### TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Share your opinion on the following topics:

1. Eliminating overtime during regular season games.

#### HEAD COACH - Men’s

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*2017 Men's and Women's Soccer Rules Survey Report*

*QUANTITATIVE DATA*

*April 14, 2017*
2. Eliminating substitution re-entry in the second period, making the substitution re-entry the same for all periods.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>HEAD COACH - Men’s</th>
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3. Allowing institutional bands to play at any time, including during the run of play.

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4. Requiring bench personnel, except the head coach, to be seated at all times while the ball is in play unless warming up, receiving medical attention, spontaneously reacting to an outstanding play or reporting to the scorekeeper's table.

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<th>DII HC</th>
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5. Requiring the referee to act as the official timekeeper and permitting allowances to be made for time lost in each period.

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<th>DI HC</th>
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6. Prohibiting assistant coaches from speaking to officials.

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7. Designating one team captain as the only individual permitted to speak to game officials and prohibiting all other players from speaking to game officials.

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Overtimes and substitutions make this game unsafe for our kids in such a shortened condensed season. The season needs to be extended, but also need to eliminate reentry and overtime.

I do not think we need rules about who speaks to the referees. I think head coaches should be responsible for making those expectations clear to players and assistants.

I support a rule limiting substitutions during a match.

Best questions in a long time! Wonderful

All these are absolute no brainers.

the tempo of the game has helped for the development of many of our higher level players allowing them to transition into a pro environment as well as develop younger players ...plus it makes our games more exciting than most pro games ....I like the substitution rule as is ...

I like taking a look at the substitution rule and would support this proposal over the current process. However, I like some of the other suggestions from previous survey's, better, such as a fixed total number of substitutions allowed in game....5 a half, or 10 total, something along those lines.

I strongly feel that the official time be kept on a visual clock (as it is now) instead of giving it to the referee for his/her discretion.

Eliminating overtime should be a priority ASAP. We have no control over conference schedules, play 3 games a week, sometimes 4. Teams shouldn't need extra time to win a game in regular season.

Appreciate the concept of bench control & sportsmanship. However, enforcement of this potential policy would fall directly on institutions; which could lead to spotty enforcement.

Eliminating the 2nd half re-entry rule makes it tougher to allow more players to participate in a game. It's not like we have not been handling the difference of the two periods correctly.

Overtime is important as it gives perhaps a dominant team more time to get the win. Makes it harder for teams to just go out and play for the draw. we need flexible substitution rules due to playing 2 games within 48 hours of each other. Also helps with large roster management. having the scoreboard clock takes away any possible discrepencies with the officials

If Referee's are allowed to card and speak to any player or assistant coach, than any player or any assistant coach should be allowed to talk to them. Kids miss out on playing their college careers because ref's are to card happy and egotistical. No other NCAA sport sits out kids for the game they are red carded for the next game.

We should be compliant with all FIFA rules to avoid confusion for the officials and players.

I would like to see the over time period extend back to 30 minutes, two 15 minute periods like FIFA has it and like the NCAA used to have instead of the current 20 minutes.

Get rid of overtime... Please

Accepting that NCAA soccer will have some differences to FIFA rules we should try and make the games the same when possible. Prohibiting assistant coaches from roaming the sidelines would be a great move. FIFA rules permit one coach to stand at all times. If the head coach sits down an assistant can stand up. Eliminating OT is important because of the compactness of our season and so little recovery time between games.

These rules seem to align more with FIFA rules which is much more how college soccer should be governed.

The proposal regarding bench personal being seated at all times is a major overreach and, in my opinion, ridiculous. First off many schools don't have enough seats for teams to sit, so now you are asking teams to take on additional costs. Second the referee has the ability to control the bench within his/her reach today. Enforce the rules and this becomes a non issue. Asking one team captain to be the only one to speak to the referee is another waste of paper it was written on. Again, the referee has it within him to control the players. Simply enforce the rules and again this becomes less of an issue. These topics seem to becoming from a non soccer person which is surprising as I don't normally find this to be an issue with this group.

The game at the collegiate level is an extension of the educational experience. Not allowing players to communicate with officials diminishes many educational aspects of the collegiate athletic experience. If the communication to an official is inappropriate, there are already remedies available for the officials.
For the second question, I would prefer one re-entry per player per game. With an additional re-entry per player if the game goes into overtime. Therefore if a player subs off in the 60th minute (as their first time off in the game) they could use their one re-entry to come in before regulation is over. For questions six, I would say that head coaches, the home sports information director, and the designated home institution game supervisor to be the only individuals allowed to address the referee at any time before, during or after the match. For the last question I would support and official NCAA captains arm band that can be passed from one player to another when the player wearing the armband is substituted.

I am in favor of a full year calendar for the soccer season. The benefits for our SA's would be immense.

These are all outstanding recommendations that bring the college game more in line with the world game.

I'd prefer to keep the OT in place and allow teams an additional opportunity to get the win as this has direct effect in the NCAA selection process. I'd also prefer to have re-entry in the first half (especially at the DIII level) so I would be totally against no re-entry in both halves. Bands at the DIII level is a rare occurrence so I have no opinion. I think having everyone sit eliminates any confusion and obstructions that may exist on tighter fields.

I'd prefer the official to keep the time and add on time if necessary. Head coach and 1 Captain should be the only ones allowed to address the officials.

Thank you for all of your work!

I strongly believe that if we are to move forward as a sport within the NCAA we should be more aligned with the actual world game. Just about every other sport in the NCAA has their rules aligned with the world governing body. I have no issue with an assistant coach providing instruction. Typically only one coach is allowed per FIFA regulations to be providing instruction at any one time. I do however support that players and other bench personnel remain seated for matches as I think when players start standing and getting closer to the field in games that are very competitive, we as a sport put ourselves in situations that can be avoided and limit interaction between players on the field and others that are on the bench. I think prohibiting assistant coaches from speaking to an official will be hard to enforce. Especially for conferences that have limited budgets and do not provide for a 4th official to actually monitor the technical area. I think this is also a reason should not limit the bench personnel from standing up to provide instruction.

Female bodies should be taken into consideration when it comes to the substitution rules. Our schedule is compressed. Playing 3 games in a week with limited substitution is hard on the female body. This is one of the few sports in which both male and female athletes play the same game...for the same amount of time...cover the same distances...yet we have different bodies. I understand the desire to stay consistent with FIFA rules...but at the collegiate level, I think we should have more flexibility in our substitution rules in order to protect and prevent overuse injuries.

