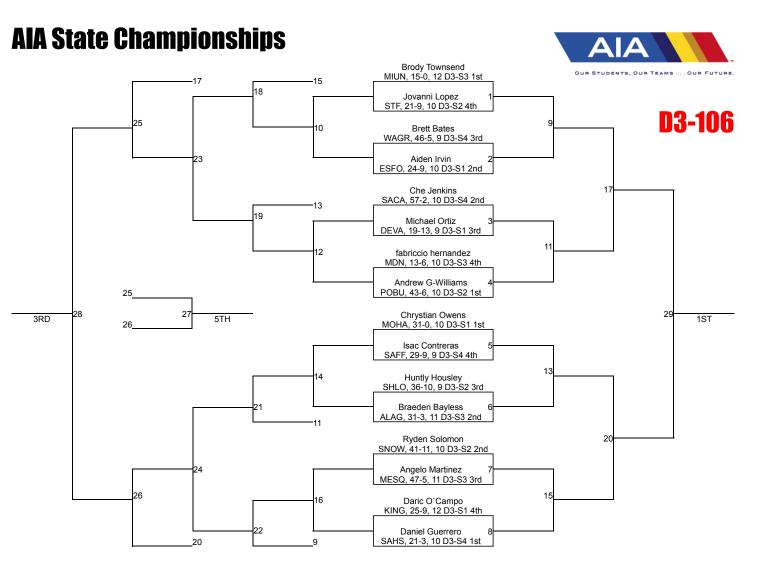
Joseph Bowen was state runner up in the heavyweight class a season ago, while Raymond Nunez (150 lbs.) is expected to place at state.

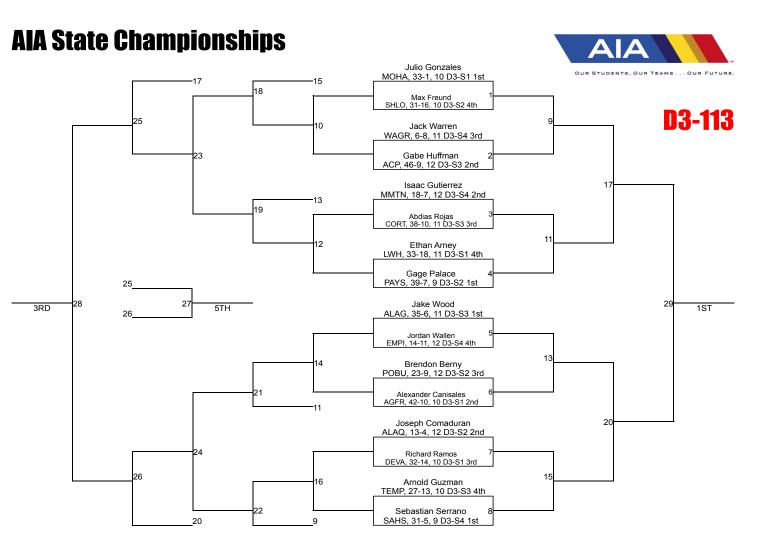


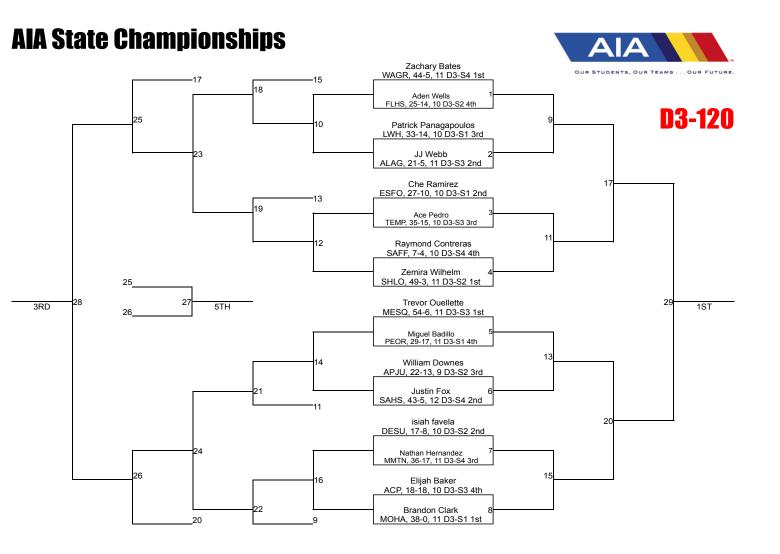
Coconino's Cooper French gets his hands raised at sectionals in 165 pounds. The Panthers were fifth at state a season ago and are back for more. (Mike Schmieder, Coconino Athletics/Courtesy)

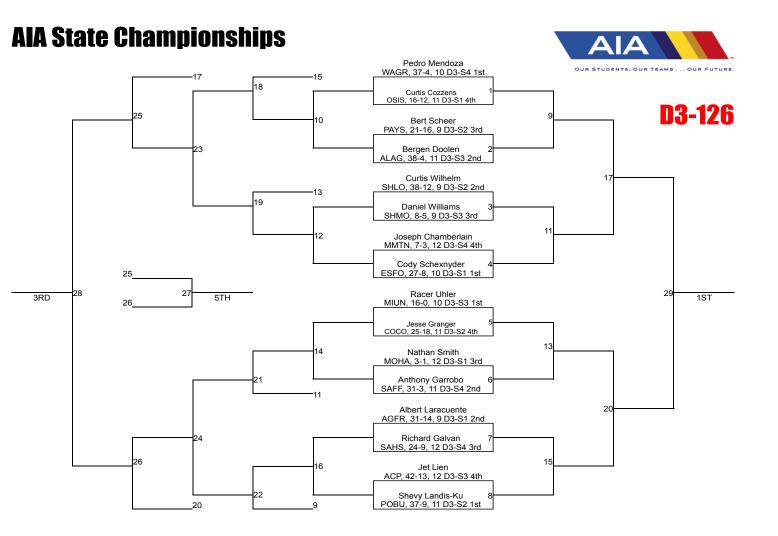


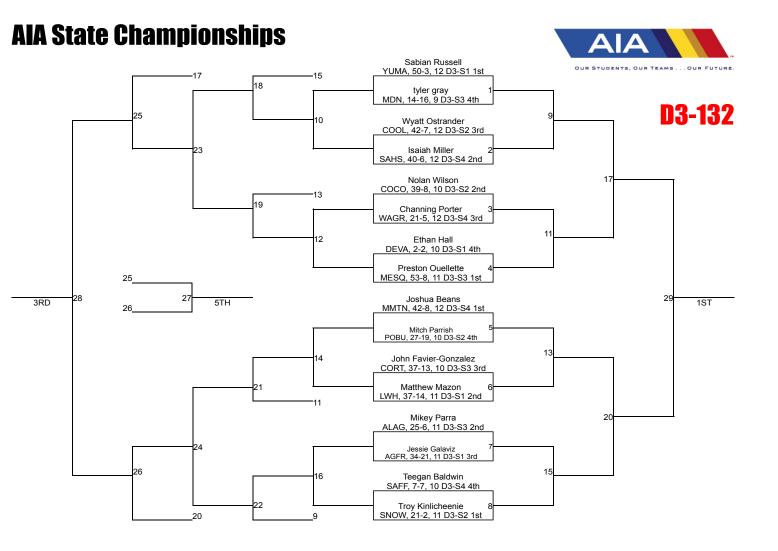
The Poston Butte wrestling team won the Division III-Section II crown Feb. 11, 2023 and have qualified 10 grapplers for the Division III state championships. (Traston Yates, Poston Butte Athletics/Courtesy)

