

1. What is your position:

Answer	FBS	FCS	Division II	Division III
Coach	96	54	67	147

2. Ineligible Receiver Downfield Under current rules, it is illegal for an ineligible receiver to be more than three yards beyond the neutral zone before the passer releases a forward pass that crosses the neutral zone. (Rule 7-3-10, FR-79). Do you believe this rule should remain the same but be stringently enforced?

Answer	FBS	FCS	Division II	Division III
Yes	74%	81%	72%	61%
No	23%	17%	27%	35%
No opinion	3%	2%	2%	3%
Total	95	54	64	147

3. Under current rules, it is illegal for an ineligible receiver to be more than three yards beyond the neutral zone before the passer releases a forward pass that crosses the neutral zone. (Rule 7-3-10, FR-79). Do you favor a rules change that would make this one yard rather than three yards?

Answer	FBS	FCS	Division II	Division III
Yes	32%	30%	52%	41%
No	67%	69%	48%	58%
No opinion	1%	2%	0%	1%
Total	95	54	67	146

4. Blocking downfield on passes Should additional rules be added to manage this trend in offenses?

Answer	FBS	FCS	Division II	Division III
Yes	27%	26%	33%	34%
No	67%	70%	57%	62%
No opinion	6%	4%	10%	3%
Total	96	54	67	146

5. What additional rules would you suggest?

FBS

Text Response

Go to NFL rule. Can't go downfield on any pass regardless of whether downfield or not

ineligible players only allowed to be one yard downfield on pass. Also offense should have to be set for one second before snap, already a rule but should be enforced

The NFL rule

Any blocking beyond the LOS before a pass is completed beyond the line of scrimmage should be a 5yd penalty from the previous spot.

Enforce what we already have,

Clock procedures to mandate defensive substitutions as well

You can not go down field at ALL! We will change the rule to 1 yard BUT there will be personal opinion involved and judgment and there will be philosophies behind the idea of one yard vs 2 yards versus two and a half yards Exedra and it will continue we should make the rules simpler and cleaner and start taking more judgment out of the rules and less philosophies

the one yard rule should be enough to manage the trend. not only is in deceiving on defense- the poor umpire cant do his job because all he is worried about is protecting himself. it is very dangerous for him. Versus pass in the old days umpire would step into the line of scrimmage, and get out of the way of passes. Versus run Umpire will back up and get out of the run lanes. NOW he currently cant make a decision and sees NOTHING! survival model even if linemen are 5 yards down the field he cant see if the ball was run outside or passed. needs changed.

another year of the most inequitable(O/D) rule in Football! Again we all talked about it being inspected and called with a hard 3 yards, IT DID NOT HAPPEN, lets at least all be honest and admit that people like points and to produce points we should make the Defense compete with 1 hand behind their back

Player safety - I feel defensive players need to have better protection on crack blocks. There are a lot of SA's and LB's that get cracked from outside in and do not see the contact coming. They are defenseless in these positions.

Match the college rule with the NFL Rule

FCS

Text Response

Have the eighth official look just for this infraction

An official be assigned to strictly enforce. If rule not strictly enforced a real advantage to the offense

I have 15 clips of our LBs being blocked downfield on passes it must change to 1 yard. Officials have been very poor this season with this rule

Make contact by offensive player the same as defense

Just need to train the officials to see where the receiver is on the short crossing routes where he is supposed to be behind the LOS so that the blocks down field are legal - but he is not behind the line. Then the blocks are illegal and the flag should be thrown.

Division II

Text Response

To many blocks happen downfield when passes are thrown downfield

Simply enforce the rules of NOT blocking downfield when ball is in the air on these plays.

Contact cannot occur until the WR has made a clear football move after the catch.

Wide receivers cannot block when second receiver is catching a hitch pass beyond the L.O.S.

go back to the one yard rule, when the ball crosses the line of scrimmage.

Engagement with defensive players downfield should have a more substantial penalty to make it less attractive for offenses to do so

Picks strictly enforced.

Would be in favor of strict rules that do not allow linemen downfield on run/pass option plays where the ball is thrown.

The penalty for blocking downfield on passes, needs to be severe enough to limit this. 10 yard penalty for example.

Division III

Text Response

Referees need to be more aware that this an increasing trend and be trained when to properly spot it. It should be a OPI foul when it is caught beyond the LOS. Coaches blatantly teach it!

