

Purdue Wrestling Releases 2017-18 Schedule

Boilermakers' first home dual set for Dec. 18



Aug. 9, 2017

[Schedule](#) / [Printable Schedule](#)

#BoilerNotes

- Fifteen duals, nine Big Ten dates, six non-conference opponents ... seven duals at home, four on the road and four at neutral locations.
- It's the first season since 2004-05 that the Boilermakers will not face a non-conference opponent on the road.
- Six dual opponents and two tournaments carry over to 2017-18 from last season.
- The Boilermakers had the same Big Ten Conference schedule in 2014-15.
- Two opponents, LIU Post and North Dakota State, will be added to the program's all-time opponent list at Nos. 151 and 152.

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. - The 2017-18 Purdue wrestling schedule was released by head coach [Tony Ersland](#) on Wednesday. The dual slate features six home dates, including a double feature for the home opener in Holloway Gymnasium on Dec. 18. The first half of the season is tournament heavy with Big Ten Conference duals taking over the schedule starting in January.

"We have built our schedule around the fact that four starters from last season were lost to graduation and several freshmen are coming out of redshirt," Ersland said. "We want our guys exposed to competition outside of the Big Ten, so we looked at our tournaments and non-conference opponents and decided to change it up. We're going to see competition from nearly every conference across the

country, which is going to be incredibly beneficial to our team.”

The doors on the 2017-18 campaign open in the same site where the postseason road begins: East Lansing, Michigan. A large Boilermaker platoon will be in action at the season-opening Michigan State Open on Nov. 5. Four months later the Big Ten Conference Championships will descend upon East Lansing. The two-day tournament is slated for March 3 and 4. It has been 11 years since Michigan State last hosted the event.

Purdue then makes back-to-back trips to the East Coast. The Boilermakers return to the Journeymen/ASICS Northeast Collegiate Duals for a trio of duals on Nov. 11, facing Northern Iowa, Hofstra and for the first time in program history, LIU Post. Historically the event has been held in Troy, New York, but is moving to Schenectady in 2017.

The following weekend Purdue treks to Annapolis, Maryland, for the Navy Classic (11/18). Over a dozen teams from six conferences will be represented at the 40th annual tournament.

December's docket features two tournaments and the home opener. The Cliff Keen Las Vegas Collegiate Wrestling Invitational takes place Dec. 1 and 2.

"Going out east will expose us to a lot of teams out of the EIWA and EWL, while the Vegas tournament is highly competitive and allows us to wrestle guys from the Pac-12 Conference," Erslund said. "These are guys we don't really see until the NCAA Championships, but by going out east and Vegas, it gives us that look at competition from coast to coast."

For a second consecutive season, the Boilermakers will host multiple duals for their Dec. 18, home opener in Holloway Gymnasium, taking on SIU Edwardsville and Central Michigan. SIU Edwardsville and Central Michigan will face off at 1 p.m. ET, with Purdue taking to the mat against SIU Edwardsville at 3 p.m., and Central Michigan at 5 p.m.

The iconic Ken Kraft Midlands Championships cap off the 2017 calendar year. With renovations being made to Northwestern's Welsh-Ryan Arena, the 55th edition of the annual tournament will be taking place at the Sears Centre in Hoffman Estates, Illinois, on Dec. 29 and 30.

As the calendar turns to 2018, the schedule shifts to duals with 10 dates in the span of seven weeks. Home duals include Michigan (1/7), Illinois (1/21), North Dakota State (1/26), Michigan State (2/2) and Northwestern (2/9).

Purdue will hit the road to take on Nebraska (1/12), Penn State (1/19), Indiana (2/4) and Wisconsin (2/18). The Jan. 28, date with Ohio State will be held at Graham High School in Saint Paris, Ohio.

Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland, Ohio, will serve as the host for the NCAA Championships from March 15-17. It's the second time in the city's history the season has culminated in Cleveland. In 1998 the tournament took place at Cleveland State's Convocation Center.

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