

# MatStats Episode 36

## Wednesday September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024,

### 3PM EDT

**The More Things Change,  
The More They Stay The Same.  
Part 2 of 3.**

Episode  
36-1

MatStats takes on the new rule change for Takedowns in collegiate wrestling. We do our normal statistical analysis of how the new rule has affected our sport. The gang shoots deep into the Men's NCAA D1 & D2 Championships to see what results we can find. It is such an important topic that we are doing a two-part series.

This quote is attributed to French novelist, Alphonse Karr. Fitting since the Olympics were in Paris in a few weeks ago.

# Can the viewers have a table of contents?

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# The MatStats Show is Here to Create a Library of Statistical Analysis for the NWCA.

Episode  
36-3

- Mike Moyer, the Executive Director of the NWCA, approached the MatStats gang to create a library of statistical analysis for the NWCA.
- This is an effort to help grow the sport and educate the wrestlers, coaches, and fans.
- When MatStats was created in 2020 (book) and 2021 (monthly show), there was a serious need for statistical analysis.

## I Feel Like A Number

Episode  
36-4

To the fans I'm just a drone  
To my wireless service I'm just another phone  
I'm just a statistic on a bout sheet  
To the teachers I'm just another child  
To the IRS I'm just another file  
I'm just a correlation on the stat sheet

I feel like a number  
I feel like a number  
I'm not a number, I'm not a number

Jenny, Jenny had perhaps the most famous phone number in American history.

# 867-5309

Episode  
36-5

MatStats, MatStats, who can I turn to?  
You give me something I could hold on to  
I know you think I'm like the others before  
Who saw your name and number on the wall.

.....

867-5309

Mat-Stats

Mat-Stats

Danny's Glass in Yorktown, VA

## Are there any disclaimers MatStats needs to let everyone know about their shows?

The Opinions Expressed on this show do not necessarily reflect any policies or opinions of the NWCA. Also, the MatStats guys do not always agree on all things discussed on their shows.

Episode  
36-6

- MatStats is a subsidiary of the NWCA but is a separate entity that voices its own opinions on its statistical analysis.
  - MatStats three hosts, Gormley, Bryant, and Hazard are all equally responsible for all the good outcomes. Gormley for the bad feedback.
- Gormley writes the Power Points and selects the topics. Gormley uses the term MatStats often, but many times it is Gormley's opinion alone.
- Gormley does the stats work and then the three hosts & occasionally guests brainstorm about Gormley's findings and ideas.
  - MatStats is designed to have educated thoughts and opinions to help the world's oldest and greatest sport.
- Wrestling is all about settling disagreements. The hosts are too old to settle these disagreements on the mat.
- Sometimes we agree, sometimes we disagree. It makes the world go round.

MatStats is based on numbers, stats, and analyzing them. It starts with facts not opinions.

Episode  
35-7

- MatStats is a numbers show.
- Thus, the name MatStats. Not MatOpinions.
- Gorms was remiss not explaining this from the get-go. Gorms lives in a numbers world and is starting to get the feeling not everyone does lol.
- Feedback from the Tribe alumni during this show has made Gorms realize he needs to address this and try to educate people with numbers. Thank you, Dr. Powell, for one of your texts.

If Gorms does not have any statistical answers, where does he look next? We want answers.

**MatStats is a show that revolves around stats, but there is a reason we have balance on the show. Not all answers have a numeric quantifiable component.**

Episode  
36-8

- Let's have the two on the show that know wrestling weigh in on based their decades around the sport (Jason & Kevin - and at times guests).
- To paraphrase the Ramones - Gormley needs to be sedated.
- Much to the chagrin of Gorms (The Sultan of Stat), not everything can be quantified with a number(s). You can't put a number on why Babe Ruth (The Sultan of Swat) hit 714 HRs, but we can put a number on how many he hit.
- We will provide answers before the conclusion of this show. If it is not in the numbers, we will do our best to provide answers. One thing you learn in MBA school is find an answer. A consultant's answer can not be hiring a blue-ribbon panel. You went to MBA school to be the blue-ribbon panel.