Blocking below the waist needs to be addressed.

Our defensive coaches are having a difficult time with the way offenses are stretching the rule. It seems to me that the head linesmen or the line judge would have to be a part of the enforcement of the rule.

Not sure

Blocking on one side of the play and running a route on the other side of the play is deceptive by nature... You should not be able to block downfield until a pass is caught. If blocking anywhere downfield, a beyond the line of scrimmage throw should be illegal. I was told by an official that they will never call offensive holding in this scenario because the forward pass is away from the blocking receiver.

NFL rule

More training of officials to recognize and enforce the fact it is the responsibility of the WR to avoid contact.

I don't know if there should be additional rules, but the rules that exist should be enforced.

The rule of ineligible receiver down downfield, should just be that. You should not be allowed 1 yard beyond LOS if the ball is passed beyond the LOS. 3 yards is way too far for a lineman to go and still be a clean play. I think the rule should be as described, "Ineligible receiver downfield" why create a grey for the officials and then they miss it more than they penalize it.

The wedge is illegal for kick off return teams which is good. Several teams use a 3 man wedge to protect punters, which is equally as dangerous for the players in the punt teams wedge formations.

There should be no blocking downfield when the ball is in the air on the perimeter even if the pass is behind the line of scrimmage. I can show numerous instances over the years where it is offensive interference or very close. This needs to be defined better and enforced. Also the run pass option plays where an LB comes down hill and then gets blocked as the pass is thrown makes it impossible to defend. That is why the three yards downfield rule needs to be changed to one yard.

Blockers can be no more than 1 yard downfield.

Point of emphasis for officials

Offensive pass interference this way should be a loss of down.

If they make the rule change mentioned in question #2 so that A lineman can no longer block downfield on the run/pass playactions, that should make a significant difference.

You cannot be past the LOS when the ball is thrown.

Addition of another official to control and monitor this rule

Can not block until the ball is caught. Part of the problem is that the rules that are currently in place are not enforced. Pick plays are rampant on every Saturday of the season. Until it starts getting called, offenses will keep running them.

I believe that the RPO concept is an offensive advantage and if the distance is changes to 1 yard the rule can be easily enforced. 3 yards creates a gray area to enforce.

Outside offensive Players blindsiding interior defenders -- no different than targeting a defenseless player.

I would eliminate cut blocking by receivers. This could cut down on injuries.

15 yards o.p.i. loss of down.

The key is to stringently call illegal receiver downfield. We saw a number of these calls missed because of all the Run/Pass option plays offenses are currently running. If you call it, they won't do it.

Mainly to enforce the rule as it is written. Officials are allowing a breach of the rule with blocks downfield on forward passes.

You may not be more than 2 yards in contact off the LOS while a ball is being thrown.

No contact by offense while ball is in air, if you are more than 3 yds downfield.

By taking the 3 yard downfield rule and make it 1 yard and enforce it.

Something along the lines of blocking not permitted until ball is thrown. Also, blocking not permitted unless ball thrown behind LOS should be more strictly enforced.

If you enforce the first one you will not need an additional rule. IF ball is thrown beyond LOS- linemen cannot be beyond 1 yard downfield. mclark

6. Instant Replay – More Judgment Applied for Targeting Fouls Under current rules, the Instant Replay Official has a very limited criterion for overturning a targeting foul. Would you favor allowing the Instant Replay Official to apply more judgment in these types of plays?

Answer	FBS	FCS	Division II	Division III
Yes	88%	85%	76%	59%
No	9%	11%	7%	10%
No opinion	3%	4%	16%	31%
Total	96	54	67	147

7. Instant Replay – Targeting Fouls NOT Called Under current rules, the Instant Replay Official has no authority to review a play where a targeting foul may have occurred but the officials on the field do not make a call for targeting. Do you favor a rule change to allow the Instant Replay Official to review a play and rule that there was a targeting foul?

Answer	FBS	FCS	Division II	Division III
Yes	29%	54%	37%	29%
No	70%	43%	52%	44%
No opinion	1%	4%	10%	27%
Total	96	54	67	146

8. Blocking Below the Waist Under current rules, blocking below the waist is prohibited in some phases of the game and by some players, depending on their initial positions at the snap. (Rule 9-1-6, FR-89). Do you favor a rules change that would make blocking below the waist illegal except by linemen inside the tackle box on their initial charge immediately after the snap?

