Scenario #1:

If a coach immediately raises the challenge flag on a challengeable situation, and while he is waiting for the match to be stopped and the review executed, his athlete gets pinned. Does this pin count?

Answer:

Per rule 3.21.2.b, since the coach immediately raised the flag the referee would execute the coach’s challenge. If an error was made, then the correction is made and all wrestling from the point of the correction would be considered dead time and re-wrestled. Since there was an error in this scenario the fall would be nullified. If no error was discovered, then the fall would be considered valid and the match would be over.

SRE Feedback:

This underscores the importance of following closely rule 3.21.2.b which requires the coach to immediately approach the mat-side table to raise the challenge flag…which indicates to the referee to stop the match, when there is no significant action taking place, so the review can be executed. If in the determination of the referee, the video challenge was delayed the referee shall not allow the challenge and in this instance the fall would be valid.

Scenario #2

Wrestler A is competing against wrestler B. Wrestler A is in the defensive position and works to get an escape. The referee immediately indicates the one-point escape but the score table is delayed in stopping the riding time clock and wrestler B inadvertently received five additional seconds of riding time. Wrestler A’s coach notices this and immediately approaches the score table indicating he would like a review of the timing and/or scoring (rule 3.11.2). The score table indicates this to the referee and since the two wrestlers are engaged in an active scramble the match could not be stopped for 20 seconds. During that 20 second time period wrestler A secures a takedown and the match is then stopped to review the time and score. When reviewing the time and score, the referee(s) speak to the timer and also use the video review to determine if the riding time is correct. After this consultation the referees determine an error in the recording of riding time was made and they make the appropriate correction by subtracting five seconds of riding time from wrestler B. In this instance, would all of the wrestling that occurred after the correction be considered dead time and wrestler ‘s A’s takedown nullified?

Answer:

No, dead time only applies to corrections made when executing either a referee’s or a coach’s video review that questions a call on the mat. In this scenario the coach did not raise the flag to question a call on the mat, but rather approached the score table for a timing correction request (3.11.2). In this
instance, the riding time should be corrected and the match resumed at the point in which it was stopped.

**SRE feedback:**

Again with these types of scenarios it is very important that coaches immediately approach the scorer’s table with an issue of timing and/or scoring. Referees, that have concerns that the timing and/or scoring is accurate should stop the match as quickly as possible to make the correction. Additionally, per rule 3.11.2, in a dual meet, all match time and score corrections must be made before the start of the next bout; in tournaments they must be made before both contestants leave the mat area or the bout sheet leaves the score table.

Finally, coaches are reminded and encouraged to request time and/or score corrections, as needed, but frivolous and repeated requests that lack merit (as determined by the referee) can be considered unethical timeouts and the coach can be penalized with a control of mat area violation (see master interpretations document 9-10-2015 update).