If we eliminate OT then how do the athletes prepare for it in post season play? Bands playing during play then we should allow all noise makers to be allowed through out the game. If we make teammates to sit then I believe it takes away from the atmosphere of the game the assistant coach should be allowed to talk with the referee, they are coaches and if the head coach is checking on things with injury or talking with a player then the assistant should be able to handle talking to a referee if only one player (captain) can speak to the referee then the referee can only talk to that one player. If you are referring to the captain speaking on behalf of the team then yes I agree. I think the writing of that rule should be VERY well written or it will be mis-interpreted by many referees.

In soccer we do not use "period" to designate a half of soccer. Please get the terminology right it makes us question the level of knowledge you all have of our sport.

I think question 5 should be divided. I think there should be a visible clock but, I do feel referee's should be able to add time on if required.

All excellent ideas to conform to the spirit of the game, to improve spectator experience, to improve health & well-being of Student-Athletes, and to protect the integrity and beauty of the game.

Current head college coach and former profession referee (USL, A-League, US Open Cup experience), I am GREATLY AGAINST putting up any additional formal barriers that don't allow the officials, players, and coaches to communicate with each other. Formalized rules that prohibit communication are NOT the answer. Education on all sides - players, coaches, and referees - are the answer to a more harmonious game.

I think referee's should be able to handle players talking to them in the right manor no matter if they are Captain or not.

Players should be able to stand and cheer their team. I strongly feel that would be a mistake and take away from the student-athlete experience, especially for players that do not play much. Regarding one team captain, only problem would be if that players is not on the field.

Officials in soccer are the most insulated and pampered officials in any sport. None of these rule changes would enhance their ability to officiate.
FIFA rules as far as possible. Two seasons, Fall and Spring - games at weekends, and max. 4 two-hour practices per week. If need be, withdraw from NCAA as a governing body as with tennis and gymnastics. NCAA is hurting soccer development at the moment, a fact which needs be recognized. NCAA linked to Football is hugely to the detriment of soccer, but allows Football via the weights room - their training of choice - to train all-year around. Soccer's training of choice is not the weights room, but playing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eliminating substitution re-entry in the second period, making the substitution re-entry the same for all periods. You have got the question all wrong. We should be moving in the direction of the first half having the same sub rules as the current second half. From the perspective of situation when a player takes a knock early in the game and a coach being forced into a rest of the half decision. Also, in D 3 the participation model is enhanced with more liberal sub rules in the first half.</th>
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<tr>
<td>I strongly oppose changing the substitution rule as it currently stands, especially at the DIII level. It is not the responsibility of college soccer to prepare players for the international game and it sure isn't coming from the DIII level. To reduce the opportunity to use the players on our rosters at a time when schools are demanding we carry more players on the roster is not a good combination. I am not sure why we are looking at eliminating the overtime periods for regular season games either. If an individual conference decides they wish to eliminate OT for their league games because they are playing back to back dates that is fine...but don't put everyone into that position because of a few.</td>
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The game isn’t black and white. Respectful discussions are necessary to help with the correcting of players’ behavior.

The closer we make the college game to the world game the better for the overall development of our sport. I understand that participation numbers used to be a factor in soccer, but how many other sports have rules that run counter to their Olympic counterpart? The elimination of overtime in the regular season is supported by sports science, so it is something that should not be up for debate. The rule currently favors bigger programs with deeper benches. It takes away the opportunity for teams to defend on the road and gain a gain a hard fought draw. Those extra 20 minutes make such results likely. I am not in support of the rule limiting the assistants from speaking to match officials. Some assistants have institutional roles that designate them as associate head coach so they have the authority off the field, so why not on it? As long as the discussion is in a respectful way it should be allowed. I also feel that assistants who speak to the officials calm the situation down when the head coach is upset, irate, etc. Maybe designate the two coaches and captain allowed to speak to the ref?

I think that the above topics that I have shown support for will bring the college soccer game more on par with the professional level. This will enhance the student-athletes experience and grant more credibility to college soccer. Below are the topics that I am very strongly in favor of: Eliminating overtime during regular season games. Eliminating substitution re-entry in the second period, making the substitution re-entry the same for all periods. Requiring bench personnel, except the head coach, to be seated at all times while the ball is in play unless warming up, receiving medical attention, spontaneously reacting to an outstanding play or reporting to the scorekeeper’s table. Requiring the referee to act as the official timekeeper and permitting allowances to be made for time lost in each period.

There should be a rule that head coaches cannot speak to an official, or shout/intimidate officials during a match. To balance that, officials/assignor should be able to respond to a coaches queries of certain calls in writing/email on the day after a match.

Thank you for taking the time to poll us.

Out of all the above, eliminating OT in the regular season games would benefit everyone.

Support it all. If we don't evolve, we just continue the downward spiral away. The substitution change in particular is critical - the best players coming in to college soccer from the US Soccer Development academy and international players are not prepared for or impressed by our current substitution rules. And of course the best college players going on to play professionally are heading in to a different situation. College soccer thus needs to link up better and evolution is critical. Too many subs as is now is bad for the game including making it it overly athletic and the tempo is way too high which also leads to more injuries and more frenetic tactics. Also eliminating overtime or taking a half way measure by limiting it to just one 10 minute segment makes sense too. I also really like the aims to improve sportsmanship to curb dissent/abuse to referees - no profanity is a rule that is rarely followed.

Eliminate re-entry. 22 player bench. No re-entry per game.

I will be in support of any rules that line us up more closely with how the rest of the world plays our sport.
1- Would support eliminating overtimes if it were combined with rule 5 of allowing stoppage time added by referee. OT allows for a team to win the game, especially when it has playoff contentions 2- If 1 is worried about the health of the players, by taking away the substation rule puts that same health issue by not allowing players to rest then re-enter. Granted, it does favor larger rosters; it also allows players more rest for a team with smaller rosters. 3 - Potentially a good idea for improved atmosphere, but should be limited to a ‘pep band’ or student section to allow for communication between players on the field. 4 - As long as they are in the ‘coaches box’ should not be restricted to standing or sitting. Should not affect referee’s or the game if inside the allotted space 5 - If were to eliminate OT, then this could be a practical idea. Would need to have clear expectations on what warrants the added time, and how it would be communicated with coaches/scoreboard operators 6 - A coach is a coach 7 - Isn’t this already the rule? If officials have conversations with players that is something they are bringing on themselves. Not necessary and should be squashed by them at the beginning of the game.