As of 8/31/24, there are **511** men & women's wrestling teams in the NCAA & NAIA.

Episode  
36-9

Category	Men	Women	Total	Most ever Men's Teams	Year	Most Ever Total Teams	Years
NCAA D1	81	4	85	146	1982	146	1982
NCAA D2	74	32	106	74	2024	106	2024
NCAA D3	131	67	198	149	1982	198	2024
NCAA	286	103	389	363*	1982	389	2024
NAIA	74	48	122			122	2024
4 Year	359	151	511			511	2024

• - Note the NCAA reports 393 men's teams in 1972, but they do not know how many were "non-varsity/sub-varsity" teams.

# Women's Wrestling now has 151 4-year college teams.

Episode  
36-10

- As of 8/31/24, there are currently more Women NCAA & NAIA wrestling teams (151) than there ever were Men's NCAA D1 (146 in 1982), or Men's NCAA D2 (74 in 2024), or Men's NCAA D3 (149 in 1982) teams since the NCAA began keeping detailed records in 1981-82.
- Women's wrestling is an integral part of collegiate wrestling.
  - We would not see the current growth of Men's wrestling without women.

# The 2024 NWCA Convention was a huge success and a great time.

Episode  
36-11

- MatStats is fortunate to attend the NWCA Convention annually.
- Moyer made some great decisions on the staff he hired to enable to convention to be such a success.
- A shout out to Jackie, Dan, Kerry, Nate, Jim, Stephanie, Bethann, Dave, Paul, Cassandre, and all the interns for making it a great week.
- The largest 4 NWCA Conventions ever were the last 4 (Non-Covid).
- 441 attendees + spouses.
- 248 College coaches, 69 HS, and 60 women's team coaches.
- See you guys next summer.

## What is the goal of this show?

The goal of this episode is to see how the 3-point TD has affected the Men's NCAA D2 Championships and the overall collegiate sport.

Episode  
36-12

- In the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of this three-part show, MatStats investigates the Men's NCAA D2 Championships in 2023 & 2024.
- A huge rule change (perhaps the biggest change since it was a collegiate sport) saw the TD now being worth 3-points.
- MatStats analyzes how this affected scoring and how it changed the sport.

# In 2024, College Takedowns were worth 3 points.

Episode  
36-13

- We saw the biggest scoring change in the world's oldest and greatest sport in collegiate wrestling for the 2023-24 season.
- MatStats is here to analyze data and statistics and let the viewers know our results.
- What did we learn from our exhaustive study?

## Who compiled all this data for MatStats?

# Hazard & Phipps did a massive amount of data collection for this project.

Episode  
36-14

- MatStats needs to give a shout out to Kevin Hazard and Jon Phipps for doing the research and enabling Gorms to analyze it.
- They provided the data by researching (watching and collecting the scoring sheets) for all matches at the 2023 & 2024 NCAA D1 and D2 Championships.
- We all know Hazard, but many of you don't know Phippsy. He was football player at W&M and wrestled in HS. He won 2 IM Wrestling titles at W&M. He was known to have a great ball and chain. Sweez showed him that technique.

# Preview of Episode #36.

Episode  
36-15

- The summary of Men's NCAA D2 Championships from 2023 to 2024.
- We saw Points Per Match (PPM) increase (+17%).
- D1 & D2 very similar. It is just the level of talent that increases.
- TDs more important.
- We saw a small decrease in the number of TD/match from 2023 to 2024 (3.2%).
- Escapes went up, reversals went down. The total was about the same.
- Back Points & Exposures went down, so did pins. Both about -30%.
- Riding time & stalling remained pretty constant.
- Scoring moves per match went down -2.36%.