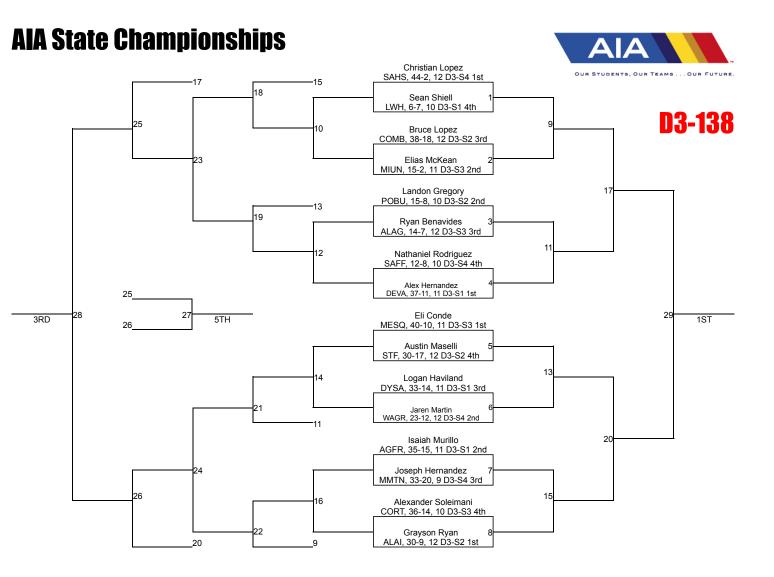












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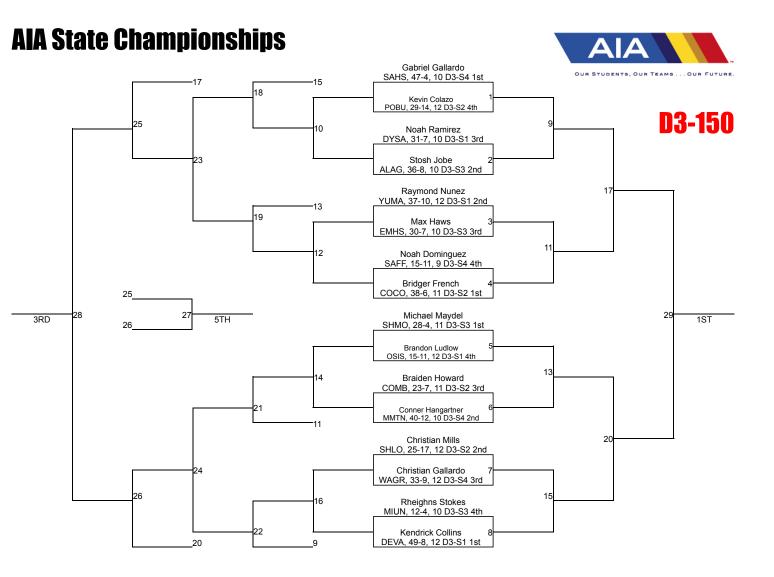
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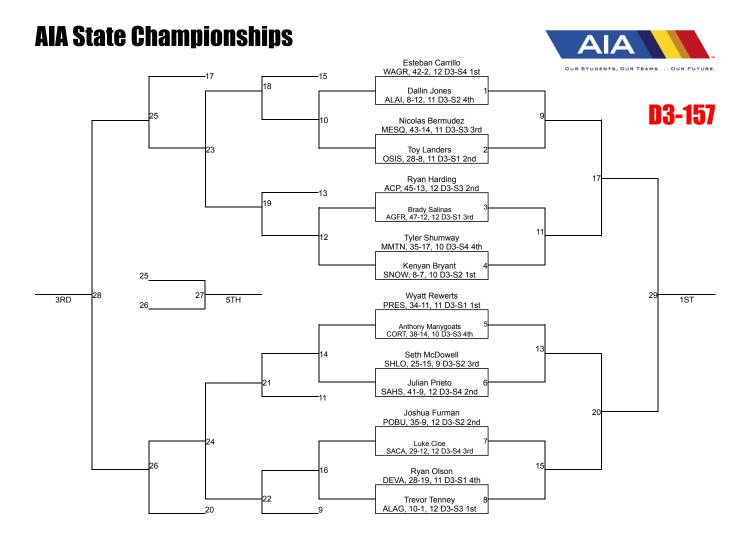


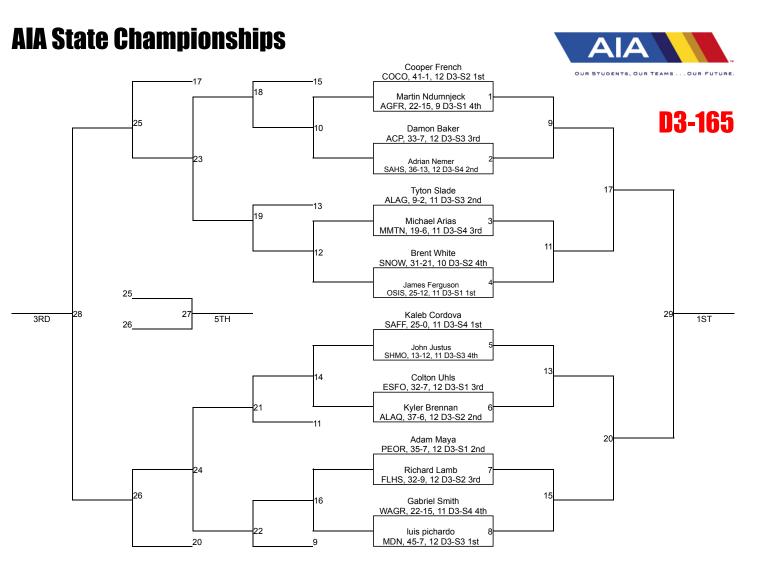


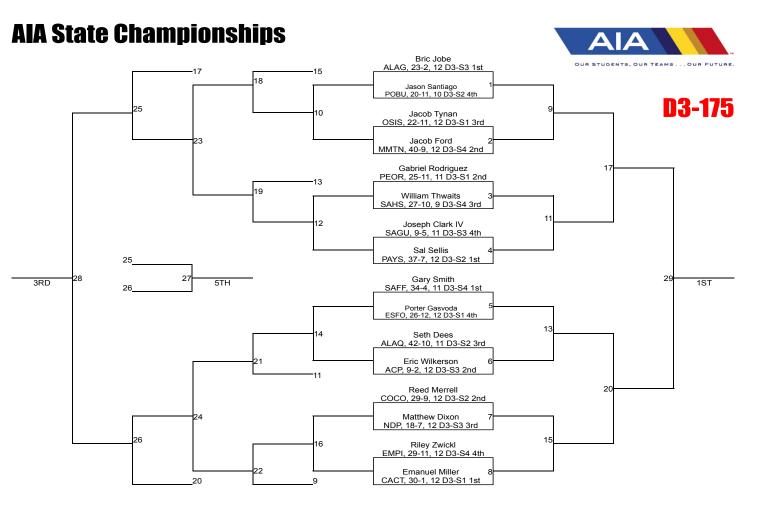
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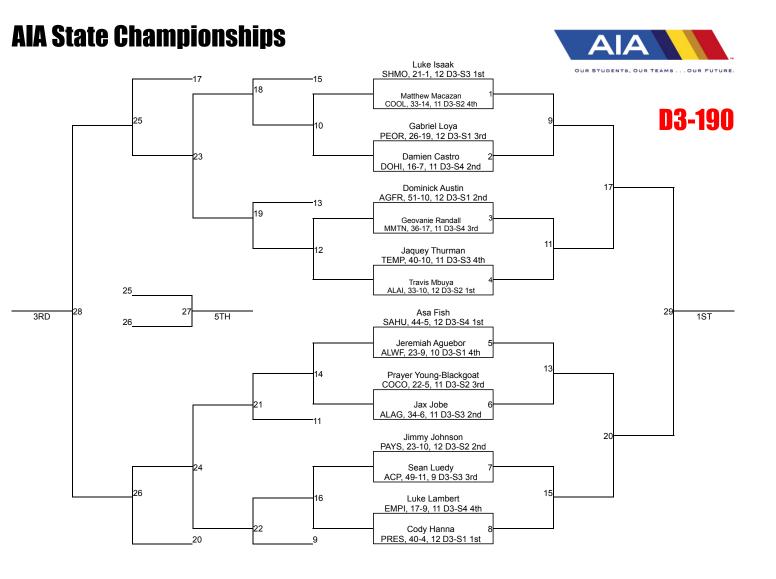


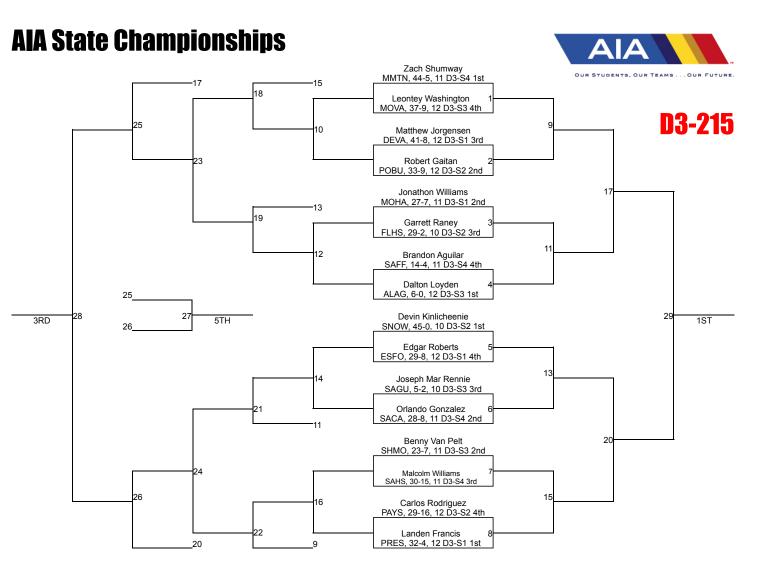


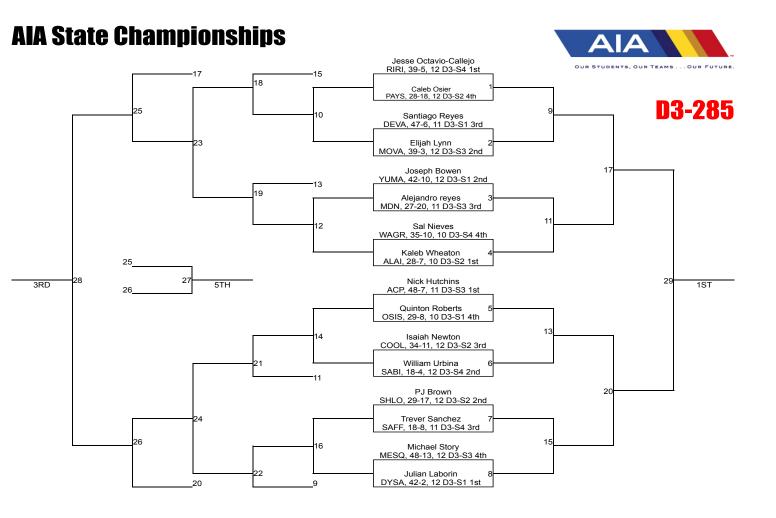














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#### **DIVISION IV PREVIEW**

#### By Jose Garcia AZPreps365.com

One of Arizona's high school master wrestling builders is a step away from completing another championship project.