I support eliminating overtime but I would also support playing two 10’ overtimes out. I just want to eliminate golden goal overtimes, even in the playoffs. I support changing the substitution rule to eliminate re-entry but would also support adding a re-entry to both halves. I believe both have should be the same. Name another sport where the rules change in different periods.

I am strong on eliminating overtime from regular season games. It puts too much strain on the players with such quick turnaround for the next game it is virtually impossible to recover in time. This puts the student athletes at risk for injury.

Of all of these proposals eliminating overtime during the regular season is the most important and really needs to happen. The season has way too many games in a short time period and the extra minutes on a players is not conducive to their health and welfare. As well it would bring us in line with the rest of the FIFA rules, which was the rationale behind many of the rules just implemented.

It seems to me that instead of preventing the players from speaking to officials the officials should start treating them better than I see them. My observations it is all about ego and not wanting to be wrong. Starts with the referee certification courses and personnel management. It is not taught and the reaction is to show cards instead of speaking to players. Officials need not have "Mickey Mouse" ears. On the other side I understand about coaches needing to get a hold of themselves too but it is a two way street.

In the best interest of the student athletes, elimination of the back-to-back match day culture should be at the forefront of any changes to the NCAA game. The overtime period is something I feel strongly about. of a game can end in a draw at the end of OT why just not at the end of 90 minutes! The fixture list is congested enough. Also love the sitting bench. Plus Head Coaches being the only voice to officials. The more the college game can align with the official FIFA rules of the game the better.

Players and coaches have to be able to speak with officials-communication is VITAL. Officials who are willing to speak help keep emotions and the game in control. If the language is abusive towards officials then they should card the offending party. Some officials need thicker skin- they would be amazed how much easier the job would be if they would be willing to give explanations (when needed) to either the coach or captains. Its when they won't engage with a coach or captain after a call that it allows for us to think they just made it up or blew the call and don't want to admit it. I won't always agree with an official but if they at least tell me why they made the decision they did, then I can move on from it.

substitution rules need to be changed !!! They are one of the biggest factors in games being so hectic. It allows coaches to cut so many corners in regard to coaching. this is more important then the 10 month season change. Coaches that vote against changing substitution changes really don't want to change college soccer to make it better.

I think that requiring people to be seated is tough and I wouldn't want referees to just be throwing up warnings and yellow cards everytime someone decides to stand up or has to move or do something. What has to be eliminated is teams that stand up on the sidelines for entire matches. It impedes the ability of the other team to see if they aren’t standing up. It can get in the way of the sideline referees and it isn't safe for players on the field who may run out of bounds etc....

I don't support one team captain because you need multiple leaders on the team to carry out team responsibilities and be role models.
Several comments:

1. The mission of the NCAA is player participation. Why do we want to limit participation? Are we supposed to be the training grounds for professional sports? The substitution rules are very good the way they are and don't need to be changes. 2. As to keeping the time, why is this even an issue. Only because they do this in the professional leagues. No sport that keeps time has any problems with a game clock. This will just give the referee more discretionary power. They already have enough. 3. As to speaking to officials, I would have an easier time speaking to the President of the US than to a soccer official. The great majority won't talk to you under any circumstances. 4. Overtime is critically important in determining who wins and loses. In a very short season these wins and losses can determine who gets in the NCAA playoffs.

These topics do not seem very important to me. They peripheral issues. Let's stop the holding at corners and encroachment at penalty kicks.

I think the NCAA should consider allowing the different Divisions to have different rules to accommodate their primary mission, vision and values. The reality is that Division III is very different than Division I. What might help one will help Nader another. Very surprised that this is an issue for the NCAA.

OT is not safe when you have games played Fri/Sunday...no recovery time. W/o sub re-entry in 2nd half, game will flow better. Bands are fine...get an atmosphere at games! Who is going to police the bench personnel? We don't have a 4th official in most D2 games. Ref already has enough to do. I think FIFA should take a lead out of our book & use an official timer. Some staffs have the assistant coaches do more of the coaching...let them coach & speak respectfully to officials. Speaking to refs is not really a problem in women's game.

the referee can add time (or at least i've seen it done many times) as things are now, so that is fine the way it is.

The game is fine as is without all these minor rules that complicate a great game.

I feel strongly about eliminating overtime in the regular season. Do it!

A lot of these rules are giving referees even more reason to be irrational and less a part of the fabric of the game. The last thing we need is to put them further on a pedestal where they don't have relationship with players.

if ref decides to add extra time it should be reported to sideline so everyone is aware and possibly added to scoreboard clock.

To keep College Soccer relevant in the grand scheme of the game in this country, we need to adopt the same rules as used with the rest of the soccer playing world.

All great ideas that would benefit the game tremendously.

Out of these proposed changes, I think eliminating the overtime is the imperative one, given the physical relief this will provide to student-athletes and their overall well-being.

Don't give the referees more control there aren't enough good quality referees to handle more duties.

Just adjust the college game to be like the world-wide game. We play a strange version of soccer vs. the game worldwide. Unlimited subs, re-entries after subs, etc...

Limiting substitution is not a great idea. It will affect retention, and we are in the business of keeping kids involved and valued in our teams.

The questions regarding game officials concern me as I would hope to see better game management and communication from referees as opposed to building walls between them and both coaches and players. I believe we are all in this game together.

I do not support our current substitution rules. Should be more open. Only sport that has restricted subbing rules. Terrible.

I think when any bench personnel that is given a yellow or red card, a player or an assistant coach, for shouting at an official, ungentlemanly conduct, then the head coach should also receive a yellow card. The head coach is responsible for the actions of those on the bench. It achieves nothing to give an assistant coach a yellow card, particularly when there is more than one, another coach then simply takes over shouting and trying to affect the official.

The officials rules would be completely out of line with anything set out on any other level of play within the USA or internationally. Players, coaches should be able to ask for explanations or simply ask questions.

For the referee to act as the official timekeeper - I think we should keep the scoreboard as a running clock and then it stops at the 45 minute mark, where then the ref has the "injury time" on the field - which he informs both teams of how long that time may be (how they do it at the pro level)

The biggest issue here in my opinion is the elimination of re-entry for substitutions in the second half of games and allowing the referee to keep time and allow for any injury time as done for our game in the rest of the world.
IT is time for collegiate soccer to be in line with FIFA and the rules that govern all soccer. The overtime rule needs to go away. Having an overtime with a golden goal rule is a travesty and not in the best interest of the student athletes. It adds way too much time to the season and with the way that we have to play our season, typically a Friday and Sunday, the physical demands are too high. In addition, it is unfair to have the golden goal, just to have a winner. there are numerous games where a team has the full competitive advantage throughout the game and just is not able to score, yet could then lose that game on one mistake. We need to look out for the best interest of the student athletes and our sport. I have been a part of games where you have all 3 coaches up a the scorers table verbally accosting the 4th official, in addition, you have assistant coaches standing wherever they want to stand. IF we want more of a professional environment, than it should be more in line, again, with international rules and what the expectations are from FIFA.