# Preview of Episode #36.

Episode  
36-16

- Gorms, thanks for the preview. We should have had a preview in our past shows.
- Now can you explain your analysis from the NCAA Men's D2 Championships in 2023 & 2024.
- Kevin spent a lot of time compiling the data, KH & many fans want to know what we learned from his time digging into this data.



# The 3 Point TD & scoring per match.

- MatStats has covered the decrease in scoring in collegiate wrestling over the years.
- What were the changes in scoring from 2023 to 2024 at the Men's NCAA D2 Championships?

# MatStats Methodology for this episode.

Episode  
36-18

- Part 2 of this topic deals with the Men's NCAA D2 Championships in 2023 & 2024.
- There are 340 matches each year. 34/weight.
- Kevin did massive research on the D2s. MatStats has the scoring for each match.
- This includes all scoring even in matches that end in a pin.
- By definition a pin ends before the 7 minutes (unless it is in OT).
- This will bring the arithmetic mean of total point, scoring moves, etc. per match down.
- The NCAA D1 did not include pins on the points per match nor scoring moves.
- For comparison's sake, we do have the Points per match in NCAA D2 controlling for pins.
- MatStats then analyzed all the data Kevin & Phipps compiled to help educate the wrestling fans.

# Scoring changes from 2023 to 2024.

Episode  
36-19

- Our research on the 2023- & 2024- Men's NCAA D1 Championships in Episode 34 (7/24/24), "*The More Things Change, The More They Stay The Same*", that scoring went up 23.8%.
- What did we see in the 2023- & 2024- Men's NCAA D2 Championships?

Did the PPM increase from the 2023 to 2024 at the Men's NCAA D2 Championships?

The points per match (PPM) increased **+17%** at the Men's NCAA D2 Championships from 2023 to 2024.

Episode  
36-20

Points Per Match	2023 NCAA D2 Tourney	2024 NCAA D2 Tourney	Delta
Winner	7.32	8.58	+17.2%
Loser	2.73	3.19	+16.8%
Total	10.06	11.77	<b>+17.0%</b>

# D1 & D2 Points Per Match (PPM) Comparison

Episode  
36-21

- How does the PPM compare from NCAA Men's D1 Championships and the Men's NCAA D2 Championships in 2023 & 2024?

# Methodology differences explained

- As we mention earlier in this episode, the methodology in Part 1 (Men's D1) and Part 2 (Men's D2) had some differences.
- D1 did not include PPM or scoring moves for matches that ended in pins. D2 does include all these.
- So, to compare apples with apples, MatStats controlled for pins in D2 for PPM. For non-stats people, that means we also did an analysis for matches that were not pins in D2.

In 2023 the D2 had a **+21.3%** PPM. In 2024 it was an **+8.0%** scoring increase over D1.

Episode  
36-23

Points Per Match	2023 Men's NCAA Tourney	2024 Men's NCAA Tourney	Delta 2023 & 2024
D1	9.24	11.44	23.8%
D2 (w/o Pins)	11.21	12.36	10.3%
Delta D1 & D2	<b>21.3%</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	-61.9%

Do we often see scoring decrease as the level of talent gets better?

**It is normal and expected that the NCAA D1 saw lower PPM than the NCAA D2.**

Episode  
36-24

- We have learned on past and current research that the first round of the Championships tend to have a higher PPM than the finals in both the D1 & D2.
- In 2023, the SEC Football saw an average of 55.4 PPG, the NFL saw 43.4 PPG.
- As the talent level gets higher it is very common to see the scoring decrease.



# Men's D1 NCAA Championships have a lower PPM than the D2.

Episode  
36-25

- It is no surprise that the PPM was lower in D1.
- This is common in sports as the talent level increases.
- We did see a smaller difference in the two divisions when the TD was worth 3 points.

# Where do PPM come from?

Episode  
36-26

- Where do the PPM come from at the NCAA Men's D2 Championships?
- What are the percentages?

## What are the PPM for each category at the Men's 2023 & 2024 NCAA Championships?

There are no changes in the order of the scoring categories, TDs became even more important.