Answer	FBS	FCS	Division II	Division III
Yes	34%	35%	36%	38%
No	65%	63%	63%	60%
No opinion	1%	2%	1%	2%
Total	96	54	67	147

9. Length of Team Timeouts Under current rules, charged team timeouts in live televised games are 30 seconds in length (plus the 25-second play-clock interval) unless accompanied by a media timeout. (Rule 7-3-7, FR-52). Do you favor a rules change that would have all charged team timeouts be one minute and 30 seconds, unless the head coach requests a 30-second timeout?

Answer	FBS	FCS	Division II	Division III
Yes	53%	57%	42%	33%
No	38%	35%	42%	27%
No opinion	9%	7%	15%	39%
Total	95	54	66	147

10. Defenseless Player – Sliding Ball Carrier Under current rules, there are several situations where players are classified as “defenseless” for purposes of the targeting rule. The sliding ball carrier is not included. (Rules 2-27-14, FR- 41 and 9-1-4-Note 2, FR-88). Do you favor a rules change to make the sliding ball carrier a defenseless player?

Answer	FBS	FCS	Division II	Division III
Yes	62%	57%	63%	61%
No	34%	41%	36%	35%
No opinion	4%	2%	1%	3%
Total	95	54	67	147

11. Tripping the Runner Under current rules, tripping an opponent is a foul, except that it is legal when the runner is tripped. (Rule 9-1-2, FR-86). Do you favor a rules change that would make it a foul to trip the runner?

Answer	FBS	FCS	Division II	Division III
Yes	21%	28%	24%	20%
No	65%	65%	73%	73%
No opinion	15%	7%	3%	7%
Total	96	54	67	147

12. Use of Tablets/Computers in the Team Area or Press Box. Should these devices be permissible:

FBS			
Question	Yes	No	No Opinion
For coaching purposes in general.	60%	34%	5%
For statistical tracking purposes only.	33%	52%	15%
To view still pictures only.	59%	37%	4%
To view video footage from previous games only.	14%	78%	8%
Without restriction.	30%	69%	1%
FCS			
Question	Yes	No	No Opinion
For coaching purposes in general.	58%	35%	8%
For statistical tracking purposes only.	41%	43%	16%
To view still pictures only.	51%	39%	10%
To view video footage from previous games only.	18%	66%	16%
Without restriction.	40%	51%	9%
Division II			
Question	Yes	No	No Opinion
For coaching purposes in general.	47%	50%	3%
For statistical tracking purposes only.	47%	40%	12%
To view still pictures only.	46%	47%	7%
To view video footage from previous games only.	25%	64%	11%
Without restriction.	37%	57%	6%
Division III			
Question	Yes	No	No Opinion
For coaching purposes in general.	54%	43%	4%
For statistical tracking purposes only.	40%	51%	9%
To view still pictures only.	37%	53%	10%
To view video footage from previous games only.	19%	70%	11%
Without restriction.	40%	53%	6%

13. Technology – Coach to Player Communication. Would you support allowing this type of communication to occur, similar to what is utilized in the NFL?

Answer	FBS	FCS	Division II	Division III
Yes	74%	55%	55%	48%
No	23%	43%	43%	47%
No opinion	3%	2%	1%	5%
Total	96	53	67	146

14. Length of Game How would you describe the current status of the length of NCAA football games?

Answer	FBS	FCS	Division II	Division III
Much too long	10%	7%	1%	5%
Slightly too long	35%	26%	21%	10%
Appropriate	54%	65%	76%	83%
Slightly too short	0%	2%	0%	3%
Much too short	0%	0%	1%	0%
Total	96	54	67	147

15. Stopping the Game Clock on First Down Under current rules, the game clock stops when the offense makes a first down. (Rule 3-3-2-e, FR-49) Do you favor a rules change to:

FBS			
Question	Yes	No	No Opinion
Have the clock not stop for a first down.	18%	79%	3%
Have the clock not stop for a first down except in the last two minutes of the half.	30%	63%	7%
FCS			
Question	Yes	No	No Opinion
Have the clock not stop for a first down.	10%	86%	4%
Have the clock not stop for a first down except in the last two minutes of the half.	31%	63%	6%
Division II			
Question	Yes	No	No Opinion
Have the clock not stop for a first down.	10%	87%	3%
Have the clock not stop for a first down except in the last two minutes of the half.	26%	70%	5%
Division III			
Question	Yes	No	No Opinion
Have the clock not stop for a first down.	12%	85%	3%
Have the clock not stop for a first down except in the last two minutes of the half.	17%	79%	5%