These are important issues around the image of the game and I am glad you are looking at them.

I have no support for the prohibition for speaking to officials. In reality that rule is already in place based on the referees discretion which I think they should maintain. Make it a point of emphasis but nothing more. If we make it a rule then human nature will put referees in a position to show a card first, and think about it later thus creating more problems. Or the rule will become a non-rule much like 6-seconds for the goalkeeper. All rule proposals have valid rational for being incorporated. However, I really do not have any strong feelings about any of them.

The NCAA should look at the D3 spring season as well as preseason. An extension of preseason would help with injury prevention.

Overtime being eliminated is a must. I also believe no re-entry in 2nd half is necessary. Thanks

I would like to see the NCAA eliminate re-entry. Once substituted players cannot reenter the match.

Regarding the bench standing restriction: some coaches, assistant coaches and players just can't sit. It would be better to have a bench 'box' that the players need to stay in that is 2-3 feet away from the touchline and a coach 'box' that head or assistant coaches can also go into. Regarding speaking to officials: would rather have only the captain allowed to speak to the officials on the field but provide a fourth official. There is way to much screaming at the officials by head coaches as well.

Having rules that mandate or prohibit behavior is a step backwards when it comes to generating a culture of respect. The moment you pass legislation to mandate a respectful behavior you will never see a respectful action again - simply a compliant one. We should be better than that in the NCAA. With regards to playing rules, my governing principle on this has always been to move the NCAA game to more closely resemble the FIFA game while understanding that we are a large roster team.

On last question. If our quality of officiating was better I would support this but it is not. I believe that we would have situations where officials talked repeatedly to the players and with out allowing players to reply I think you would put a lot on officials hands and many would not handle it correctly. Assistant coaches may have important tactical group responsibilities at their programs. Not allowing them to stand up and coach could be a detriment. If one player is designated as the speaker to officials, but is not in the game at that time, then what happens?

This is a catalogue of terrible ideas. Can you guys get serious about regulating corner flag colors or the exact running of the warm up clock or something and stop messing with these issues? It's very scary to see the committee considering ANY of these changes.

I feel strongly about the substation rule. Our game has to many substitutions.

I would like the substitution re-entry to be the same for both periods. But I would like the substitution re-entry to be the same for the first period as it is for the second period. For example, permitting both the first and second period athletes to have re-entry privileges.

I do love these surveys from the NCAA. In a free flowing game like soccer you need more communication not less yet you try and take out the very levels of communication which can make things go more smoothly. I do understand someone in Indianapolis has to do this work to justify their job but seriously at a time when you are seeking to deregulate why would you add regulation and prevent communication in any sport?

Overtime is necessary to give the superior team an additional 20 minutes to break down the bunker. We need as much data as possible to separate teams for purpose of conference standings and regional rankings. More ties only muddies the waters. Substitution is an important part of the D3 philosophy to allow more student-athletes to participate.

Great suggestions
Can we have more weeks to play the same number of allowed games? It would be in the best health interest of the soccer player and would allow the D3 student-athlete to not be stressed over difficult academics and playing too many games in a short period of time.

Provide clarity of Assistant Coaches, does that refer to Associate Head Coaches as well?

If referees are able to manage a game correctly the changes you are looking at don’t matter. You might as well just say no talking to officials ever in that case. I think they should be able to handle the job they are paid to do in most cases. With that said, the refs can easily take charge of coaches who are behaving in a manner they don't appreciate as they have all the power as the game is played.

Would like to see no entry for substitutes at all. If you are subbed in first half you are not allowed to re enter during game.

2 captains should be able to speak to the referee as communication may be directly affected if that individual must leave the game.

Although I like the questions, I would like to see a rationale for them as well. Soccer gets a bad rap already with too many yellow cards and unnecessary suspensions for the littlest reasons by officials. We don’t want to give more authority to officials. It’s important that the apply the current letter of the law properly. I am of the understanding that if an official makes 100 calls with his/her whistle during a match and misses 10, he/she had a 90% efficiency (in my book). However, those ten mistakes are costly to the integrity of the game, that demonstrates a level of inconsistency across the board, around the world. Look at what happened in Mexico this past week with the referee’s boycott over improper sanctions levied by the disciplinary commission on what is written in the referee handbook. We need to have stricter officiating standards, understanding that there is a shortage of quality officials. We keep working together to improve the game we love.

I believe the substitution rule needs to be changed to put college soccer more on par with the world game.

If the requirement for bench personnel to remain seated was passed I would like to see it changed to allow up to two members of the coaching staff to remain standing at the same time.

For final question, prohibit only captains to speak to officials I agree with but limiting that to only one captain I do not. Any captain can speak to officials.

Finally some good rules changes! If these changes are not implemented then soccer coaches at the college level are idiots or stupid.

If we continue to have overtime during the regular season in league games, league tournaments and the NCAA tournament, then I support overtime during the regular season in league or non league games. Institutional bands can play during warm ups, halftime, during an injury or at the conclusion of play, not during the run of play.

I think overtime should be two 10:00, no matter what. Or no overtime at all.

If we prohibit assistant coaches from speaking to officials, which I do support, shouldn’t make a difference if they’re standing, sitting, or any other position.

Restricting only the captain to speak with the referee could put the referee in an awkward position with other players if there is required communication.

I fully support as much noise as possible being made by spectators, through any means necessary, at any point in the game.

Require the referees to speak with the designated speaking personnel from each team if this is required.

I don't support eliminating OT because it would make NCAA selection more difficult. And, more teams would play for ties. I support limiting substitution because rosters are growing. I think seating teams will help AR manage/officiate better and reduce unruly behavior from bench. Officials can manage timer from field, as well. I support reducing player access to officials during the match.

I would support the referee acting as timekeeper as long as there were some fairly strict and transparent guidelines in place to follow. I’m not comfortable with too much freedom given in reference to the length of a game.

The substitution rule needs to be addressed. It is very disruptive to the flow of the game.

