



SRE Article #1
Out of Bounds Clarifications
11/12/2019

Question: Are wrestlers considered to be in bounds or out of bounds when a body part of one of the wrestlers extends onto the non-matted area of the gym/arena floor?

Answer: Wrestlers are considered out of bounds when any part of either wrestler leaves the padded protection area surrounding the competition circle. If supplemental padding is used, and properly adhered to the primary mat, then a stoppage is not required when entering this type of space. If upon completion of a scoring action, one of the wrestler's body parts lands on the gym/arena floor, the action can be scored appropriately, and then the wrestlers called out of bounds **(this will be added to the Case Book)**. Rule 2.2.5

Examples:

- (1) Wrestler A has a single leg on wrestler B. Wrestler B then uses a shin whizzer to counter the attack. As wrestler B shin whizzers, he places his hand on the gym floor. When the hand hits the gym floor the wrestlers are considered out of bounds.
- (2) Wrestler A has a single leg on wrestler B. As wrestler B is hopping around to stay upright, he hops onto the gym floor and then back onto the matted area. Once wrestler B hopped off the matted protection area he was out of bounds.
- (3) Wrestler A hits a headlock on wrestler B, throwing him directly to his back and demonstrating immediate control. However, when wrestler B landed on the mat, his foot hit the gym floor. In this scenario the takedown is scored, and the wrestlers are immediately called out of bounds with no near fall awarded.
- (4) Wrestler A hits a double leg on wrestler B, who is standing partially out of the circle. Wrestler A locks his hands around wrestler B's knees and wrestler B falls straight backwards and lands with his hands on the gym floor. In this scenario wrestler A is awarded a two-point takedown and the wrestlers are called out of bounds.

Related Rules and Clarifications

Question: Is it allowable for a wrestler to make an overt attempt to reach out onto the gym floor in order to stop wrestling action?

Continued next page



Answer: If this action were in the neutral position the wrestler reaching out of bounds would be forcing an unnecessary restart in the neutral position (and/or stalling by fleeing) and would be called for stalling. If this action were down on the mat, the referee has the authority to use their judgement to either issue a stalling call or proceed with a normal restart. (Rules 5.7.5, 5.7.9 and 5.7.11)

Question: Is it allowable for a wrestler to grab the edge of the mat to keep from being pulled back into the competition circle?

Answer: No, per Rule 5.8.6. grabbing the mat, for any reason, is a technical violation. When this occurs, referees may issue the penalty point and allow wrestling to continue if a scoring action is occurring and there is no danger to either wrestler (**this will be added to the Case Book**). Rules 5.8.6 and 5.2.c

Question: How does Rule 2.3.3 work with all the previous clarifications?

Answer: Rule 2.3.3. indicates that no wrestler can be called pinned if any portion of their body is out of the competition circle and somehow the wrestler is disadvantaged by being in this space. Examples of this might be if a wrestler is bridging outside the circle and then two wrestlers, from another mat, come into contact with the bridging wrestler. Another example is when a wrestler is bridging outside the competition circle and there is a sweatshirt, or any other item, that is causing the wrestler to be disadvantage. In both scenarios, an out of bounds call is required. Rule 2.3.3