16. Stopping the Game Clock on Incomplete Pass Under current rules, the game clock stops for an incomplete forward pass. (Rule 3-3-2-d, FR-49) Do you favor a rules change to:

FBS			
Question	Yes	No	No Opinion
Have the clock not stop for an incomplete forward pass.	11%	85%	3%
Have the clock not stop for an incomplete forward pass except in the last two minutes of the half.	15%	80%	4%
FCS			
Question	Yes	No	No Opinion
Have the clock not stop for an incomplete forward pass.	12%	88%	0%
Have the clock not stop for an incomplete forward pass except in the last two minutes of the half.	14%	82%	4%
Division II			
Question	Yes	No	No Opinion
Have the clock not stop for an incomplete forward pass.	11%	88%	2%
Have the clock not stop for an incomplete forward pass except in the last two minutes of the half.	9%	89%	2%
Division III			
Question	Yes	No	No Opinion
Have the clock not stop for an incomplete forward pass.	8%	90%	2%
Have the clock not stop for an incomplete forward pass except in the last two minutes of the half.	6%	92%	3%

17. Starting the Game Clock: Less than Two Minutes Under current rules, the Referee has broad authority to start and stop the play clock and game clock when either team is using tactics patently unfair to consume or conserve playing time. This includes starting the clock on the snap when the team ahead in the score commits a foul. (Rule 3-4-3, FR-54). Do you favor a rule change to mandate that the game clock start on the snap when the team ahead in the score commits a foul in the last two minutes of a half?

Answer	FBS	FCS	Division II	Division III
Yes	47%	41%	60%	50%
No	28%	39%	33%	31%
No opinion	24%	20%	7%	19%
Total	95	54	67	147

18. Please provide any additional comments you may have.

FBS

Text Response

make halftime 15 minutes instead of 20 to shorten games.

We have a remarkable game that can be improved in two areas: 1) Targeting should only be called (that's for both the penalty and ejection) for blatant hits where a guy launches at the head of a defenseless player. If a guy is wrapping up there should never be targeting called. It's naive to think there's not going to be some brushing of helmet to helmet contact in football (because it happens on roughly half the plays where the ball is caught or close to being caught), but let's only penalize/eject the obvious ones. There were too many players ejected throughout the season and in bowls (Nebraska DB and Air Force Safety come to mind) where there was no launching nor a dangerous hit involved. 2) Games are entirely too long. Far too long in number of plays (which means safety concerns/more exposures), far too long in time (many 3.5+ hour games), and for fans/supporters far too long to be held captive. Do not mess with pace of play, but adopt new timing rules- run clock on first downs (except inside of 2 minutes of half)- so games average about 2:50 at the FBS level with roughly 150-140 plays from scrimmage (not counting kicking plays) Thanks for asking for the input/feedback

TV timeouts are way too long and hurt the flow of the game.

I strongly believe that blocking below the waist should be taken out of the game it is something that is crucially dangerous 2 players it is abused in way too often it is Miss or misunderstood by the officials of how it should be enforced again it is a judgement whether it is from the side back toward the ball there's way too much gray area from crew to crew and official to official if this is just taken out of the game for safety reasons we do not have to worry about our players ending their careers.

I would like to propose a "2 stage" penalty for targeting as opposed to the current disqualification penalty. I would like it to be like the NBA's "flagrant 1 or flagrant 2". Some targeting penalties are clearly egregious and merit ejection. The majority of others are "targeting" by the letter of the law but not nearly egregious. I would propose a 15 yd penalty for those and no ejection. A second targeting regardless of flagrant 1 or 2 would result in an ejection.

none

the defenseless player rule for a runner sliding should only be feet first. defenses are delaying the game by having their teams almost walk on and walk off when an offense makes a substitution. that needs to change.

Add a 10th coach to FBS limits, like FCS.

Games are too long because of the TV timeouts! The game itself is the appropriate length.

on incomplete pass, similar rule should be to when a ball carrier is tackled out of bounds. Clock should stop on incomplete pass but started again once ball is spotted for ball. In last 2minutes it should stop all together. Thanks

Please stop trying to shorten the game. We have a great game. Adapt the NFL no contact rule on WR's past 5 yards!!!