In his two seasons at Yuma Catholic, coach Jeff Welsing has helped guide the program to its first runner-up trophies. It was only a matter of time before Welsing turned Yuma Catholic into a contender.

It took Welsing about 13 years to get Yuma High to the peak of Arizona high school wrestling, and once he did Yuma battled annually for king of the hill status. During his final seasons at Yuma, Welsing's Yuma Criminals claimed two state titles and three runner-ups.

But after 16 years at Yuma, Yuma Catholic came knocking with an athletic director position. It wasn't long before Welsing found himself on the mat once again, though.

His new school didn't take long to adapt to Welsing's high expectations. In his first year at Yuma Catholic, the Shamrocks finished second in Division IV, the highest finish in the program's history.

It followed that with another runner-up ending last year. Standing in the way of Yuma Catholic—and the rest of D-IV for that matter—is one of the state's wrestling powers, nine-time state team champ Morenci.

Morenci has reached the top of the podium the last two years, but Yuma Catholic is closing the gap. Two years ago, Morenci smashed the competition, scoring 115 more points than its closest competitor, Yuma Catholic.

Last year, however, Yuma Catholic lost by 25 points. It had a chance at the title to but two painful semifinal losses sealed its fate.

This season, Yuma Catholic finished 38-6 in duals with the help of six returning state place winners. At sectionals, Welsing's program qualified 12 for state, with six wrestlers winning section championships.

But until somebody takes down Morenci, the Wildcats are the D-IV favorites. Yuma Catholic and Morenci saw each other twice at different tournaments this season.

The two essentially split their meetings. At Doc Wright, the biggest regular season prize in Arizona in small school wrestling, Yuma Catholic out-pointed Morenci, but Morenci was without two of its wrestlers.

At another tournament, Morenci finished higher. Division IV figures to be a nail-biter all the way to the end.

But being in this position is a privilege Yuma Catholic hadn't experienced—until Welsing appeared.

"You are always training to compete for a state championship obviously," Welsing said. "But Morenci, Mogollon and Willcox aren't going to give it to us."

Constructing something can be fun and rewarding. Some projects take time to build; others need less tweaking. Either way, Welsing is proving he is the right man for the job.



Morenci, the two-time defending champ, is shooting for its 10th title. (Steve Paynter photo/Paynter's Pics)

#### A look at some of his top wrestlers this season:

113 Khel Lipumano: The sophomore won an individual title 2022. "As a freshman, I was shocked he won," Welsing said. "He came in small, not physical, but continually worked and got better and better. He knows the grind. Skill wise, he is fast and light on his feet and tough to corral because he's constantly moving."

132 Josh Rodriguez: He finished 5th at state in 2022. "Josh is another one who got a lot better in offseason and had a tough schedule. The expectations for him at state is to push into the place rounds, high first through fourth."

138 Easton Jones: Finished 4th at state in 2022. "Him and Josh are like two peas in a pod," coach said. "He is progressing."

150 Hunter Hancock: Finished 6th at state last year. "He reached the semifinals last year as a freshman," coach said. "It opened up his eyes. He's been in the final of every tourney this year. He has grown a lot."

175 Tayt Ford. Finished 6th at state in 2022. "He's diamond in a rough," Welsing said. "He's a football kid. His body takes a pounding playing in 4A, so it take a while for his body to get into wrestling shape. He can shock some folks. He has a lot of heart. It's not so much about moves, but how he is mentally tough and refuses to give in and lose."

190 Trent Blomquist: 3rd at state last year. "He's been to the finals of every tournament this season. He beat a guy twice from Mesa but lost to the guy at Doc Wright. In that loss he was trying to protect an undefeated record. He's looking good, strong and physical and ready to compete for a state championship."

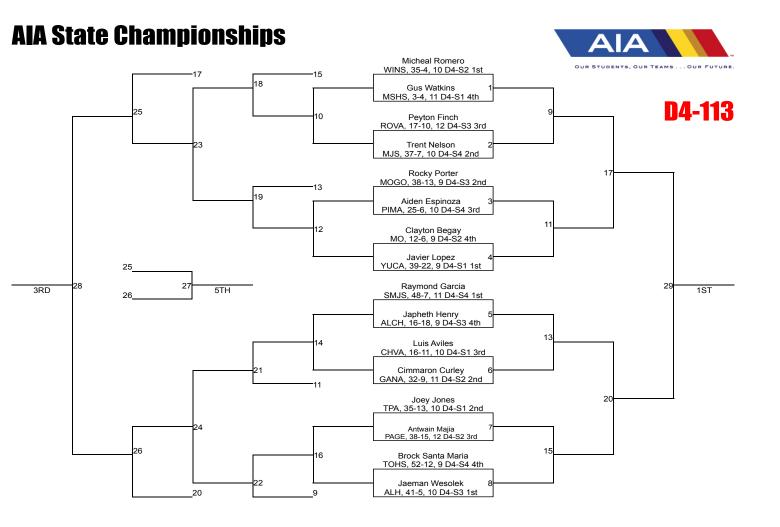
285 Max McVicker: "Max is working on finishing and learning how to wrestle as a heavyweight. We are expecting him to compete."

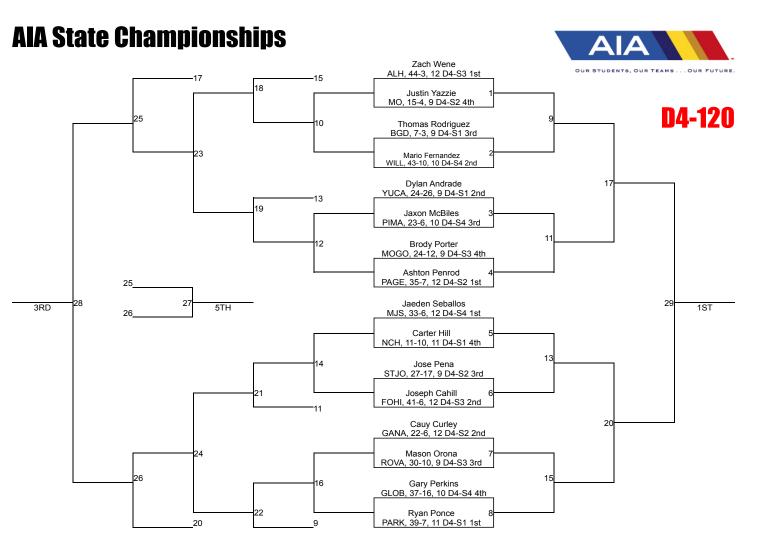
Notes: Arizona Lutheran finished 18-2 in duels, winning the Tim Brown Invitational and Joseph City Invitational. Zach Weneat (120) and Jaeman Wesolek (113) have the potential to win a championship, coach Steve Wene said. Others who could be on the podium include Zeke Schroeder, Caron Cunningham, Aaron Navarro, and Avry Dunton, coach said. ... Mogollon finished second at the Witt Duals, third at the ALA Gilbert W.A.R. duals and won the Mogollon Rocky Nelson Invitational. "We have three wrestlers that have a great chance to win it all, Kaleb Porter (120 lb freshman), if he makes it back from an injury and is able to wrestle, Hadley Porter (138 lb sophomore), who finished second last year, and Payton Reidhead (144lb Senior), who finished 3rd last year," coach Nolan Porter said. ... "The season has been filled with ups and downs for us this year," Morenci coach Casey Woodall said. "We are hoping to get healthy as we head into sectionals and make a push." The biggest highlight of the team so far was traveling to the Reno Tournament of Champions, where it placed 22nd out of 98 teams from all over the country. It finished ahead of D-II defending state Champion Casteel and D-III defending state champion Sahuarita. The two-time defending champ returns three returning state champs, including two who have a chance to repeat, two-time champ Breck Williams (Jr. 126 lbs) and Noah Torres (Jr. 132 lbs). John Provencio is also a defending champ but has been out with an injury since Reno. The team's only senior, 120-pounder Jaeden Seballos is aiming for a state title as well.

