



# The Historical Eras of Washington Wrestling

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It is often said that without a sense of history one can never truly understand and appreciate the happenings of today. That philosophy certainly applies to high school wrestling in the state of Washington. To not take today's

Mat Classic for granted, one must understand that we have come from wrestling "smokers" among ten schools, and horse hair mats, to an extravaganza that draws 896 wrestlers, over 25,000 fans, and media reporters and photographers from over 125

newspapers, television stations, and radio stations.

The development of the sport in Washington is best described in the form of four historical eras.....prior to 1953, from 1953 to 1962, from 1963 to 1988, and from