Any consideration to use NFL rule on punt formation to bring back excitement of punt return and eliminate rugby-type punt, which is used to nullify returner with UN-fieldable punts?

Thank you

Regarding defenseless Player - I say Only the QB Regarding Stopping the Game Clock on Incomplete Pass - Im open to discuss on both questions.

Player to coach communication is absolutely need - exactly like the NFL.

No changes to the linemen down field.

FCS

Text Response

The first question is biased to the idea that there must be a change a to the rule. The officials have at their disposal to stringently administer the penalty as it stands and as such there is no need to change the rule. 3 yards from the LOS is very clear and they should always fairly and accurately enforce this and all rules. That is the job. Or has someone been telling them to ignore it?

A rule that would simplify formations on scrimmage kicks.

The concept of personal fouls on receivers who are deemed "defenseless" has gotten out of hand. We teach tackling the right way. A receiver who has caught the ball and started to run with it should no longer be ruled as defenseless. The officiating in our league Patriot League has taken a major step backward with the upward trend in FBS officiating in their movement to an 8th official. Thank you for including me.

I am still most concerned with the substitution issues the sped up offenses create. fairness must be preserved

I really believe blocking below the waist does not cause any more injuries than any part of the physicality of our sport. Injuries happen in football and we need to allow undersized athletes the opportunity to compete in our game and blocking below the waist gives those young men an equalizer!!

Games are way too long

The blocking below the waist rule is good as it is now. We do not need to change it anymore or we will be further changing the game from what it once was and further eliminating smaller body types from being effective players therefore prohibiting their opportunities to play the game and gain an education through football. Smaller athletic players who were once effective blockers are already not being recruited now because of the rule changes in place.

Eliminate the tackle box protection for rugby style punters. It is totally unfair to the return team that does not know whether the punter will run or punt. This is American football not rugby style. Stronger enforcement of offensive linemen in the backfield. Instead of using the centers belt which is difficult to determine we should be using the bottom of the numbers or the center.

we need to eliminate tackling below the waist and targeting ball carriers knees.

The game length is too long, but it is mostly driven by television and media timeouts. I feel strongly we should not change time rules to shorten the game.

Stop trying to shorten the game.

Division II

Text Response

Targeting a defenseless player. Explain exactly what a defenseless player is. It cannot be a player to which the ball is thrown because it will never allow a defender to break a play up with a simultaneous collision.

Games at the lower levels are too fast because refs aren't stopping the clock when the ball runner goes out of bounds. The illegal man downfield needs to be corrected. Cut blocks be receivers coming in towards the ball is dangerous and should be outlawed.

No Clipping any where in the Game.

Division III

Text Response

Game is not too long at the D3 level. The rules to shorten it are very serious considering most d3 teams have only 9 games, some 10. Cutting their game snaps is not fair to our student athletes. As with our discussion at the coaches pannel on this, I am not sure you can continue to have the same rules apply to d3 that apply to d1, particularly with shortening the game because of TV coverage and all the timeouts that occur with that and with replay. Also with regard to technology, D3 would need to limit that, as the budgets are just not equitable.

I think the linemen downfield and the RPO (Run-Pass Option) movement is the biggest change to the game of football I've seen in my lifetime. It has put defenses at an incredible disadvantage leading to scores that resemble NCAA March Madness scores. I do not want to end up back at 6-3 scores but 68-60 is just crazy - and I believe this RPO trend must be addressed. Division III has nearly 25 teams averaging over 40 points per game.

I strongly believe that all blocks below the waist be eliminated!!! On the LOS or outside the box!!!!

Non TV games are perfect in length. Don't make adjustments to the game just for the purposes of TV. NCAA Football is far more entertaining than the NFL game largely because the current timing rules make 'the comeback' more possible. Blocking below the waist less prevalent under the old rules. Officials were great in year 1 of the change when they understood the parameters but since it hasn't been a point of emphasis in a few years, they miss about 85% of the blocks that should already be illegal. We were called for block below the waist from someone aligned on the backfield that was clearly legal this year. They need more training. Often times officials cannot see the 'forest for the trees' and are not aware of when penalties might occur. How often do officials watch film of the teams they are about to see that weekend? They need to have a better understanding of the game the are about to officiate.