Episode  
36-27

Category	2023 NCAA D2 Tourney PPM	2024 NCAA D2 Tourney PPM	Delta
TD	4.62	6.65	+44%
Escape	2.31	2.51	+9%
Back Points	1.75	1.21	-31%
Reverse	0.70	0.55	-21%
Riding Time	0.39	0.42	+8%
Stall & Penalty	0.32	0.41	+28%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.06</b>	<b>11.77</b>	<b>17%</b>

What is the percentage of total points of each scoring category at the Men's NCAA D2 Championships in 2023 & 2024?

TDs went from **46%** of all points in 2023 to **56%** from 2023 to 2024. That is a **+23%** increase.

Episode  
36-28

Category	2023 NCAA D2 Tourney %PPM	2024 NCAA Tourney %PPM	Delta
TD	<b>46%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>+23%</b>
Escape	23%	21%	-7%
Back Points	17%	10%	-41%
Reverse	7%	5%	-33%
Riding Time	4%	4%	-8%
Stall & Penalty	3%	3%	+10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>

# You win on your feet; you lose on your feet!

Episode  
36-29

- The order of scoring categories has not changed from 2023 to 2024 at the Men's NCAA D2 Championships.
  - The major difference is the importance of the TD.
- In 2023 the TD was 46% of all scoring. In 2024 the TD is 56% of all scoring.
  - This is an increase of 22%.
- In the modern era, the TD has never been more important.

# How much different in scoring is NCAA D1 & D2?

Episode  
36-30

- Gorms, we have done a much deeper dive into NCAA Men's D2 than we did on Men's NCAA D1 Championships in 2023 & 2024.
  - Many viewers and fans might think they are two different beasts.
- Do we have any reason to think that they are so different that the D2 analysis is not applicable to D1?

How close are the scoring categories in Men's NCAA D1 & D2 in 2023?

**The scoring categories are very close in NCAA Men's D1 & D2 in 2023.**

Episode  
36-31

Category	2023 D1	2023 D2
TD	47%	46%
Escape	29%	23%
Back Points	10%	17%
Reverse	6%	7%
Riding Time	6%	4%
Stall & Penalty	2%	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

How close are the scoring categories in Men's NCAA D1 & D2 in 2024?

The scoring categories in NCAA D1 & D2 are even closer in percentage terms in 2024.

Episode  
36-32

Category	2024 D1	2024 D2
TD	59%	56%
Escape	23%	21%
Back Points	7%	10%
Reverse	4%	5%
Riding Time	4%	4%
Stall & Penalty	2%	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>



# The more the Divisions change, the more the sport stays the same.

Episode  
36-33

- MatStats has found if you look at the scoring categories in percentage terms in Men's NCAA D1 & D2 Championships, the sport is the same, just a higher level of talent in D1.
- The two Divisions get even closer in 2024. It seems that the new rule has made the scoring more similar.
- It is safe to make assumptions about D1 & D2 based on data in either division.

# The more the divisions change, the more the sport stays the same.

Episode  
36-34

- We saw we have more points per match in D2, however the percentage breakdown of scoring categories are very similar in D1 & D2.
- We also see it is safe to D1 & D2 wrestling scoring is statistically similar.
  - The data and analysis is transferable.

# Outcome & MOV of D1 & D2 matches.

Episode  
36-35

- What did we learn about the MOV and types of victories between NCAA D1 & D2 in their respective championships in 2023 & 2024?

## How do the match outcomes compare in NCAA Men's D1 & D2 in 2023?

In 2023, there were fewer techs and pins in D1 compared to D2.

Episode  
36-36

Category	2023 D1	2023 D2
Regular Decision	74.5%	64.9%
Major Decision	14.1%	12.0%
Technical Fall	1.3%	4.5%
Pin	10.0%	16.2%
Default	2.0%	2.4%
OT	8.9%	6.3%

## How do the match outcomes compare in NCAA Men's D1 & D2 in 2024?

The frequency of tech falls increased drastically in D1 from 2023 to 2024, but this did not happen in D2.