Wow ... these proposal all seem to pull the emotion out of the game. I think all changes in legislation should support participation, not inhibit it. Limiting substitutions discourages substitutions, as well as promotes “kids playing hurt.” When a player is off I love to see them excited and involved in the game -- not sitting down quietly. Let's encourage bands to play, kids to cheer, and everybody to have some fun. I am very much against the idea that referees can't be spoken to by multiple people ... If they don't like the manner they are spoken to they can throw a card. A great referee will speak to players, explain decisions, and tell players when enough is enough -- if our refs can't handle that maybe we need better refs.
These are great potential rules changes.
The closer we can move towards adopting the true FiFA Laws of the Game, the better our college game would be i.e. time kept on field, issues with technical area’s, etc.

I would prefer if two team captains could be the only people permitted to speak to the officials.

Along with the competitive calendar, the biggest flaw in the collegiate game is the substitution rule. Eliminating re entry would be a tremendous start to building player development at this level. It would also help coaches to develop their ability to coach. If there is 1 rule that the rules committee needs to focus on, it is the substitution rule. Players/leagues at younger levels are able to enact these types of rules, why can't the NCAA?

definitely want substitution restrictions. wonder if they should be waived in the event the score reaches a certain point so that others get a chance to play like the desire to control the behavior and have more respect to the refs.

Some of these rules are going to cause more problems than they solve such as only allowing one captain to speak to the referee. If another player then talks to the referee then he will be disciplined even if the conversation is civil etc. All these restrictions are being added simply to cover for a referees inability to manage a game. More restrictions are only going to make the situation worse. More time such be invested in reaching referees how to manage games and manage situations, not adding more rules.

We need to get more inline with FIFA regulations. These rule changes will allow for a better experience for the student-athlete.

you guys have too much time on your hands... kum ba yah 28 years in youth college and pro and no one got hurt in OT... work on flopping or goal line technology or lengthening the season in college and a player questions a ref?...wussification of our culture...some under 10 parents who have never played must have suggested some of these... title on the line....its a tied game and I get taken down (not flop or dive, but pole axed) in the box and there s no call?...o...the ref will hear it from me ! (as non captain).... it s sports folks... whoever came up with these please have them call me and ill find some pottery classes and knitting sessions for them... take a spoonful of concrete and harden up....my gosh... last one gives ref way too much power....

All of these are good changes. Overtime games in the regular season MUST be changed. We put our players are risk by playing two games in a weekend AND possibly overtime games. I would also support the substitution rule changes. No re-entry in either half. But I think the following should one day be adopted.

If we have players not able to talk to officials, then officials should not be able to talk to players. I think we must all have some level of communication. enhanced by playing a purposeful role, including realistic minutes in matches - which in turn will cultivate better player development throughout their collegiate career

I support having the same substitution policy for both halves. In this case, I would support having 1 re-entry in each period.

The closer the NCAA rules get to mimicking USSF rules, the better.

If the NCAA is trying to align with the pro level, I do not think you can lump all divisions together. It goes against the DIII philosophy to limit opportunities for participation.

I favor allowing the rules to be different between divisions if there are significantly opposing philosophies/priorities to warrant this. For example, DI men have wanted more FIFA-like substitution rules for quite a while. Not sure how strongly DI women feel about this, but it doesn't fit with the D3 mission for intercollegiate participation. This strongly felt difference in perspective should be reflected in the rules governing play for each applicable division/gender

In cold weather games requiring everyone on the bench to be seated is difficult. Often times it's so cold that standing is a valuable way for coaches, and even players, to stay warm and keep blood circulating. There must be better ways to monitor bench protocol. I support eliminating re-entry in the second half. I do not support eliminating re-entry from the first half to the second half

Officials already can stop the clock if they think time is being wasted. No need to change.

In certain conferences there will not be enough games to break ties if you completely eliminate overtime. It is just going to end up putting tie breakers into play instead of solving it on the field. A 20 minute period is not the sole cause for injuries its successive games in a short period of time. There has been multiple pushes for a change in the substitution rules. I do like that players can re-enter in the second half as it gives you the opportunity to get other players spot minutes, which I feel is important in developing players.

The sub rule has to change ! Make soccer relevant to the actual real game .... 5 subs max per game
Division III should value participation!!! cutting down on allowing opportunities to play is wrong at the Division III level and substitutions should NOT be cut more than this. If Division II/III want to do it that is one thing, but cutting down on player participation is WRONG!!

When are we going to talk about financial aid reform again? I believe the substitution rule gets us closer to the international game AND will actually help the game/tactics be played at a normal speed...I also think you might see a reduction of injuries.

For Division 1 Men's Soccer, we need to get as close to FIFA on subbing as we can. There should be simply no re-entry at all for the entire game. We also need to limit the number of subs as well. FIFA is 3. Division 1 Men's Soccer should be 5 + a GK. You could also have an additional rule stating that if a player is injured on a yellow/red card offense, that the injured player could be subbed out and that would not count against your 5 subs. After medical treatment, that player would be allowed to re-enter the match. The current subbing in D-1 Men's Soccer is a huge issue. NCAA Baseball and Softball DO NOT HAVE re-entry.......that's how the game is played.....we need to be same!!!! I agree with all the rules that involve talking to an official. I believe that too many people speak to the official during a game, and there should be some sort of penalty for that. Much of it is not necessary. I do disagree with the substitution rules. At the Division II level, we do not have the time in preseason and the practice time to get our kids ready so that they are fit enough for no re-entry in the second half. I do like overtime, because it gives an opportunity for teams to dig deep and play with passion, even when they think they can't go any further.

My thoughts on eliminating overtime would be determined by the substitution rules and if they change
Please STOP considering Limiting substitutions any further! I oppose the limited re-entry rule as it currently exists. College Soccer is an extension of the educational process for these student-athletes and its OK to actually let More Players Participate!. We don't have to be like FIFA in every way. I find this topic of conversation insulting: "Requiring bench personnel, except the head coach, to be seated at all times while the ball is in play unless warming up, receiving medical attention, spontaneously reacting to an outstanding play or reporting to the scorekeeperâ€™s table." It does not allow all members of the team to feel part of the game. Bench standing and cheering is an integral part of participation. For many schools, assistant coaches do more coaching than the head coach during games and there should be no reason to limit this. In terms of time keeping we would be going backwards to the days when we turned off the clock at 2 minutes and then let the officials keep the final whistle. It is best to keep it very black and white and not at the discretion of the official as to when to end the game.

The overtime periods need to be eliminated. they put undue stress on the players and lead to injuries. The substitution rule should be the same in both halves. No re-entry in each half except for blood injuries.