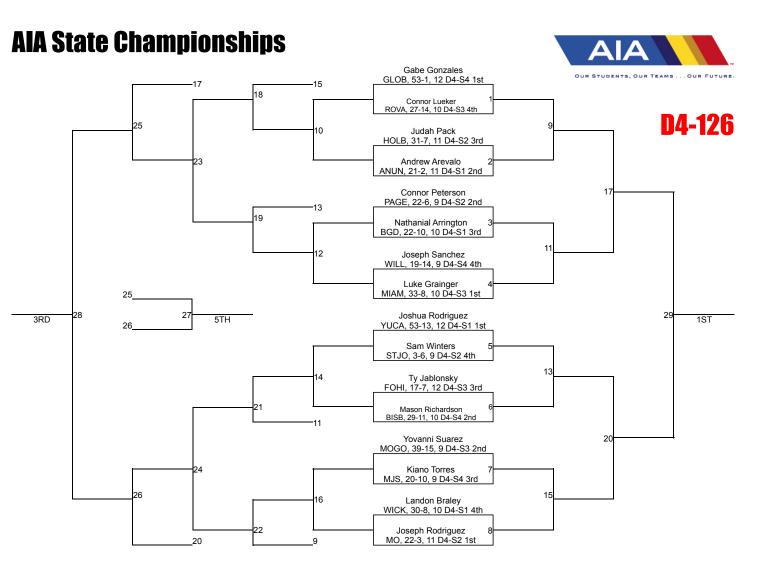


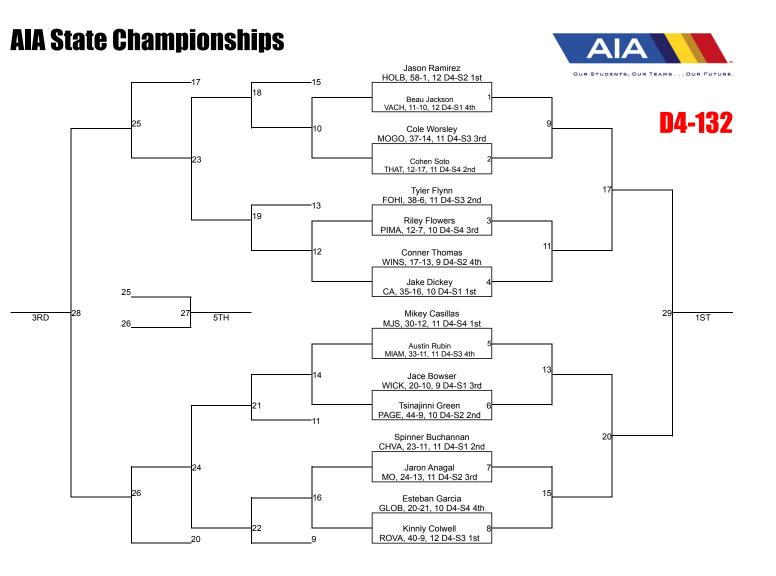
Yuma Catholic keeps closing the gap between it and Morenci. (Photo courtesy of Yuma Catholic)

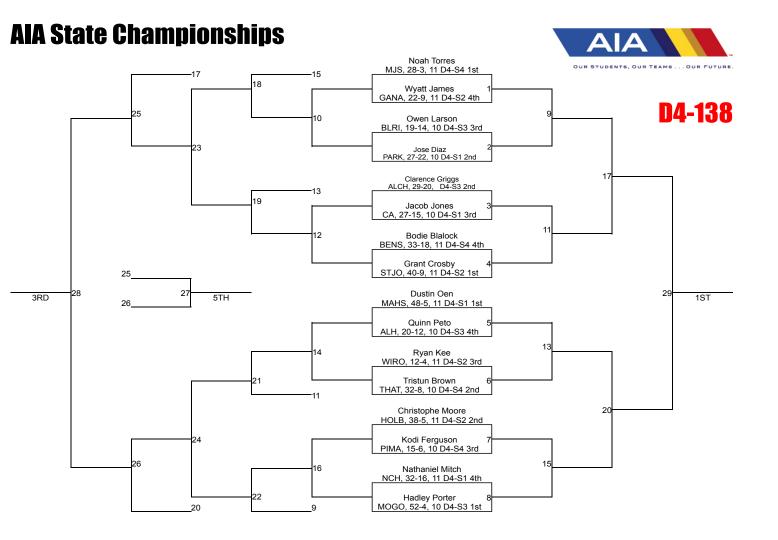














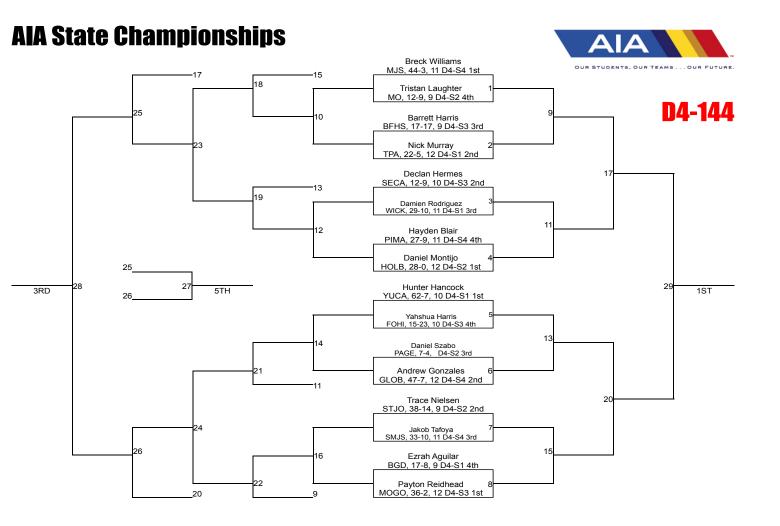
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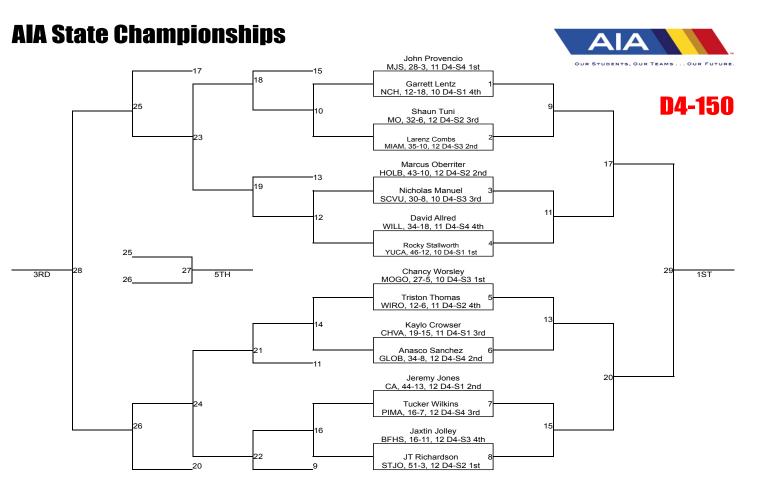
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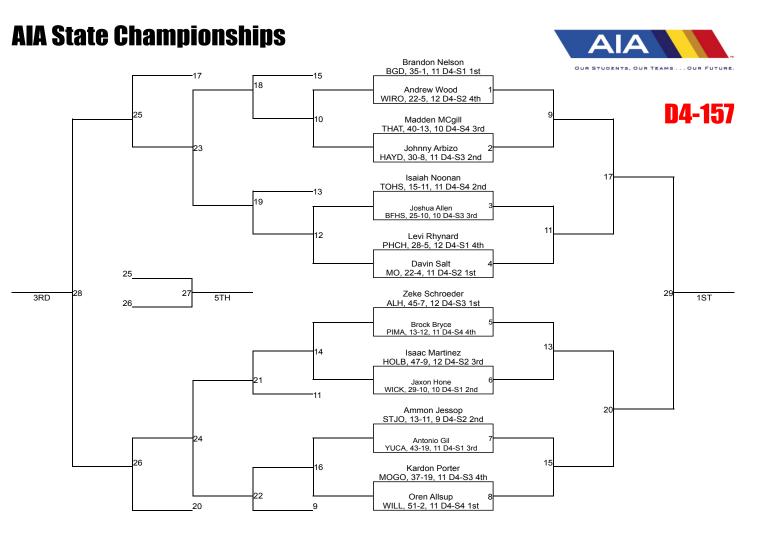
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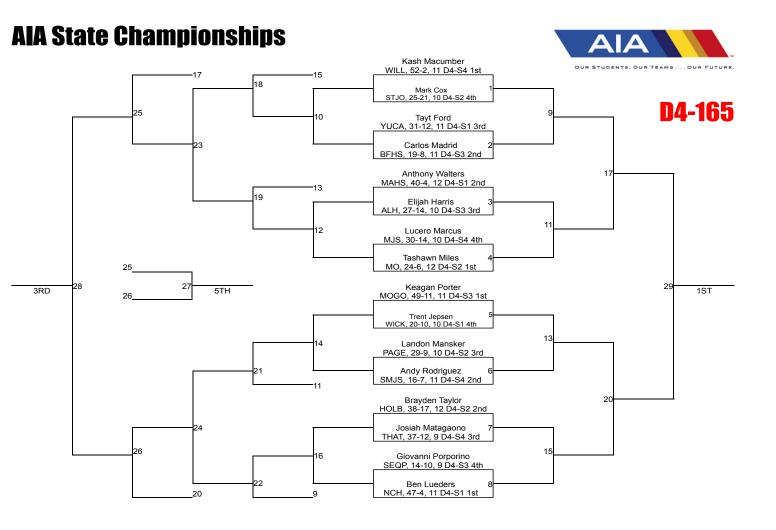