Episode  
36-37

Category	2024 D1	2024 D2
Regular Decision	66.1%	64.2%
Major Decision	16.8%	18.5%
Technical Fall	9.0%	4.8%
Pin	8.1%	11.0%
Default	1.0%	1.5%
OT	8.1%	9.0%

# The outcome of the matches are very similar in NCAA D1 & D2.

Episode  
36-38

- The outcome of the matches closely mirror each other in D1 & D2 except for the drastic increase in tech falls in D1.
- This is odd since the total PPM are higher in D2 than D1.
- This is such a large increase that we need more years to see what is going on here.

# The more the divisions change, the more the sport stays the same.

Episode  
36-39

- So, it is safe to say that the sport is the same in D1 & D2 except that the level of talent goes up in D1 compared to D2.
- The drastic increase in techs in D1 is a notable exception.
- It is too soon to pass judgement after just 1 year of data on the tech falls in D1.

# TDs per match and TD Points Per Match

Episode  
36-40

- We learned in Episode #34 (7/24/24), “The More Things Change, The More They Stay The Same”, the huge importance of TDs.
- Let’s start with the breakdown of TDs per match in the 2023- & 2024-Men’s NCAA D2 Championships.
  - Can you let the viewers know the data on TDs?



How much did the TD points increase from 2023 to 2024 at the Men's NCAA D2 Championships?

The TD points increased **+43.9%** from 2023 to 2024 at the Men's NCAA D2 Championships.

Episode  
36-41

TD Pts Per Match	2023 NCAA D2 Tourney	2024 NCAA D2 Tourney	Delta
Winner	3.64	5.48	+50.5%
Loser	0.98	1.17	+19.4%
Total	4.62	6.65	<b>+43.9%</b>

Did we see more TDs in 2024 over 2023 since there was an increase in the value of the TD?

There number of TDs per match decreased **(-3.9%)** from 2023 to 2024 at the Men's NCAA D2 Championships.

Episode  
36-42

TDs Per Match	2023 NCAA D2 Tourney	2024 NCAA D2 Tourney	Delta
Winner	1.82	1.83	+5.5%
Loser	0.49	0.39	-20.4%
Total	2.31	2.22	<b>-3.9%</b>

## How important is the first TD in a match?

The first TD is a great predictor of who will win the match (**73.7% in 2023 & 81.4% in 2024**). Since the value of the TD went up 50%, there is no surprise that the 2024 is more than 2023.

Episode  
36-43

1st TD	2023 NCAA D2 Tourney	2024 NCAA D2 Tourney	Delta
Winner	<b>73.7%</b>	<b>81.4%</b>	<b>+10.4%</b>
Loser	21.2%	13.2%	<b>-37.8%</b>
No TD	5.1%	5.4%	<b>+5.9%</b>

Is the first TD even more important with the rule change?

The points from the 1<sup>st</sup> TD went from **19.9%** of all the PPM in 2023 to **25.5%** in 2024.

Episode  
36-44

Category	2023 NCAA D2 Tourney	2024 NCAA D2 Tourney	Delta
Total Pts	10.06	11.77	17.0%
% 1st TD	<b>19.9%</b>	<b>25.5%</b>	28.2%

# TD Summary

Episode  
36-45

- It is no surprise that we saw more TD points at the Men's NCAA D2 Championships in 2024 than we saw in 2023.
- However, we saw slightly less TDs in 2024 than we saw in 2023.
- The importance in the 1<sup>st</sup> TD increased in 2024, also no surprise since the TD is now worth 3 points.

# Escapes & Reversals

Episode  
36-46

- What did we learn about the number of escapes and reversals?
- The number of TDs went down slightly, but the value of the TD went from 2-points to 3-points.
- Did that effect the number of escapes and reversals?