OT - if we had more games, I would support this. But with so few games, we will have a log-jam of draws I fear.

I don't know how I feel about the official time clock with the referee - but I would like to see the game clock count 00:00-45:00 and 45:00-90:00 for sure. I hate the countdown format with a passion

100% behind eliminating Overtime in regular season games. Unnecessary and leads to more injuries, tired student athletes, later back to school etc. etc. I think its tough to carry a squad of 25 and then limit substitutions for our level - DII. I understand for the top levels of D1 where that would be good for development and getting them ready for the next level. However, it is good to get players in games when possible and allow more players to have a positive experience.

I support the rules changes that would align NCAA rules with FIFA rules. Overtime in regular season games is putting the student-athletes at more risk of injury. If a game is tied after 90 mins then it means that both teams were as good or as bad as each other, which happens in sport! I think the idea here is to streamline communication both with the staff and players. Especially as it relates to staff on the sideline, it is increasingly a distraction. The concern is that it eventually wears down the official. So I am in favor of rules that would curb this behavior.

We need to align our rules to FIFA. Especially the substitution rules. We need to be far more restrictive and eliminate all re-entry AND restrict the number of substitutions. It is a world game - our rules need to reflect that.

Overtime during regular season games should be eliminated for numerous reasons but mainly because a draw on the road could be a good result for a team and to eliminate the higher chance of injury and fatigue if there is more than one game that week/weekend.

Ref as the official time keeper should definitely be a priority. Too much time is wasted and the ref has no control to manage it.
The biggest two changes to the "game" would be the first two. I'm all in favor of making it more like a normal soccer game with substitution policy so players are coming onto the field to play 7 minutes and then being subbed off. I'm indifferent about overtime...could keep it or eliminate it. We play doubleheaders to in some cases it would be better not to have it. I also am a big fan of the ref keeping time on the field...not a clock count down. There should be added time for injuries, etc.

I understand the mindset regarding the speaking aspect to officials. However, there are situations that may require an assistant or another captain to speak with officials and placing a restriction like this might remove that common sense factor from the way officials think or react. A Coaching Staff Member must be allowed to address officials in a respectful manner, but they still must be allowed to address them, certainly in situations when the head coach is unable. The same goes for captains. What if that captain came off of the field? What if that captain were injured? What if that designated captain was called for a foul and was already booked and couldn't address for fear of reprisal by the official? There are too many circumstances that could arise where this restriction becomes a problem.

How about making the first half substitution rules like the 2nd half? Rather than the other way around.

Regarding Re-entry: I am in favor of 1 entry a half when a team plays 2 games in 7 days. In cases where a team plays more than 2 games in the same time period, that substitution rule could be harmful to players, so the current rule should be maintained. I would say that if a team plays 2 games in a 24-30 hour period, the current substitution rule should be kept in place. The assumption too is that the current provisions for blood and concussion compliance would remain in place. Regarding the officials keeping / adding time, I am in favor of this; the referee does need to make it known how much time is being added. Regarding bench personnel communicating with officials and one team Captain, I think that communication between officials and staff / players is a good thing. If their is dissent / or a lack of sportsmanship involved, bookings are in order.

Many of these proposals are very restrictive and seem to go way over board and I don't understand their purpose. Is there an issue with players standing and supporting their team? Is there an issue with assistant coaches talking to officials and players speaking to officials. I don't understand where this is going. These rule changes I think are very wrong to even consider.

All of these rules seem to be to make the game more like professional leagues. There are massive differences between professional soccer seasons and the NCAA college season. For example: professional leagues typically play just one match a weekend, while we have to play more than one per weekend in often very hot conditions (thus the need for more substitutions in college soccer); the season is 8-9 months long for most professional leagues, while the NCAA regular season is just 12 weeks long; and there is no need to have higher participation rates by pro leagues, while part of the mission of colleges is to help develop the mind, body, and spirit of as many of our students as we can.
Not sure where many of these recommendations are coming from. No OT in games would only result in more draws and more teams playing defensively and negatively in order to get the draw. OT allows for far more wins/losses to be settled on the field and makes it less likely to play multiple games where teams bunker or play for a draw. This would be bad for the quality of our matches and only serve to discourage fans and supporters or our college game. OT goals in college soccer are amongst the most exciting moments of the year. No re-entry in 2nd half is essential for international soccer and pro soccer but not for college soccer where players need more rest and recovery in order to remain safe and healthy. Bench personnel don't get to stand up? This just gives official more responsibility to police the sidelines instead of focusing on the healthy and safety of the players who are actually on the field. Many stadiums are full and quite loud so the assistant coaches many times need to get to the sideline to make a coaching point or adjustment and then go back to the bench area...why would we restrict this? Bands playing during the run of play will result in gross negligence in the area of sportsmanship for the visiting teams on the part of the home teams... Why in the world, would college soccer give the official the added responsibility AND the discretion to add time when all he/she has to do to stop the clock right now is signal the timekeeper to stop the clock? This makes NO sense at all...we have the cleanest clock management system in the world...officials can stop the clock at any time but we ALL get to know when its stopped and when the clock hits zero, the game is over. Giving the officials the ability to alter the length of the game would be very detrimental to the college game and would cause added controversy and complaints than none of us want. Limiting players other than the captain (who might be a keeper 100 yards away from the play) would be silly and more to police for officials. The only result would be more useless cautions being issued for players who need/choose to speak to the official. If the player's comments are profane or offensive to the official, then caution them...no need to limit communication with the officials.

This is mostly driven by Division I Head Coaches. Division I does not rule the NCAA nor the decision making. Thanks

Substitutions should be more liberal. The current SECOND half substitution rule should be applied to all periods to allow re-entry in all periods. Eliminate the first half "no re-entry" substitution rule.

Need a rule for coaches [and players] asking for yellow and red cards.

I fully support eliminating overtime. In terms of health and wellness it makes sense but also to fall in line with the rest of the world which was the rational given for the last changes.

I do think players should be limited to speaking to officials. I think it should be only the captains, not just one. Players come off the field which is what we have more than one captain.

The referee already can add time lost during a periods so I don't believe the statement justifies making the referee the official time keeper.

Substitutions should be limited, officials keeping time not on a scoreboard. Mirror how the rest of the world operate and keep consistent. There is no reason why we are different.