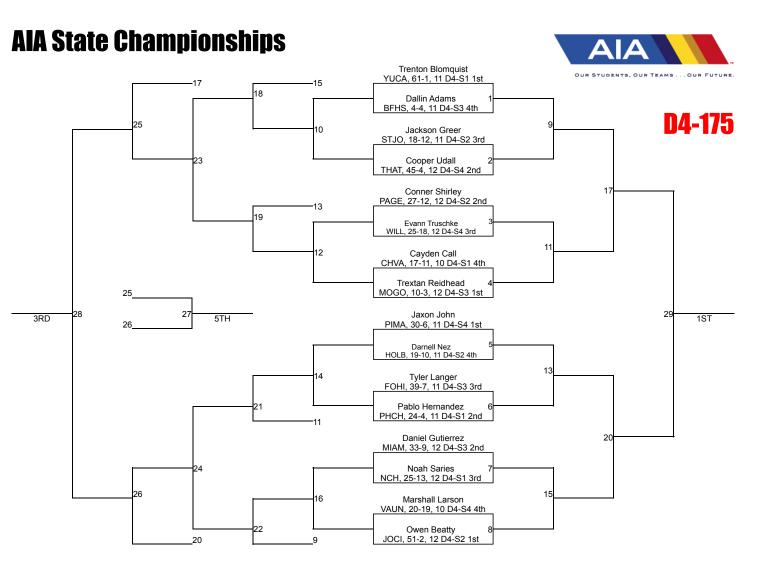


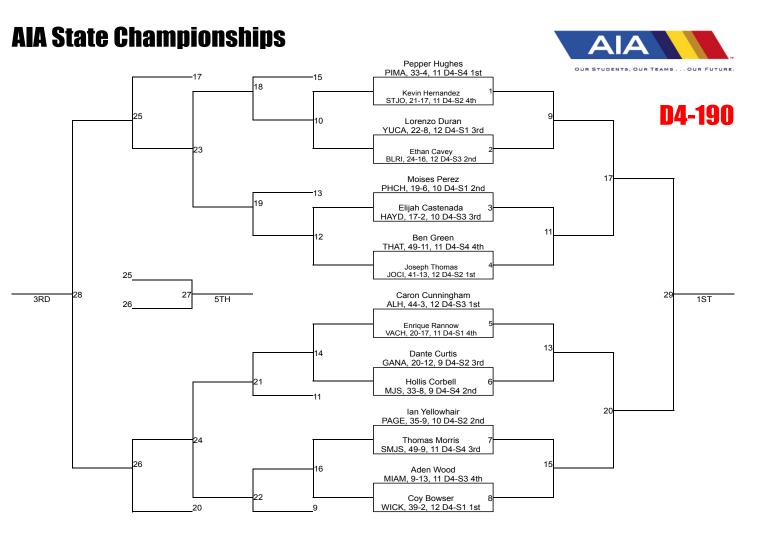


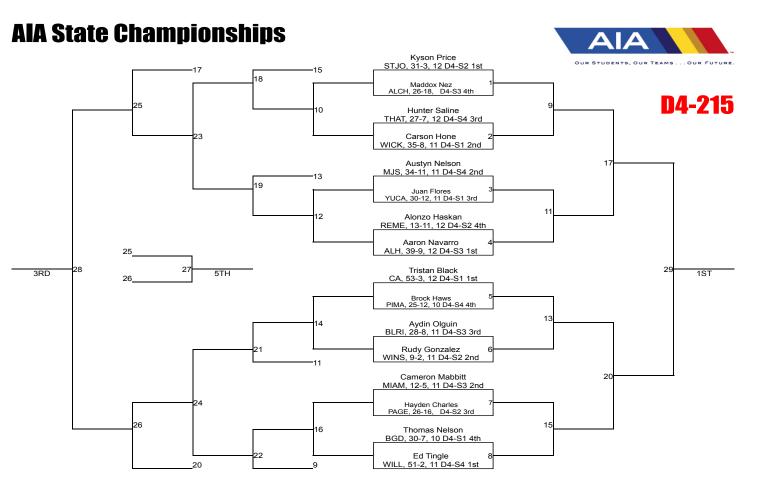


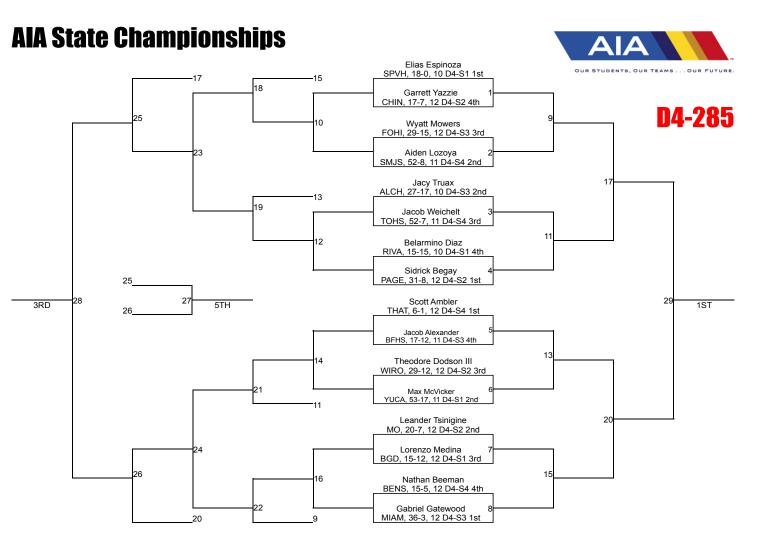














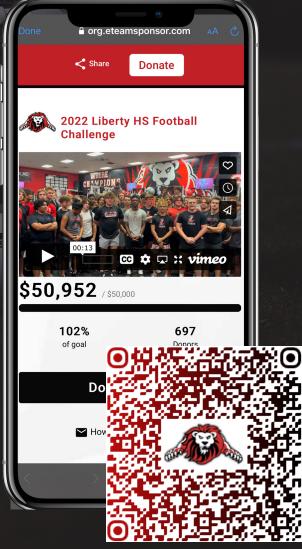
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Div. I

2021-22

Year	Conf/Div	Champion	Coach	Runner-Up	Third Place
2020-21	Div. I	Liberty (93.5)	Eric Brenton	Westwood (87)	Casteel (82)

[TIE] Liberty/Winslow (108)

Michael Garcia

#### **Team Champions and Runners-Up** Year Conf/Div Champion Coach Runner-Up Third Place 1976-77 AAA Mesa (94) Ben Arredondo Sunnyside (88) Maryvale (83) Safford (112.5) Gilbert (107.5) Canyon del Oro (92.5) AA Tom Jones Santa Cruz Valley (122.5) Jay Denton Sahuarita (81) Tuba City (74.5) B/C Round Valley (141) **Charles Foote** Benson (115) Payson (101.5) 1977-78 Sunnvside (67.5) AAA Kofa (92) David Murphy Tempe (77.5) Flowing Wells (119.5) **Dave Thomas** Winslow (101.5) Gilbert (101) AAΑ Santa Cruz Valley (129) Steve Combs Apache Junction (99) Sahuarita (87.5) B/C Joseph City (135.5) Neil DeWitt Round Valley (122.5) St. Johns (118.5) Don Klostreich Chandler (61.5) 1978-79 AAA Sunnyside (105) Tempe (60) AA Flowing Wells (163) **Dave Thomas** Holbrook (113) Snowflake (105) Santa Cruz Valley (177) Steve Combs Apache Junction (136) Page (101.5) B/C Joseph City (115) Neil DeWitt Benson (99) Payson (83.5) 1979-80 Tempe (132.5) Glenn Alford Sunnyside (96) Paradise Valley (58) AAA AA Flowing Wells (149.5) **Dave Thomas** Snowflake (92) Safford (85.5) Apache Junction (174) Glenn McMinn Santa Cruz Valley (123) N/A B/C Dennis Pirch Joseph City (96.5) Payson (100.5) Show Low (70.5) 1980-81 AAA Sunnyside (84) Don Klostreich Mountain View (Mesa) (75.5) Tempe (74.5) Flowing Wells (78.5) Winslow (144) AA **Bob Crosswhite** Peoria (86) Holbrook (162.5) Apache Junction (155) Pat Kenny Snowflake (147) St. Johns (122.5) B/C Payson (148) Dennis Pirch Round Valley (129) 1981-82 AAA Sunnyside (114) Don Klostreich Tempe (103) Moon Valley (57.5) AA Winslow (162) **Bob Crosswhite** Gilbert (128.5) Peoria (88.5) Apache Junction (155) Snowflake (156) San Manuel (103) Ron Squire B/C Round Valley (161.5) Shelby Ray Payson (114) Clifton (93.5) 1982-83 AAA Sunnyside (190) Don Klostreich Mesa (63) Mountain View (Mesa) (55) **Bob Newman** Flowing Wells (112) Winslow (104) AA Marana (139) Holbrook (141.5) Apache Junction (124.5) Bisbee (98.5) Α Pat Kenny B/C Benson (129.5) Fred Comaduran Round Valley (123) Willcox (90) Sunnyside (199) Don Klostreich Mountain View (Mesa) (67.5) Thunderbird (52.5) 1983-84 AAA Flowing Wells (169.5) Dave Thomas Independence (128.5) Peoria (102.5) AAJohn Tkalcevic Payson (120.5) Holbrook (112) Page (132) B/C Morenci (88.5) Joseph City (83) Round Valley (103) Shelby Ray Amphitheater (80) Coronado (60) 1984-85 AAA Sunnyside (174.5) Don Klostreich Flowing Wells (122.5) AA Gilbert (171.5) Marty Vogt Peoria (124) Α Winslow (169.5) **Bob Crosswhite** Page (119) Safford (93) 1985-86 5A Sunnyside (191.5) Don Klostreich McClintock (81) Moon Valley (72) Greg Kirkham Flowing Wells (102.5) 4A Prescott (108) Gilbert (107) Winslow (142.5) **Bob Crosswhite** Apache Junction (107) 3A Page (100) 1A/2A Valley (Sanders) (121) Louis Gomes Hayden (108) Clifton (73.5) Don Klostreich 1986-87 5A Sunnyside (101) Kofa (89) Mountain View (Mesa) (84.5) Peoria (151.5) 4A Desert View (157.5) Chris Antoniotti Paradise Valley (140) 3A Winslow (163) **Bob Crosswhite** Holbrook (131) Apache Junction (120.5) 1A/2A Valley (Sanders) (117.5) **Louis Gomes** Antelope (102.5) Camp Verde (81) Mesa (78) 1987-88 5A Sunnyside (129.5) Don Klostreich Paradise Valley (70.5) Chris Antoniotti Peoria (141) 4A Desert View (173) Apache Junction (99.5) **Bob Crosswhite** [TIE] Holbrook/Payson (102) 3A Winslow (171) 1A/2A Valley (Sanders) (93) Louis Gomes Willcox (76.5) Tombstone (64) 1988-89 5A Chandler (107) John Carlson Sunnyside (101.5) Westwood (92) 4A Desert View (180.5) Chris Antoniotti Apache Junction (100.5) Peoria (140.5) ЗА Payson (130) Dennis Pirch Holbrook (113.5) Winslow (108.5) Benson (78.5) Valley (Sanders) (65) Joseph City (63) 1A/2A Fred Comaduran