## What are the changes in Escapes per match?

Escapes were relatively constant from 2023  
**(2.31)** to 2024 **(2.51)**.

Episode  
36-47

Escape Pts Per Match	2023 NCAA D2 Tourney	2024 NCAA D2 Tourney	Delta
Winner	1.01	1.04	+3.0%
Loser	1.30	1.46	+12.3%
Total	<b>2.31</b>	<b>2.51</b>	+8.7%

## What are the changes in Reverse PPM?

Reversal points per match decreased  
**-21.4%** from 2023 to 2024.

Episode  
36-48

Reverse Pts Per Match	2023 NCAA D2 Tourney	2024 NCAA D2 Tourney	Delta
Winner	0.42	0.32	-23.8%
Loser	0.28	0.23	-17.9%
Total	0.70	0.55	<b>-21.4%</b>



What are the number of escapes + reversals in 2023 & 2024?

The number of escapes + reversals are relatively the same in 2023 & 2024.

Episode  
36-49

Category	2023 Moves per Match	2024 Moves Per Match	Delta
Escapes	2.31	2.51	+8.7%
Reversals	0.35	0.28	-21.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.66</b>	<b>2.79</b>	<b>+4.9%</b>

What are the PPM from escapes + reversals in 2023 & 2024?

The PPM from escapes + reversals are almost identical in 2023 & 2024.

Episode  
36-50

Category	2023 PPM	2024 PPM	Delta
Escapes	2.31	2.51	+8.7%
Reversals	0.70	0.55	-21.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.01</b>	<b>3.06</b>	<b>+1.7%</b>

## What is the summary of escapes + reversals?

# Escapes increased and reversals decreased and countered each other.

Episode  
36-51

- We saw escapes increase.
- We saw reversals decrease.
- The scoring remained the same and the number of moves remained very similar.
- We saw the same action and same scoring, but a slightly different way to get there. The eyeball could most likely not notice the difference.
- Stats trump the eyeball. Stats guys love to say this. That is why we are the Moneyball of wrestling.

# Escapes & Reversals

Episode  
36-52

- We have seen more escapes and less reversals, but the same number of points.
- It might be hard to digest the difference for the average fan with so many matches (340/year).
  - The sport could be changing slightly.
- If the TD is now worth 3-points, it makes sense to allow an escape rather than a reversal.

# Back Points & Exposures.

Episode  
36-53

- What did we learn about back points & exposures from the 2023 & 2024 Men's D2 Wrestling Championships?

## What are the changes in Back PPM?

Back PPM dropped **-30.9%** from 2023 to 2024.

Episode  
36-54

Back Pts Per Match	2023 NCAA D2 Tourney	2024 NCAA D2 Tourney	Delta
Winner	1.68	1.12	-33.3%
Loser	0.07	0.09	+28.5%
Total	1.75	1.21	<b>-30.9%</b>

# Deep dive into Exposure (times a wrestler is on their back).

Episode  
36-55

- Since the Back PPM went down -30.9% from 2023 to 2024 and the number of pins went from 16.2% in 2023 to 11.0% in 2024, MatStats needed to investigate this more deeply.
- How many times was someone on their back?
- Since there are no near fall points from a pin, MatStats added all the number of NF2, NF3, NF4, and pins.
- This gives us a total exposure number.

How many times was someone on ther back in the 2023- & 2024-Men's NCAA D2 Championships?

The NF2, NF4, and pins were all down from 2023 to 2024. There was no NF3 rule in 2023.

Episode  
36-56

Year	NF2/ Match	NF3/ Match	NF4/ Match	Pin/ Match	Total Exposures
2023	0.184	0.000	0.346	0.163	0.693
2024	0.109	0.042	0.222	0.110	0.484



Did wrestlers put their opponenet on their back more or less from 2023 to 2024?

The total exposure number decreased  
**(-30%)** from 2023 to 2024.