Let's have an energetic atmosphere with 18-23 year olds which means bands and players standing on the sidelines..... school bands would have to be examined. There is a difference between supporter/student based "bands" vs school bands. I would propose that this is not legislated by the NCAA and more at a conference or school level. If the institution or conference has a rule against and adhered to all season then the opposition band if traveling can only play during the run of play. Creating atmosphere through support groups would seemingly help the sport from a positive fan interactive perspective.

we MUST adddress the substitution and overtime rules. They are killing the college game

The substitution rule is vital for the growth of college soccer. If we don't make changes soon, we will be doing a disservice for the players, coaches, and to the game in general. If academy and club soccer can have these rules for kids 14-18 years old, certainly we can....

Re-ntry should be consistent for each half. A model should be developed to ensure consistency. The model could be different between divisions, At the DIII level, for the most part, we are not developing players for the professional ranks.

Regarding the official keeping the time. In theory I agree but in practicality I tend to disagree. Especially at lower level conferences the officiating can be suspect which in turn would place more pressure on the officials due to time management. While I agree with the idea of designating one captain as the spokesman. What happens when that captain is off the field or has been substituted? with the unlimited substitution rule this idea may be irrelevant.

While in support of topic #7, if I have more than one team captain, I would like any team captain to be able to speak to the officials. If I have co-captains or tri-captains, I think both or all three of them should be able to speak to the officials, but no other players.
I would like to make an argument to designating one captain. What if he/she is subbed off or injured? Would you just pass the captain ban onto another with regard to bench personnel enforcement of the technical area first.

If overtime kept, then NO GOLDEN GOAL please. High winds, sunset, different ends of fields, different abilities of AR’s, etc all affected by direction team is playing so both teams should be given equal opportunity. This should be added to your survey to show 90% of coaches agree with me.

This is exactly what is needed. Now if we can get something in the survey about how roster limits on the bench that would be great.

Keep OT rules as they are. Golden goal adds to the excitement and fun of college soccer. I have not seen any data on injuries in COLLEGE SOCCER games that supports a change. I do not like the no-re-entry rule for the second period but I would support limiting the number of re-entries in the 2nd period. If the season length or number of games changes, that is the point to make a more significant change to this rule. Until that happens, re-entry helps to manage players physically over the course of a season to keep them healthy. I also think it would be a mistake to try to take the excitement of the game away from players on the bench. If bench players want to stand to enjoy the match and feel like they are part of the game, let them be excited for the game. They are in college, let it be fun. Sometimes that is the only energy in the whole stadium and it makes the game more fun. Don't start adding rules that take away from the fun of the game, especially for the guys who are not getting to play in the game. They are not getting paid to play. They are there because they love it. Being a college athlete is hard and if getting to stand and cheer on their teammates is the reward for working hard, it would be a shame to try and take it away from kids. The official time in college soccer is one of the best ways to eliminate the egregious types of time wasting you see in professional soccer. It makes the game better. In professional soccer, referees keeping time has not had the same deterrent effect as the official time in college soccer. There are lots of things we can do to be more like the pro game but this is a way we have actually made the game BETTER than the pro game.

Adding responsibilities to officials is a recipe for disaster. The standard is low already. I'd like officials to be able to make decisions be focused on the players, not adding more to what they do. Giving them the official time as a responsibility would be a huge mistake when it comes to the integrity of the game and the student athlete experience. The current method keeps everyone aware of time, no guessing, no problems. Why add more skepticism towards the officials? Not allowing players to speak to officials will be extremely difficult to police and it would have degrees of variance depending on the official. Same with bench personnel staying seated. You aren't going to be able to police it properly and it would be inconsistent at best. Concerning eliminating re-entry in the 2nd half: It puts players at risk for injury. It goes against every student athlete experience model or thought that has been presented in the last 5 years. The science is there that over use is an issue and is real. Also, the college game is for college athletes. Not professionals. It's not an international competition. It's okay for college soccer to be college soccer. We don't need to streamline the whole sport to fit one dimension.

No re-entry in the second period is the single most important positive change we can make in college soccer.

On the requiring the referee to act as time keeper. I do like the clock to keep time it is more fan friendly and better for spectators and coaches, however the officials need to keep better charge of the time and working with the clock personal and occasionally add time when the clock is not stopped properly during a card or on other occasions so many times I see the clock continue to run in the last 2 minutes on sub by the team that leads, or on cards and the officials need to be aware of the time lost and be willing to communicate to reset the clock to a certain time.

Strongly oppose the elimination of second period substitution re-entry. I understand the desire to acclimate players for post-college playing conditions, but number of our college players who will actually play at that level is so relatively miniscule it would compromise the playing time for the overwhelming vast majority. Player participation trumps potential professional preparations.

I would support the last point but I think that any of the team captains should be able to speak to the official. Not just one.

Do away with overtime!!!! Our season is 10 weeks long and we pack 18 games in there!

1. Eliminating overtime doesn't prepare players physically & mentally for post season overtime periods.
2. I feel that eliminating the current substitution rule is not in favor of the student athlete but rather is in favor of aligning with professional standards and not encouraging player development at the collegiate level.
3. I like the idea of bands and noise makers being used during the run of play. This adds to a loud and festive game environment.

There was a time when the substitution rule changed from one re-entry in the second half to no re-entry and it did not go well. I think the rule only lasted a season and then went back to the way it currently stands. No need to change this rule.
I just don't think you can police all these rules. They go against culture and I fear the punishment as well as the effort to change the mentality does not outweigh the intention. For eg, you say that no one can speak to the ref so if a player says something out loud does he/she get a yellow card? I have also had the referee take over the time when the locations visible clock had not worked and that was a nightmare and way too subjective. Although I do not like multiple reentry, I think we are doing the players a disservice by not letting them get back in the game. This is not pro, we are still trying to nurture and develop players, not win at all costs. And for that matter, we need to toughen the skin of most of these referees. They are mostly underqualified for this level and yet they don't know how to diffuse any situation or talk to the appropriate people in an appropriate way and yet we keep giving them more power or try to put rules that cater to them. Ask yourself why a player feels the need to talk to a referee in the first place and why an assistant feels the need to pipe up? The closer we can get to FIFA rules the better.

Support having only Captain speak but fear it will be taken too literal and we would end up policing ourselves to strictly especially when cards are such a focus of administration.