Year	Conf/Div	Champion	Coach	Runner-Up	Third Place
1989-90	5A	Chandler (149.5)	John Carlson	Shadow Mountain (134)	Moon Valley (116)
	4A	Sunnyside (202)	Richard Sanchez	Peoria (136.5)	Apache Junction (105)
	3A	Holbrook (138)	Pat Kenny	Show Low (110)	Winslow (108.5)
	1A/2A	St. Johns (133)	Bill Bell	Santa Cruz Valley (113)	San Pasqual (111.5)
1990-91	5A	Shadow Mountain (119)	John Bayless	Mesa (93.5)	Yuma (89.5)
	4A	Sunnyside (190)	Richard Sanchez	Cortez (110.5)	Pueblo (102.5)
	3A	Apache Junction (159.5)	Glenn McMinn	Holbrook (123.5)	Snowflake (103)
	1A/2A	Santa Cruz Valley (131.5)	Jay Denton	San Pasqual (126)	Antelope (110.5)
1991-92	5A	Pueblo (149.5)	John Mulay	Shadow Mountain (114.5)	Mesa (100)
	4A	Sunnyside (196)	Richard Sanchez	Yuma (134)	Flowing Wells (133.5)
	3A 1A/2A	Apache Junction (157) San Pasqual (164.5)	Glenn McMinn Mark Surdyka	Payson (153) Morenci (157)	Show Low (138.5) Willcox (114)
002.02			•	,	, ,
.992-93	5A	Gilbert (145.5)	Dave LaMotte	Dobson (136)	Chaparral (105)
	4A	Sunnyside (253)	Richard Sanchez Dennis Pirch	Flowing Wells (170.5)	Douglas (155)
	3A 1A/2A	Payson (153) Benson (144.5)	Fred Comaduran	Apache Junction (121) St. Johns (142.5)	Snowflake (116.5) Antelope (128.5)
	IA/ZA	BellS011 (144.5)	rieu comaduran	3t. Joillis (142.5)	Antelope (126.5)
.993-94	5A	Red Mountain (151.5)	Nick Kanantinos	Mountain View (Mesa) (111.5)	Deer Valley (96.5)
	4A 3A	Sunnyside (167) Payson (193)	Richard Sanchez Dennis Pirch	Flowing Wells (151) Safford (134)	Highland (103) Holbrook (123)
	3A 1A/2A	Benson (228)	Fred Comaduran	Mogollon (160)	Antelope (138)
	IA/ZA	, ,	rieu comaduran	Mogolion (160)	Antelope (156)
994-95	5A	Cibola (171)	Bill Wilson	Red Mountain (120.5)	Salpointe Catholic (80)
	4A	Highland (185)	Abel Figueroa	Sunnyside (153.5)	Mingus Union (107.5)
	3A	Santa Cruz Valley (145)	Jay Denton	Holbrook (144.5)	Payson (142)
	1A/2A	Mogollon (172)	Rocky Nelson	Benson (124)	St. Johns (116.5)
995-96	5A	Sunnyside (164.5)	Bobby DeBerry	Marcos de Niza (159)	Shadow Mountain (128)
	4A	Peoria (118)	Sammy Chagolla	Tempe (115)	Desert View (109.5)
	3A	Payson (164)	Dennis Pirch	Safford (126)	[TIE] Santa Cruz/Snowflake (105.
	1A/2A	Pima (181.5)	Digger O'Dell	Joseph City (158.5)	Mogollon (134.5)
1996-97	5A	Marcos de Niza (191)	Jim Weed	Sunnyside (184.5)	Highland (184)
	4A	Peoria (168)	Sammy Chagolla	Mountain View (Marana) (146)	
	3A	Payson (148)	Dennis Pirch	Parker (122.5)	Santa Cruz Valley (121)
	1A/2A	Joseph City (200)	Bob Crosswhite	Benson (164)	Pima (139)
1997-98	5A	Sunnyside (221.5)	Bobby DeBerry	Highland (174.5)	Salpointe Catholic (125)
	4A	Peoria (231)	Sammy Chagolla	Marana (126)	Desert View (122)
	3A 1A/2A	Payson (212) Joseph City (229.5)	Dennis Pirch Bob Crosswhite	Santa Cruz Valley (136) San Pasqual (195.5)	Coolidge (114) Morenci (180.5)
	IA/ZA	Joseph City (229.3)	BOD CIOSSWIIILE	Sail Fasqual (193.3)	Morenci (180.3)
.998-99	5A	Sunnyside (208) Peoria (195.5)	Bobby DeBerry	Mountain View (Mesa) (171.5)	Marcos de Niza (151.5)
	4A 3A	Payson (181.5)	Sammy Chagolla Dennis Pirch	Page (148) Safford (129.5)	Coconino (129) Window Rock (113.5)
	1A/2A	Morenci (236)	Gilbert Padilla	Joseph City (197)	San Pasqual (191.5)
	_, ,, _, .	,			
.999-00	5A	Mtn. View (Mesa) (188.5)	Chris Gallegos	Highland (152.5)	Mountain Ridge (119.5)
	4A	Sunnyside (282)	Bobby DeBerry	Sunrise Mountain (177)	Thunderbird (155.5)
	3A 1A/2A	Payson (194.5) Morenci (192)	Dennis Pirch Gilbert Padilla	Winslow (179) Joseph City (184.5)	Rio Rico (127) Mogollon (147)
	IA/ZA	Morenci (192)	Glibert Faullia	Joseμπ City (164.3)	Mogolion (147)
2000-01	5A	Highland (173)	Abel Figueroa	Red Mountain (151.5)	Dobson (128)
	4A	Sunnyside (267)	Bobby DeBerry	Thunderbird (190.5)	Mingus Union (140)
	3A	Rio Rico (165)	Doug Brewington	Payson (162)	Show Low (147)
	1A/2A	Morenci (195)	Gilbert Padilla	Mogollon (135.5)	San Pasqual (112)
2001-02	5A	Marcos de Niza (189)	Jim Weed	Desert Vista (128.5)	Red Mountain (117)
	4A	Sunnyside (253.5)	Bobby DeBerry	Thunderbird (171)	Tempe (140.5)
	3A	Show Low (197)	Michal Koury	Rio Rico (144)	Payson (134)
	1A/2A	San Manuel (212.5)	Manny Yubeta	Benson (186.5)	Mogollon (179)
2002-03	5A	Marcos de Niza (189.5)	Jim Weed	Mountain View (Mesa) (131.5)	Mountain View (Marana) (130.5)
	4A	Sunnyside (220.5)	Bobby DeBerry	Mingus Union (171.5)	Tempe (170)
	3A	Show Low (195)	Shane Koury	Payson (182.5)	Blue Ridge (131.5)
	1A/2A	Morenci (206)	Gilbert Padilla	San Manuel (198.5)	Mogollon (147.5)

