



VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

MEMORANDUM

August 7, 2015

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TO: Head Wrestling Coaches, Head Athletic Trainers and Head Team Physicians of NCAA Institutions that Sponsor Wrestling.

FROM: Ron Beaschler, secretary-rules editor  
NCAA Wrestling Rules Committee.

SUBJECT: Interpretations to Rules 6.1.2 and 6.1.5.

The NCAA Wrestling Rules Committee is issuing interpretations to the following rules based on recommendations made at the [NCAA Sports Science Institute Wrestling Summit](#). The main focus of this Summit, which was held July 20-21, 2015, at the NCAA national office, was to discuss the overall health and safety of the sport of wrestling.

Rule 6.1.2 – Calling Timeout

The sentence “Coaching is permitted during injury timeouts” found in Rule 6.1.2, Calling Timeout, is interpreted as: coaching of the non-injured wrestler is permitted during an injury timeout or a referee timeout. Coaching of both participants is allowable during a bleeding timeout. In the case of a severe or traumatic situation, medical personnel may request the participant’s coach to assist in the calming of the wrestler but must remove themselves from the situation during any assessment period related to the injury or concussion evaluation. Failure to comply with the rules related to coaching an injured athlete will be penalized under Rule 3.13 Control of Mat Area.

Rule 6.1.5 – Referee Timeout, Concussion Evaluation Timeout

In the case of a possible concussion, the referee shall stop the match for a concussion evaluation. The medical staff shall have unlimited and unimpeded time to evaluate the participants. In cases of uncertainty, the medical staff shall be granted the ability to remove the participant from the wrestling area to perform the concussion evaluation. During the evaluation, the match will be suspended until a decision is rendered. The referee, the coaches of both participants and the non-injured wrestler are to remain on the mat.

NCAA MEMORANDUM

August 7, 2015

Page No. 2

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A concussion evaluation timeout shall not count towards the contestant's injury timeout or recovery timeout. Coaching of the contestant being evaluated is not permitted.

For questions regarding these interpretations, please contact Chuck Barbee, incoming secretary-rules editor, at [ncaaruleseditor@gmail.com](mailto:ncaaruleseditor@gmail.com).

RB:af

cc: NCAA Wrestling Rules Committee  
Selected NCAA Staff Members