

## Why There are Referees

By Ira Fleckman

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If the rules are written in straightforward language and understood by the participants, why is it necessary to employ referees? This author has been involved in the sport of wrestling since joining the University of Georgia wrestling team in 1960 and has been involved with every

aspect of the sport of amateur wrestling. During all that time the questioning of the need for a referee never seemed important. At this time, wrestling remains a popular sport, especially among adolescent males and is even gaining some interest with the distaff population. It remains a mystery as to

why the vast majority of America's sports spectators fail to demand more television time for wrestling events or even attend wrestling events at the high schools and colleges. Could it be a fact that the cause of the problem is the employment of referees?

The following facts are true. Many years