I believe that the length of the game is very appropriate. The problem is not in game play or with the teams playing the games. The issue is that television games run long because advertisements and networks have to make their money. The players should not be punished by limiting their playing time or opportunities. I would be in favor of limiting the amount of commercial breaks in a televised game. It would be a shame to punish all of us because televised games are too long. We did not have a game go over three hours this year with many of the games being between 2:30 and 2:45. Television and money should not dictate the game. I also believe that how targeting is called should be evaluated. There is not distinction between intent and there is not a lot of consistency in the calls throughout the divisions especially in non replay situations. We had a player ejected for hitting a qb that turned and ducked in to the defender that was trying to come in at shoulder level however because the qb turned and ducked his head and forcing the contact to the helmet our player was ejected. That all happened within a half step of our defensive player. There was no way our player could have readjusted his head or angle of impact at that point. I also think that the three yard rule is an effective rule. I would be in favor of adding an official verses changing that rule. I feel that officials in our league have been too concerned with positioning of linemen and that we were even flagged after linemen released downfield after the ball was released from the QB's hand. I think the overconcentration on that rule has led to officials missing other more important calls. I am a defensive coach and was a defensive coordinator for 13 years before becoming a head coach and I don't have a problem with the RPO systems. I think that the unfair argument could be the same for a team that runs the veer, trap, and/or counter. Those plays all have false keys in order to gain an advantage. It is also similar to zone blitzing by the defense. I would equate that rule to say that a defensive lineman on the LOS cannot drop into coverage or a second level player has to designate himself before blitzing. I do not support the use of computers for in game video and or picture reviews for multiple reasons. First, this only furthers the advantage of teams with resources to have the technology and staff to get those things done. This could further the gap in the BSC and there are way too many have not's in the lower divisions. I support being able to use computers for data collection and statistics during games, but not to review video or pictures. We are not the NFL and do not need to be. I would not mind having the ability to communicate to the field like the NFL, but I don't see that as a positive for lower divisions. I think this needs a lot more research of how it would effect us all and how we can make sure it is equitable before we were to move forward with allowing those communications. I think that people that complain about fast paced offenses would be against it because it would allow for it to go even faster.

I currently coach in D3 and we stick with the rules that are being changed and modified. Many rules are being changed and modified due to TV time constraints. While our playoffs are televised, most teams are never under these rules. Often these rules just shorten the game for non-televised teams resulting in fewer opportunities to compete for our players. My thought is difficult to implement but if there is a way to design the rules so that there are specific rule sets for TV games where Instant Replay and commercial/time implications are considered. Otherwise in non-TV games the rules would not be implemented. A tough ask but it does and continues to encroach on the game for non-TV teams. Thanks

I feel what constitutes a legal catch needs to be looked at. If a receiver catches a ball and has control it should be a catch regardless of what happens when he hits the ground. The ground should not be able to cause an incomplete pass in my view. I have seen a WR make a catch, go to the ground two yards out of bounds outside the end zone, hit the ground with the ball coming loose and have it called an incomplete pass. That needs to be at least redefined. I understand the NFL is looking at their rule and from what I have seen in NCAA games they need to look at it as well.

If you want to shorten games, less commercials. Don't alter the game itself. A few years ago we started the clock on change of possession to shorten the game and it had some hurtful side effects to the game.

Would like to see a 2 minute warning time out like the NFL

no

Are we playing college football or pro football? Cannot make changes to one division only, but the pro trickle down to D1 with the media dollars is going to create massive problems at the lower levels. The officials get paid on average 150-200 per game and have entirely too much on their plate right now. The officials with all the resources continue to make mistakes nationally. How we we justify these types of questions being asked when the people with the best tools can't get it right. Eventually it will be a battle of the "Haves" and "Have Not's". I already is in many conferences. Might want to consider the integrity of the game and a coaches/officials ability to be successful before we try to make this game a carnival. Example: Compare St. Thomas (MN) to River Falls (WI). Two programs that play each other. One has endless money and budget, another has to raise \$50K+ per year just to keep a job and then has to try to win enough games to stay as well. They are 30 miles apart. Seems ridiculous to continue to push the game to a pro level that will continue to widen the gap between the two programs. RF doesn't stand a chance the way these questions are seemingly pushing the rules of the game.