Episode  
36-57

Category	2023 NCAA D2 Tourney	2024 NCAA D2 Tourney	Delta
Exposures Per Match	0.693	0.484	<b>-30%</b>

# What should we make of the decrease in exposures?

## MatStats is very concerned on the decrease in exposures from 2023 to 2024.

Episode  
36-58

- Like we said on part 1 of this topic, a two-year window is not enough to really prove anything beyond a doubt.
- Notwithstanding (Gorms got that term pro bono from an attorney), it does raise a statistician's interest. As promised on part 1, MatStats will do a follow up show on this after the 2025 NCAA D1 & D2's.
- 340 matches per year at NCAA D2's and 640 matches are not small windows, but even with numbers that large anomalies can be found.
- Is it a trend or an anomaly? Only time will tell.

Can MatStats give the viewers a fun anomaly example?

# On Opening Day in 1994, Tuffy Rhodes hit HRs on his first 3 ABs that day at Wrigley.

Episode  
36-59

- Tuffy had only played in 20 MLB prior to Opening Day 1994.
- Tuffy only had 54 MLB ABs before 1994.
- Tuffy is the only MLB player to hit HRs on the first 3 ABs on Opening day.
- Tuffy only hit 8 more HRs in his MLB career.
- For one day, Tuffy was on top of the world.

# Back Points & Exposures

Episode  
36-60

- We saw a decrease in the total number of back points per match (-30.9%) and the total number of exposures (-30%).
  - Is this troubling or just a change in the sport?
- It is hard to ignore the new TD rule having no effect on this decrease.
- As Gorms says on many shows, Correlation does not prove causality, but it is something we need to consider.

# Riding Time, Stalling & Penalties.

- What did we learn about riding time points, stalling & penalties from the 2023- & 2024- Men's NCAA D2 Championships?

## What are the changes in Riding Time PPM?

Riding Time PPM remained very consistent, (0.39 PPM in 2023) and (0.42 PPM in 2024).

Episode  
36-62

Riding Pts Per Match	2023 NCAA D2 Tourney	2024 NCAA D2 Tourney	Delta
Winner	0.36	0.40	+11.1%
Loser	0.03	0.02	-33.3%
Total	0.39	0.42	+7.7%

# What are the changes in Stalling & Penalty PPM?

Stalling & Penalty PPM went up **+28.1%**.

Episode  
36-63

Stall & Pen Pts Per Match	2023 NCAA D2 Tourney	2024 NCAA D2 Tourney	Delta
Winner	0.19	0.20	+5.3%
Loser	0.12	0.21	+75.0%
Total	0.32	0.41	<b>+28.1%</b>

## Will MatStats ever do a deeper dive into Stalling?

# MatStats will do a much more in-depth research show on Stalling.

Episode  
36-64

- At the very successful 2024 NWCA Convention, MatStats received many requests to do a show on stalling.
- It will require a lot of hours and research, and time constraints prohibit being included on this show.
- Is there anything fans are more vocal about at a wrestling match than stalling?
- It is the most opinionated and subjective scoring points in a match.
- How much did the ankle ride 5-second count affect the number of stalling points?



# Stalling & Penalty Points

Episode  
36-65

- The stalling & penalty points per match have remained relatively constant at the Men's NCAA D2 Championships from 2023 to 2024.
- Kevin agrees that we need to do a show that features a deep dive into stalling and how it might have changed from 2023 to 2024.
- This is such a big topic, we need a MatStats statistical analysis to help the fans understand the impact of stalling.
- The new 5-second ankle ride count could be a reason for more stalling points, especially since the loser received more points from the winner called for stalling.

# Scoring Moves Per Match.

Episode  
36-66

- What did we learn about the piece de resistance (scoring moves per match) in the 2023- & 2024- Men's NCAA D2 Championships?
- In English and stats terms, did the increase in the value of the TD from 2-points to 3-points create more scoring moves?