Year	Conf/Div	Champion	Coach	Runner-Up	Third Place
2003-04	5A	Marcos de Niza (209)	Jim Weed	Mountain View (Mesa) (159.5)	Maryvale (159)
	4A	Sunnyside (266.5)	Bobby DeBerry	Pueblo (173)	Mingus Union (102)
	3A	Camp Verde (187)	Bob Weir	Safford (159)	Show Low (146)
	1A/2A	San Manuel (229)	Manny Yubeta	Maricopa (217)	Morenci (208)
2004-05	5A	Highland (183)	Abel Figueroa	Red Mountain (157)	Mountain View (Mesa) (156.5)
	4A	Sunnyside (235.5)	Bobby DeBerry	Thunderbird (180)	Mingus Union (142)
	3A	Safford (216)	Herman Andrews, Jr.	Camp Verde (208)	Show Low (127)
	1A/2A	Morenci (232)	Gilbert Padilla	Maricopa (165.5)	Thatcher (161.5)
		2005-06 marked the first yea	r of bracketed team tou	rnament	
2005-06	5A Div. I	Mesa (38)	Bobby Williams	Mountain View (Mesa) (23)	
	5A Div. II	Sunnyside (44)	Bobby DeBerry	Marcos de Niza (19)	
	4A Div. I	Thunderbird (194.5)	Steve Linsacum	Moon Valley (148.5)	Pueblo (135)
	4A Div. II	Mingus Union (221)	Tom Wokasch	Sunnyslope (135.5)	Buckeye (125)
	3A	Safford (227.5)	Herman Andrews, Jr.	Payson (164.5)	Show Low (147)
	1A/2A	Camp Verde (177.5)	Bob Weir	[TIE] Maricopa/Willcox (154)	
006-07	5A Div. I	Mesa (26)	Bobby Williams	Mountain View (Mesa) (25)	
	5A Div. II	Sunnyside (47)	Bobby DeBerry	Kofa (12)	
	4A Div. I	Thunderbird (174.5)	Steve Linsacum	Independence (121)	Prescott (119)
	4A Div. II	Mingus Union (278.5)	Tom Wokasch	Buckeye (153)	Sunnyslope (148.5)
	3A	Safford (241.5)	Herman Andrews, Jr.	Sahuarita (154.5)	Payson (145.5)
	1A/2A	Camp Verde (273)	Bob Weir	Benson (116)	Morenci (114.5)
007-08	5A Div. I	Mesa (35)	Bobby Williams	Corona del Sol (22)	
	5A Div. II	Sunnyside (53)	Bobby DeBerry	Cibola (13)	
	4A Div. I	Pueblo (152)	Steve Lopez	Thunderbird (146)	Sandra Day O'Connor (117)
	4A Div. II	Mingus Union (243.5)	Tom Wokasch	Moon Valley (163.5)	Queen Creek (110)
	3A	Safford (225.5)	Herman Andrews, Jr.	Blue Ridge (170.5)	Winslow (156.5)
	1A/2A	Camp Verde (181.5)	Bob Weir	Benson (141.5)	Thatcher (134)
008-09	5A Div. I	Corona del Sol (26)	Dave Vibber	Mesa (25)	
	5A Div. II	Sunnyside (54)	Bobby DeBerry	Ironwood Ridge (9)	
	4A Div. I	Cienega (37)	Marty Niblo	Thunderbird (15)	
	4A Div. II	Mingus Union (43)	Tom Wokasch	Moon Valley (21)	
	3A	Safford (40)	Herman Andrews, Jr.	Holbrook (25)	
	1A/2A	St. Johns (193)	Brandon Crosby	Camp Verde (165)	Benson (160.5)
009-10	5A Div. I	Corona del Sol (38)	Jim Martinez	Mesa (16)	
	5A Div. II	Sunnyside (35)	Bobby DeBerry	Ironwood Ridge (24)	
	4A Div. I	Moon Valley (49)	Bryan Smith	Queen Creek (28)	
	4A Div. II	Mingus Union (47)	Tom Wokasch	Thunderbird (16)	
	3A	Safford (267)	Herman Andrews, Jr.	Payson (152.5)	Snowflake (144)
	1A/2A	Joseph City (215.5)	Aaron Westover	St. Johns (143)	Morenci (136.5)
010-11	Div. I	Sunnyside (124.5)	Bobby DeBerry	Highland (114)	Desert Vista (102)
	Div. II	Ironwood Ridge (141.5)	Tim Berrier	Marcos de Niza (116)	Moon Valley (101)
	Div. III	Thunderbird (158.5)	Steve Linsacum	Mingus Union (157.5)	Rio Rico (127)
	Div. IV	Mogollon (177)	Rocky Nelson	Morenci (147.5)	Camp Verde (118.5)
011-12	Div. I	Chandler (122)	Vidal Mejia	Cibola (120.5)	Desert Vista (114)
	Div. II	Ironwood Ridge (204.5)	Tim Berrier	Gila Ridge (150)	Marcos de Niza (139.5)
	Div. III	Thunderbird (121)	Steve Linsacum	Mingus Union (105)	[TIE] Amphitheater/Blue Ridge (10
	Div. IV	St. Johns (236)	Brandon Crosby	Camp Verde (169)	Morenci (165.5)
012-13	Div. I	Sunnyside (151.5)	Anthony Leon	Chandler (132)	Corona del Sol (127)
	Div. II	Ironwood Ridge (216.5)	Tim Berrier	Gila Ridge (128)	Prescott (85)
	Div. III	Thunderbird (132.5)	Steve Linsacum	Rio Rico (91)	Coconino (88.5)
	Div. IV	Camp Verde (243.5)	Bob Weir	St. Johns (195.5)	Morenci (164.5)
013-14	Div. I	Mountain View (Mesa) (197)	Bob Callison	Sunnyside (142)	Boulder Creek (127)
	Div. II	Cibola (169)	Mike Jankowski	[TIE] Cienega/Mountain View (N	` ,
	Div. III	Holbrook (195.5)	John Bokker	Amphitheater (173.5)	Tempe (153)
	Div. IV	Camp Verde (229.5)	Tracy Tudor	St. Johns (219)	Benson (182)
014-15	Div. I	Mountain View (Mesa) (193)	Bob Callison	Sunnyside (158)	Ironwood Ridge (118.5)
J_7 1J	Div. II	Cibola (142)	Mike Jankowski	Liberty (130)	Mountain View (Marana) (93)
		` ,		, , ,	, , , ,
	Div. III	Thunderbird (170.5)	Steve Linsacum	Amphitheater (147)	Seton Catholic (102)

Year	Conf/Div	Champion	Coach	Runner-Up	Coach Score
2015-16	Div. I	Ironwood Ridge (194)	Tim Berrier	Sunnyside (171.5)	Mountain View (Mesa) (166.5)
	Div. II	Liberty (164)	Eric Brenton	Seton Catholic (159)	Mountain View (Marana) (122)
	Div. III	Safford (179)	Herman Andrews, Jr.	Chino Valley (128.5)	Amphitheater (128)
	Div. IV	Morenci (208.5)	Casey Woodall	Winslow (146)	St. Johns (134.5)
2016-17	Div. I	Corona del Sol (226.5)	Jim Martinez	Sunnyside (203)	Cibola (145)
	Div. II	Mtn. View (Marana) (177.5)	PJ Ponce	Queen Creek (171)	Liberty (139)
	Div. III	Show Low (172)	Tim Williams	Yuma (131)	Safford (126.5)
	Div. IV	Morenci (218)	Casey Woodall	St. Johns (170)	Camp Verde (161)
2017-18	Div. I	Sunnyside (193)	Anthony Leon	Cibola (164)	Chandler (124.5)
	Div. II	Queen Creek (181)	Jacob Goddard	Liberty (149.5)	Cienega (137.5)
	Div. III	Yuma (170)	Jeff Welsing	Walden Grove (169.5)	Show Low (168)
	Div. IV	St. Johns (171.5)	Brandon Crosby	Morenci (146.5)	Camp Verde (138.5)
2018-19	Div. I	Liberty (181)	Eric Brenton	Desert Vista (158)	Mountain View (Mesa) (130)
	Div. II	Sunnyside (241)	Anthony Leon	Mtn. View (Marana) (127)	Cienega (116.5)
	Div. III	Walden Grove (185.5)	Victor Gonzalez	Yuma (141.5)	Chino Valley (121.5)
	Div. IV	Santa Cruz Valley (182.5)	Ray Belloc	St. Johns (155)	Morenci (144.5)
2019-20	Div. I	Liberty (228)	Eric Brenton	Cibola (173)	Mountain View (Mesa) (128.5)
	Div. II	Sunnyside (277.5)	Anthony Leon	Mtn. View (Marana) (176)	Ironwood Ridge (158.5)
	Div. III	Yuma (111)	Jeff Welsing	Sahuarita (91.5)	Chino Valley (90)
	Div. IV	Santa Cruz Valley (199.5)	Ray Belloc	Morenci (151.5)	St. Johns (111)
2020-21	Div. I	Sunnyside (198)	Anthony Leon	Liberty (166.5)	Desert Vista (113.5)
	Div. II	Casteel (219)	Bob Callison	Mtn. View (Marana) (203)	Campo Verde (158)
	Div. III	Safford (124)	Herman Andrews, Jr.	Sahuarita (109.5)	ALA-Gilbert North (98)
	Div. IV	Morenci (301)	Casey Woodall	Yuma Catholic (184)	St. Johns (178)
2021-22	Div. I	Sunnyside (263)	Anthony Leon	Liberty (173)	Desert Ridge (144)
	Div. II	Casteel (267.5)	Bob Callison	Canyon View (160.5)	Ironwood (122)
	Div. III	Sahuarita (160.5)	Paul Vasquez	Walden Grove (144)	ALA-Gilbert North (122.5)
	Div. IV	Morenci (201.5)	Casey Woodall	Yuma Catholic (175.5)	Mogollon (148)