Emphasize officials to enforce illegal blocking downfield. The rules regarding the increased use of technology are well-intentioned. However, at the Division III level, it may not be practical or equitable due to limited budgets and technology limitations.

Games are only too long because of TV timeouts and interruptions. Targeting is getting too sensitive. Helmets will touch! When a player seeks to drill a player in the head area, he should be kicked out. Otherwise it's coincidental.

Ineligible Receiver Downfield, this rule needs to be changes or enforced consistently!

I've never understood why it is not legal to cut block when you are on the line in punt or field goal situations. I understand the safety of no cut blocking down field on kick plays, but it seems that the punt team and field goal team should be able to protect themselves from the bull rush by cutting at the LOS.

My general thought is that we have enough rules and it seems every time teams find creative ways to play within the rules to create an advantage there are other coaches who bitch that it's unfair. Football is a game that is about adapting. I strongly believe that teams and individuals who are best able to adapt have a much greater chance of success than those who don't adapt...or would rather make new rules to avoid having to adapt. My general thought on "length of games" is that it's fine the way it is. The only motivation to shorten the game comes from television so they can get more games on TV and make it easier to fit a game into a televised time slot. There is no benefit to the student-athlete in shortening a game through rule changes. At the Division III level our student-athletes work 365 days per year to play in only 10 games guaranteed. In 2015 our 10 game regular season games averaged 2 hours 44 minutes. That's slightly over 27 hours of game time. Our kids work too hard over the course of a year to try to take that game-time away from them just to please television producers. This sport is about the student-athletes and since there is no upside for the student-athletes to shorten games, we should not be trying to do it. Thank you!

the questions here are based on mostly D1 football. Isn't it time to do the right thing: 1. D1, 1AA,D2 have 1 set of rules D3 a separate set of rules (due to NO TV in D3) or 2. do away with replay completely. What is reviewable & not reviewable is utter nonsense. ALL PLAYS can change a game. The discretion of a Rules Committee to determine what is OK to review & what is not has come to the point of ridiculousness.

If you open up the technology in the booth, it becomes a slippery slope as to what they are doing. Keep it all illegal. Illegal linemen downfield at 3 yards is the perfect great buffer- offenses have evolved to take advantage of the rule and it has made the game more wide open and exciting for the fans. Those that complain about it are looking to bring back the more physical team wins.

Offensive Linemen being allowed to cut defensive lineman is a rule that needs to be looked at, it is dangerous and unnecessary.

I think we need to look strongly at the targeting rule. At our level (D-III) we often do not have the capability for replay, and we are ejecting players for targeting who should not be ejected. I would be in favor of a proposal to make targeting fouls similar to unsportsmanlike fouls, where a player would be ejected on his second offense.

I would like to see the two step rule put back in for the coverage team with regards to the punt returner. My opinion is that it's much of a judgment call now. I would like to see the offensive tackles alignment moved up to the belt line of the center and not the buttocks. We have WR's off the line and they are directly adjacent to OT's. If the punt team were to line up in a similar fashion. The officials would ask players to move up so they could be counted as being on the LOS.

1) Place the Umpire on the offensive side of the ball, with the Referee. The Umpire not only is in the way, he is exposed to dangerous situations. He must be removed from the heart of play. Oftentimes, he is in survival mode and does not see what is going on anyway. 2) Offensive player hands to the face when they are executing a stiff arm. Must be called! 3) Ball carrier lowers his head, launches and hits the tackler with the crown of his helmet; this MUST be enforced! 4) Ejected player for targeting be allowed to stay on the sideline. 5) Block team leaping and landing on PAT/FG protectors, even though 1 yard from LOS. This must change. This is a dangerous situation and must not be allowed!

Length of game is not an issue for those of us who do not play on TV. Tough to be a defensive coach in this day and age. 10-2 rule on blocks below waist I believe has improved that and made blocking below the waist a little easier to officiate; let it ride. mc

Limit the time of the commercial as the NFL has done

I believe the game is in good shape as is, but we must continue to improve safety. Watching the past few weeks of NFL playoffs, I like our targeting rules better. Despite any negative feedback you get, please keep calling those fouls and ejecting players when necessary. We have to clean this up! The other thing you asked about that is important to me is blocking below the waste. Please restrict it to linemen, and I mean the five OL, and that's it. That makes it easier to officiate and safer for the players. Thank you.

none