## What was the change in scoring moves per match?

This was a very small decrease **(-2.36%)** in scoring moves per match from 2023 to 2024 at the Men's NCAA D2 Championships.

Episode  
36-67

Scoring Moves Per Match	2023 NCAA D2 Tourney	2024 NCAA D2 Tourney	Delta
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.501</b>	<b>5.371</b>	<b>-2.36%</b>

There is such an incremental decrease in scoring moves per match, that we can not definitely say the New 3-point TD caused a reduction in scoring moves per match. But we can say there is evidence that It did not drastically increase the scoring moves per match.

# The more the sport changes, the more it stays the same.

Episode  
36-68

- The biggest lesson we learned from this analysis is that the scoring moves per match remain very close to the same number.
- In 2023 there were 5.5 scoring moves per match and 5.4 in 2024.
  - We saw a slight -2.36% decrease.
- The PPM went up, but the matches remained very similar.

# The Law of Unintended Consequences.

Episode  
36-69

- Gorms, we changed the TD from 2-points to 3-points and have not seen more TDs, but we have seen a lot fewer exposures.
  - Does this follow the law of unintended consequences?
- Could it effect our sport in a way that was never intended?

# We need to explore the changes in our sport further in part 3 of this topic.

Episode  
36-70

- Our sport could be changing right before our eyes.
- How many people realized this with the naked eye?
- This is why we need MatStats.
- We will explore this a lot more in part 3 of this topic on our show on 10/16/24.
- Is it good or bad? Do the fans want this?

# Is the sport changing more than we might have realized in 1 year.

Episode  
36-71

- The TD rule change is regarded as the biggest rule change in our lifetime.
- We did see a TD being only worth 1-point on every TD after the 1<sup>st</sup> TD.
- Winning is obviously the main point of the sport, but the Pin has always been the gold standard in our sport.

# Points per minute

Episode  
36-72

- Gorms, with the large changes in the number of tech falls & pins, should we do an even deeper dive into the points per minute. Can we cover this in part 3 of this topic?
- Using points per match could be deceiving if the matches are shorter or longer.
  - The number of OT bouts can also affect this.
- This should give the viewers a more comprehensive analysis.
  - Our sport needs this. MatStats has the guys for this job.



Can MatStats give the viewers their Kev's Notes to review what we just learned on this show?

# Episode 36 Kev's Notes #1

Episode  
36-73

- 1) There are now 151 4-year collegiate women's wrestling teams.
- 2) D2 PPM went up 17% from 2023 to 2024. D1 had a 23% increase in the same period.
- 3) When controlling for pins, the D2 became much closer to the PPM in D1 from 2023 to 2024.
  - 4) TDs were significantly more important in the D2 2024 tourney compared to the 2023. PPM went up slightly more than 2 PPM or a +44% increase.
- 5) TDs were 56% of all points in 2024 at the D2s compared to 46% in the 2023 tourney.

# Episode 36 Kev's Notes #2

Episode  
36-74

- 6) The difference between tourney scoring in the D1 & D2 was not significant.
- 7) The percentage difference in regular decisions between d1 & D2 got much closer in 2024 than 2023.
- 8) There were significantly more TD PPM in 2024 over 2023, but the number of TDs decreased very slightly. The scoring moves per match went down incrementally also.
- 9) Pins dropped from 2023 to 2024 as did exposures. We need some years of data to see if this is significant.
- 10) PPM in D1 & D2 are up, but the scoring moves per match stayed relatively constant. From this it is hard to say that the new rule created more action.

What is the topic next month (Wednesday 10/16/24 3PM EST)?

# The More Things Change, The More They Stay The Same (Part 3 of 3).

Episode  
36-75

- Tune In Next Month
  - Same Mat Time
  - Same Mat Channel
- MatStats will dive into Points per Minute and Margin of Victory at the Men's NCAA D1 & D2 Championships in 2023 & 2024.
  - We will see how the TD going from 2-points to 3-points has affected the sport.
    - Is our sport changing before our eyes?