



PRESS RELEASE

NC State Wrestling

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NC State's Nick Reenan to Wrestle in Final X Saturday Night *Wolfpack's redshirt-sophomore vying for spot on U.S. World Team*

RALEIGH, N.C. – NC State redshirt-sophomore Nick Reenan will be in action this weekend, taking on David Taylor Saturday night at Final X from Penn State at 86 kg. The winner of the best-of-3 championship format will earn a spot on the U.S. World Team and compete at the 2018 UWW World Championships Oct. 20-28 in Budapest, Hungary.

Action starts at 6 p.m., and all the matches will be streamed on FloWrestling.

[WATCH VIDEO: Reenan Final X Preview](#)

“This is no doubt a big deal for Nick Reenan,” said NC State head coach Pat Popolizio. “He has made some huge, huge improvements in his wrestling across the board since he has arrived here on campus. He has matured a ton, and has got a lot bigger and stronger. He has been working hard for events like this, I’m really looking forward to seeing him in action at Final X.

“He is wrestling very confident right now. He went to the U.S. Open and knew he could compete with the best in the country, and then went to the Trials and proved that and won to advance to this weekend. This will be a very valuable experience for him, and also give him the opportunity to prove where he is at.”

Reenan redshirted the 2017-18 season with the Wolfpack, after he was an NCAA Qualifier as a true freshman at 174 pounds. This spring, Reenan placed third at both the Bill Ferrell International and the U.S. Open, his first two senior-level events of his freestyle career.

Reenan then defeated freestyle veteran Richard Perry (4-0 and 6-3) in the finals of the World Team Trials Challenge Tournament in Rochester, Minn., in May to advance to Final X.

His opponent at Final X will be former Penn State wrestler David Taylor who won the 2012 and 2014 NCAA titles paired with two Dan Hodge trophies. Taylor is currently ranked No. 2 in the world at 79 kg.

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Without a returning medalist at this weight, Taylor advanced to Final X by winning the 2018 U.S. Open at the weight, defeating Perry in the finals.

There are three Final X events, with 20 competitors in the 10 weight classes. Reenan is one of only four collegiate wrestlers to qualify. Also, with reigning World bronze champion Nick Gwiazdowski in action next weekend, NC State is one of only four schools nationally (Cornell, Ohio State, Nebraska) that has at least two competitors in Final X this year.

Each Final X matchup will be a best-of-three series, and the order of bouts will be the same for the first round and the second round of competition. If any weight classes are forced to a deciding third match in their series, the bouts in round three will stay in order, with a minimum waiting time of 30 minutes from the end of bout two. The bout schedule is below.

FINAL X IN STATE COLLEGE

Saturday, June 16 at Rec Hall, starting at 6:00 p.m. ET

Bout Order

Bout One - Men's freestyle 65 kg

2018 U.S. Open champion - Joseph McKenna, Towaco, N.J. (Titan Mercury WC/Ohio RTC)
2018 WTT Challenge Tournament champion - Logan Stieber, Columbus, Ohio (Titan Mercury WC/Ohio RTC)

Bout Two - Women's freestyle 62 kg

2018 U.S. Open champion - Kayla Miracle, Campbellsville, Ky. (Sunkist Kids)
2018 WTT Challenge Tournament champion - Mallory Velte, Sacramento, Calif. (Titan Mercury WC)

Bout Three - Women's freestyle 72 kg

2018 U.S. Open champion - Erin Clodgo, Richmond, Vermont (Sunkist Kids)
2018 WTT Challenge Tournament champion - Rachel Watters, Ankeny, Iowa (New York AC/Aires WC)

Bout Four - Men's freestyle 79 kg

2018 U.S. Open champion - Kyle Dake, Ithaca, N.Y. (Titan Mercury WC)
2018 WTT Challenge Tournament champion - Zahid Valencia, Bellflower, Calif. (Sunkist Kids)

Bout Five - Women's freestyle 76 kg

2018 U.S. Open champion - Adeline Gray, Kingston, Pa. (New York AC)
2018 WTT Challenge Tournament champion - Korinahe Bullock, Cahokia, Ill. (McKendree Bearcat WC)

Bout Six - Men's freestyle 86 kg

2018 U.S. Open champion - David Taylor, State College, Pa. (Nittany Lion WC)
2018 WTT Challenge Tournament champion - Nick Reenan, Dallas, Texas (Titan Mercury WC/Wolfpack RTC)

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