



Secretary-Rules Editor Article #2 Frequently Missed Rules Examination Questions for 2024-25 November 4, 2024

Some of the more frequently missed questions from the NCAA Wrestling Rules Examination (Parts One and Two) are listed below along with some feedback.

Rules Exam - Part One

Question #1 was incorrectly answered by 50% of test takers.

Question: Anything may be challenged by a coach via the mat-side video review except for a fall.

- a. True
- b. False

SRE Feedback: Rule 3.13.9.j (p.27) states that a coach is not permitted to request a video review of a fall which suggests that the answer would be “true.” However, a coach is also not permitted to challenge any calls pertaining to coach behavior (e.g., “the opposing coach left the reserved zone during wrestling action”). Please refer to Rule 3.13.4.c (p.25) which states, “The video review system may not be used to challenge calls related to coach behavior.”

Question #2 was incorrectly answered by 35% of test takers.

Question: During the first round of a tournament, Wrestler B applies an illegal hold on their opponent and the referee stops the match, awards a penalty point to Wrestler A and starts recovery time. At the end of recovery time, the athletic trainer for Wrestler A informs the referee that additional medical attention is needed, and that Wrestler A will be unable to continue. The referee disqualifies Wrestler B and Wrestler A is declared the winner. Subsequently, the coach of Wrestler A informs the tournament committee that Wrestler A will be medically forfeiting their remaining matches. Which of the following is the correct application for Wrestler A?

- a. Wrestler A is charged with a loss for all matches they medically forfeit in the tournament
- b. Wrestler A's subsequent matches should be recorded as Injury Default
- c. Wrestler A's subsequent matches are recorded as a Medical Forfeit
- d. Wrestler A's first subsequent match is recorded as Medical Forfeit-L and Medical Forfeit for the remaining matches



SRE Feedback: The correct answer is found in the NCAA Wrestling Case Book (A.R.2-8 – p.9). If a wrestler is unable to continue in a tournament due to illegal action in a prior match (which resulted in a disqualification), the subsequent medical forfeit(s) is not recorded as a loss even though it was not preceded by an injury default (Rule 2.12.b – p.20 in Rules Book).

Question #3 was missed by 25% of test takers.

Question: School A is hosting a dual meet and wants their pep band to perform at the match. This is permissible under the following conditions:

- a. The decibel level does not exceed 85 dB
- b. The opposing team agrees that the band may perform
- c. The host school athletic conference has approved the band performance
- d. The band does not perform while wrestling is taking place
- e. All of the above

SRE Feedback: This question addresses live music being played as opposed to music that is being amplified by the host institution. The sole stipulation regarding live music is found in Rule 1.4.3.c (p.10) which states that live music is not allowed while wrestling is taking place.

Question #4 was missed by 24% of test takers.

Question: During a dual meet, the second referee observes that Coach A has left the reserved zone and walked onto the mat during wrestling action. The second referee immediately penalizes Coach A with a control of mat violation and deducts one team point from Team A. Which of the following statement(s) is true?

- a. The officials must initiate a referee's video review before assessing any penalties
- b. The lead official may overrule the second referee and negate the penalty assessed
- c. The second referee is, by rule, permitted to penalize Coach A
- d. B and C
- e. All of the above

SRE Feedback: Rule 7.4.1 (p.67) clearly states, "The second referee has the same mobility and authority as the referee..." which makes answer C correct. Answer B is also correct as the second part of Rule 7.4.1. states, "...however, the referee is in control of the match and makes the final decision." In this scenario, it is unlikely that the lead official would overturn the second referee's call although they do have the authority to do so. Note also that Rule 7.4.2 emphasizes that, "Second referees must aggressively take part in the officiating of each match."



Rules Exam - Part Two

Question #1 was missed by 75% of test takers.

Question: Of the following, who may default a match in progress or during a timeout?

- a. Wrestler
- b. Referee
- c. Head Coach
- d. A and C
- e. All of the above

SRE Feedback: Rule 6.3.3 (p.64) states that both the coach and/or the competitor (wrestler) may default a match and outlines the process to do so. While uncommon, the referee also has the authority to default a match for excessive bleeding or an inordinate amount of bleeding timeouts. Rule 6.1.24 (p.63) states that, “If bleeding becomes excessive or causes an inordinate amount of timeouts, the referee, in consultation with medical personnel, shall have the authority to default the match” which is contrary to the incorrect perception that this would be a disqualification.

Question #2 was missed by 69% of test takers. **Please see the note in the SRE Feedback Section.**

Question: At the end of sudden victory, Wrestlers A and B are tied, 4-4, with no riding time. Wrestler A scored the first takedown in the match, one escape, and has not been warned for stalling. Wrestler B has earned four near fall points but has been warned once for stalling. As the referee prepares to start the tiebreaker period, Wrestler B calls for their first injury timeout. Which of the following statements is true?

- a. Wrestler B would be assessed a warning for stalling
- b. Wrestler A would receive one point and would win the match, 5-4
- c. Wrestler A would have choice of position in both tiebreaker periods
- d. Both A and B
- e. Both A and C

SRE Feedback: This question was written to test knowledge of Rule 6.1.18 (p.62) – “First Nonbleeding Timeout and Opponent Already Has Choice.” After further review, however, it is apparent that the question lacked clarity which could have resulted in the test-taker submitting an incorrect response.

Specifically, the question states that, “Wrestler A scored the first takedown in the match,” although it does not specify that the takedown was the first offensive points scored in the match.



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It is possible that Wrestler B could have scored their four near fall points prior to Wrestler A scoring their takedown, which would then have given Wrestler B choice of position in the tiebreaker period.

Accordingly, any test-taker who had this question on their Part Two exam was given credit for a correct response. This correction was made by the RQ+ team while the test was still open and some early test takers may have received credit after their test was submitted. All test takers are encouraged to double-check their Part Two examination scores.

Question #3 was missed by 31% of test takers.

Question: During the third session of a conference tournament, the coach of Team A informs the officials that Team C has wrestlers wearing different color singlets. The head official confirms this is the case. What is the proper course of action?

- a. Penalize the coach of Team C with a control of mat violation
- b. Report the violation to the tournament committee
- c. Do nothing – this is allowed
- d. Both A and B

SRE Feedback: The correct answer can be determined by the process of elimination. Answer A can be eliminated, as uniform violations do not fall under Rule 3.20 – Control of Mat Area (p.31). Since Answer A is incorrect, the test taker can also eliminate Answer D (both A and B). Rule 1.5.1.e (p.12) states that, “...each session of a tournament, the competition uniform worn by team participants shall be identical in design and color,” which makes Answer C incorrect. The correct answer (B) is confirmed by Rule 1.5.1 (p.11) which states that, “Violations should be reported to the tournament committee or host game management.”

Question #4 was missed by 31% of test takers.

Question: At the start of a match, Wrestler A jumps the whistle and inadvertently head butts their opponent. The referee penalizes Wrestler A for a false start but Wrestler B states that they are hurt. Which of the following statement(s) is true?

- a. The referee shall start recovery time for Wrestler B
- b. If Wrestler B cannot continue, Wrestler B will be declared the winner
- c. If Wrestler B cannot continue, Wrestler B must injury default
- d. A and B
- e. A and C



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SRE Feedback: Rule 2.2.2 (p.17) provides the correct answers to the question. Recovery time shall be started for Wrestler B, who was injured on the false start (Answer A). At the end of recovery time, however, if Wrestler B is unable to continue, they must injury default (Answer C) and they would not be declared the winner (making Answer B an incorrect response).