#### **Team Records**

#### **Championships Won**

- 35 Sunnyside: 1979 (AAA), 1981 (AAA), 1982 (AAA), 1983 (AAA), 1984 (AAA), 1985 (AAA), 1986 (5A), 1987 (5A), 1988 (5A), 1990 (4A), 1991 (4A), 1992 (4A), 1993 (4A), 1994 (4A), 1996 (5A), 1998 (5A), 1999 (5A), 2000 (4A), 2001 (4A), 2002 (4A), 2003 (4A), 2004 (4A), 2005 (4A), 2006 (5A Div. II), 2007 (5A Div. II), 2008 (5A Div. II), 2009 (5A Div. II), 2010 (5A Div. II), 2011 (Div. I), 2013 (Div. I), 2018 (Div. I), 2019 (Div. I), 2020 (Div. I), 2021 (Div. I), 2022 (Div. I).
- **10 Payson:** 1980 (B/C), 1981 (B/C), 1989 (3A), 1993 (3A), 1994 (3A), 1996 (3A), 1997 (3A), 1998 (3A), 1999 (3A), 2000 (3A).
- **9 Morenci:** 1999 (1A/2A), 2000 (1A/2A), 2001 (1A/2A), 2003 (1A/2A), 2005 (1A/2A), 2016 (Div. IV), 2017 (Div. IV), 2021 (Div. IV), 2022 (Div. IV).
- **9 Safford:** 1977 (AA), 2005 (3A), 2006 (3A), 2007 (3A), 2008 (3A), 2009 (3A), 2010 (3A), 2016 (Div. III), 2021 (Div. III).
- **7 Camp Verde:** 2004 (3A), 2006 (1A/2A), 2007 (1A/2A), 2008 (1A/2A), 2013 (Div. IV), 2014 (Div. IV), 2015 (Div. IV).
- **7 Santa Cruz Valley:** 1977 (A), 1978 (A), 1979 (A), 1991 (1A/2A), 1995 (3A), 2019 (Div. IV), 2020 (Div. IV).
- **6 Thunderbird:** 2006 (4A Div. I), 2007 (4A Div. I), 2011 (Div. III), 2012 (Div. III), 2013 (Div. III), 2015 (Div. III).
- **6 Winslow:** 1981 (AA), 1982 (AA), 1985 (A), 1986 (3A), 1987 (3A), 1988 (3A).
- **5 Joseph City:** 1978 (B/C), 1979 (B/C), 1997 (1A/2A), 1998 (1A/2A), 2010 (1A/2A).
- **5 Mingus Union:** 2006 (4A Div. II), 2007 (4A Div. II), 2008 (4A Div. II), 2009 (4A Div. II), 2010 (4A Div. II).
- **4 Benson:** 1983 (B/C), 1989 (1A/2A), 1993 (1A/2A), 1994 (1A/2A).
- **4 Flowing Wells:** 1978 (AA), 1979 (AA), 1980 (AA), 1984 (AA).
- **4 Holbrook:** 1981 (A), 1983 (A), 1990 (3A), 2014 (Div. III).
- **4 Ironwood Ridge:** 2011 (Div. II), 2012 (Div. II), 2013 (Div. II), 2016 (Div. I).
- **4 Marcos de Niza:** 1997 (5A), 2002 (5A), 2003 (5A), 2004 (5A).
- **4 Mesa:** 1977 (AAA), 2006 (5A Div. I), 2007 (5A Div. I), 2008 (5A Div. I).
- **4 Peoria:** 1996 (4A), 1997 (4A), 1998 (4A), 1999 (4A).
- **4 St. Johns:** 1990 (1A/2A), 2009 (1A/2A), 2012 (Div. IV), 2018 (Div. IV).
- **3 Apache Junction:** 1980 (A), 1991 (3A), 1992 (3A).
- **3 Chandler:** 1989 (5A), 1990 (5A), 2012 (Div. I).
- **3 Cibola:** 1995 (5A), 2014 (Div. II), 2015 (Div. II).
- **3 Corona del Sol:** 2009 (5A Div. I), 2010 (5A Div. I), 2017 (Div. I).

- **3 Desert View:** 1987 (4A), 1988 (4A), 1989 (4A).
- **3 Highland:** 1995 (4A), 2001 (5A), 2005 (5A).
- **3 Liberty:** 2016 (Div. II), 2019 (Div. I), 2020 (Div. I).
- 3 Mountain View (Mesa): 2000 (5A), 2014 (Div. I), 2015 (Div. I).
- **3 Round Valley:** 1977 (B/C), 1982 (B/C), 1984 (B/C).
- **3 Show Low:** 2002 (3A), 2003 (3A), 2017 (Div. III).
- **3 Valley (Sanders):** 1986 (1A/2A), 1987 (1A/2A), 1988 (1A/2A).
- 2 Casteel: 2021 (Div. II), 2022 (Div. II).
- 2 Mogollon: 1995 (1A/2A), 2011 (Div. IV),
- **2 Pueblo:** 1992 (5A), 2008 (4A Div. I).
- **2 San Manuel:** 2002 (1A/2A), 2004 (1A/2A).
- 2 Yuma: 2018 (Div. III), 2020 (Div. III).
- **1 Cienega:** 2009 (4A Div. I).
- **1 Gilbert:** 1985 (AA).
- **1 Kofa:** 1978 (AAA).
- 1 Marana: 1983 (AA).
- 1 Moon Valley: 2010 (4A Div. I).
- 1 Page: 1984 (A).
- 1 Pima: 1996 (1A/2A).
- 1 Prescott: 1986 (4A).
- 1 Queen Creek: 2018 (Div. II).
- 1 Red Mountain: 1994 (5A).
- 1 Rio Rico: 2001 (3A).
- 1 Sahuarita: 2022 (Div. III).
- 1 San Pasqual: 1992 (1A/2A).
- 1 Shadow Mountain: 1991 (5A).
- 1 Snowflake: 1982 (A).
- 1 Tempe: 1980 (AAA).
- 1 Walden Grove: 2019 (Div. III).

#### **Most Consecutive Championships**

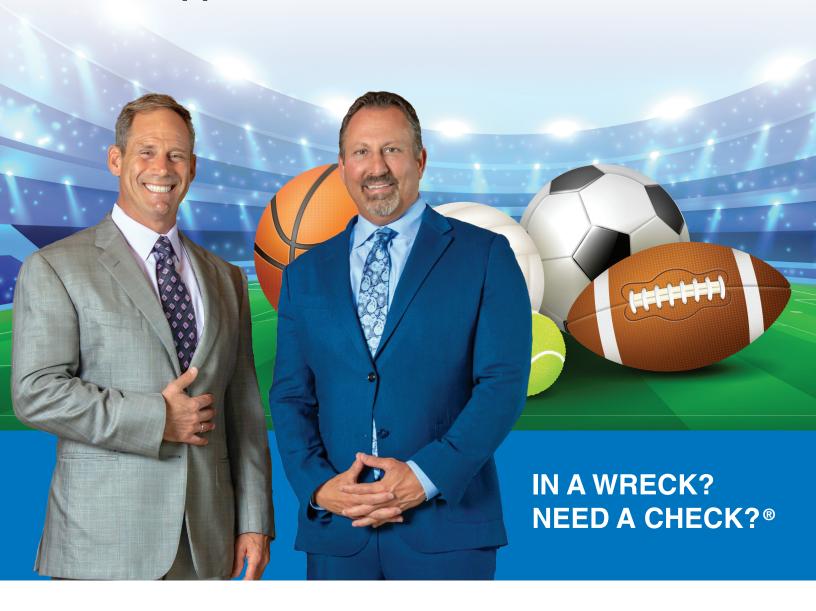
- 14 Sunnyside: 1998 (5A), 1999 (5A), 2000 (4A), 2001 (4A), 2002 (4A), 2003 (4A), 2004 (4A), 2005 (4A), 2006 (5A Div. II), 2007 (5A Div. II), 2008 (5A Div. II), 2009 (5A Div. II), 2010 (5A Div. II), 2011 (Div. I).
- 8 Sunnyside: 1981 (AAA), 1982 (AAA), 1983 (AAA), 1984 (AAA), 1985 (AAA), 1986 (5A), 1987 (5A), 1988 (5A).
- **6 Safford:** 2005 (3A), 2006 (3A), 2007 (3A), 2008 (3A), 2009 (3A), 2010 (3A).
- **5 Mingus Union:** 2006 (4A Div. II), 2007 (4A Div. II), 2008 (4A Div. II), 2009 (4A Div. II), 2010 (4A Div. II).
- **5 Payson:** 1996 (3A), 1997 (3A), 1998 (3A), 1999 (3A), 2000 (3A).
- **5 Sunnyside**: 1990 (4A), 1991 (4A), 1992 (4A), 1993 (4A), 1994 (4A).
- **5 Sunnyside:** 2018 (Div. I), 2019 (Div. I), 2020 (Div. I), 2021 (Div. I), 2022 (Div. I).
- **4 Peoria:** 1996 (4A), 1997 (4A), 1998 (4A), 1999 (4A).
- **4 Winslow:** 1985 (A), 1986 (3A), 1987 (3A), 1988 (3A).
- **3 Camp Verde:** 2013 (Div. IV), 2014 (Div. IV), 2015 (Div. IV).
- **3 Desert View:** 1987 (4A), 1988 (4A), 1989 (4A).
- **3 Flowing Wells:** 1978 (AA), 1979 (AA), 1980 (AA).
- **3 Ironwood Ridge:** 2011 (Div. II), 2012 (Div. II), 2013 (Div. II).
- **3 Marcos de Niza:** 2002 (5A), 2003 (5A), 2004 (5A).
- **3 Mesa:** 2006 (5A Div. I), 2007 (5A Div. I), 2008 (5A Div. I).
- **3 Morenci:** 1999 (1A/2A), 2000 (1A/2A), 2001 (1A/2A). **3 - Santa Cruz Valley:** 1977 (A), 1978 (A), 1979
- (A). **3 Thunderbird:**2011 (Div. III), 2012 (Div. III), 2013 (Div. III).
- **3 Valley (Sanders):** 1986 (1A/2A), 1987 (1A/2A), 1988 (1A/2A).

#### **Current Consecutive Championships**

- **5 Sunnyside:** 2018 (Div. I), 2019 (Div. I), 2020 (Div. I), 2021 (Div. I), 2022 (Div. I).
- 2 Casteel: 2021 (Div. II), 2022 (Div. II).
- 2 Morenci: 2021 (Div. IV), 2022 (Div. IV).

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