I am glad that the NCAA is always trying to improve itself and better the game. One way they do this is to see what the international standard is and seek to follow: Allowing bands to play at any time is a good idea because it appeals to the fans and the culture of soccer. Turning to the time keeping issue, I fully support having a clock keep the official time, independent of the referee. This particular aspect is better than having the official keep the score. Having an official clock increases the fan engagement and excitement and reinforces a sense of fairness. Let's not pass a rule that will cause fans to disengage. I definitely think the clock should stay out of the hands of the referees as it is a better practice than the international standard. With that said, let's remember that basketball and American football coaches are part of the game and so is the soccer coach, his assistants, and the players in the game. They should all be allowed to talk with the referee. They are part of the game—they are not spectators. Communication is already poor in soccer. Some wonder what the call was because the referee doesn't stop the game, as in American Football, and explain the foul to fans and players alike. Communicating only with "the Head Coach and Captain will only lead to less communication leading to more intensity and misunderstanding. Insulating the referee from communication from the coaches and players is a move in the wrong direction. Very bad idea.

Need more information with the question regarding referee as official time keeper. Does that mean there is no stoppage of the scoreboard time during the game?

There should be an emphasis on building a consensus for uniform rules and playing seasons across all divisions of play.

Rules should be federated by Division and perhaps even gender! Division 1 Men need to continue to evolve with the modern game and some of the above proposals are essential to this happening. It is also imperative that Division 1 Men must go to a two semester competitive schedule to enhance the experience for our student athletes.

These questions are all good but the only thing that really matters is changing to a 10 month season/two semester season format. All the NCAA power/effort should be going into it rather than looking into anything else.

Looking at the discrepancy with substitutions between the college game and the global game, we need to look at more than just the number of times a player re-enters. We must also look at the ability of teams to manipulate the flow of the game by substituting multiple times. This action has a bigger negative impact on the game overall than a players ability to re-enter. I would propose that we only allow a set number of substitution opportunities per half. Teams could sub as many players as they wanted at these times. Perhaps each team is allowed two or maybe three (at most) substitution stoppages per half. This may even negate the need to regulate substitutions/re-entry per player. It would certainly cut down on teams' abilities to manipulate the flow and time management by substituting continuously throughout a half.

The Head Coaches should be seated at all times as well unless coaching or spontaneously reacting to a play.

We tried the sub rule for one year (late 1980's or early 1990's) and it made it very difficult to get experience for younger players. We switched to the current rule after 1 season. It also would seem to place a higher load on the top players as they may not ever come out in the second half.

In order to progress the soccer game in the NCAA level and allowed the players to develop, we have to change the substitution rules immediately. I believe that no re-entry at any point with out limiting the subs should be the next step for the NCAA.

we need to progress to no re-entry in any half, as it is done at all other levels USSDA in the States and as to professional soccer here in MLS / USL and globally.
The overtime is very exciting, this is a bad idea [and we have lost our past 3 overtime games, but is has value]. The sub rule is a good rule as is now and allows us to be smart with players when it is still 100 degrees in September in the south. Noise during the game is a headache for the spectators on that side of the field. This could be a massive negative for spectators. Our teams stand the entire game, inside the technical area. It is our tradition and important to our group support. An engaged bench matters. Do not give the referee any more power than they have, the clock can/should match what is accurate. This process is not broken and eliminates grey. Not allowing assistants to speak to the referee is impossible or at least a little ridiculous. Do not give the referee any more power. They can be elitist as it is [some, not all] If the referee can speak to any player they want to, then the players should have the same privilege. If you are not respectful when you speak, then you get a card. Not that complicated. To be fair, I see some things from time to time on rule changes. This is a poor list and does nothing to help the game. Just my two cents.

Giving the referee more power is not ideal as there is too much fluctuation in quality of officials especially in regards to managing the sideline, and time. There is value in designating a captain for speaking, but what happens if they get subbed out or get injured, need to add you can pass the power to the next captain at that time. Would be open to hear more about eliminating OT due to physiology, however, I have been crushed by those moments and also victorious, both teach lessons and have a championship level feel to them, or pressure that is exciting.

We are not national teams representing our country. These are rules for professional and national teams not Division III college programs.

There are a couple of things that I would like to address. First, there needs to be better clarification on what constitutes a forfeit game or no contest. We played a two day tournament at the beginning of the year. The team played with a player who had received a red card in the last game of the season and ended up playing the first game of the 2016 season. So the rule states that if you play a suspended player then the coach is suspended for the next game along with the player. Here's the issue; the coach participated the next day which was illegal and was our game. We lost 3-2 in overtime and later the next week they self reported the incident and forfeited the game. On their record it is recorded as a loss, however, when I talked with our conference commissioner he said that it was not a win or forfeit for us but instead a "no contest" which did not change the result towards our overall record. So my question is "What is the result of this situation"? In the rule book it clearly says that this is a forfeit based on the infraction. So if a team forfeits wouldn't it be reasonable to assume that it would be counted as a win for the other team? If someone could clarify what exactly the rule is and whether or not it is a win or "No Contest".

The second issue that I wanted to ask about regards an NCAA playoff game that was played between Haverford and Boston Mass. I had a chance to view the game and saw players from the Boston Mass. team committing horrendous fouls which included a player punting the ball into another players face. Ultimately the most glaring infraction was a head butt to the referee by one of the Boston Mass. players. He was given a red card and expelled from the game, however, I believe that if a member of a team assaults the referee that should be more than just a red card. The game should have been suspended and the team with the offending player should have been given a forfeit. This type of action(s) should not be tolerated in sports and unfortunately the Boston Mass. team advanced to the next round of the NCAA by eventually winning through penalty kicks. I understand that it is a terrible thing to punish a team for an individual actions, however, I do believe that accountability for players actions is the responsibility of the coach, team and school. Further more I believe this player should be suspended from ever participating in NCAA competition. I know some of this does not reflect on the proposed rules that are listed above. But you ask for some feedback regarding some issues that I feel need to be clarified. Thank you for your time.

We should be governed entirely by FIFA Laws.

playing OT should be up to coaches, schools, conferences eliminating re-entry in the second half is not necessary bands playing during the run of play could detract from being able to coach I like my players to be up and into the game when on the bench I don't support the ref having the ability to add an indeterminate amount of time. Time is stopped on injury and goals in our game so it is not necessary and adds one more thing that the ref would have to be responsible for. What if the captain is on the bench?

Part of the game is having useful discussion with the referees. If a player assistant coach is being disrespectful, the referee has the power to throw them out. Many times, however, the assistant coach is needed to discuss certain points with the referee so that the head coach can concentrate on the players/tactics.

The elimination of overtime is essential. Extra minutes of play in college soccer's condensed season is irresponsible and dangerous to the student-athletes. Having the referee keep time, with the power to add on at the end, would be very bad. One of soccer's biggest problem's around the world is gamesmanship/cheating...especially in terms of killing time. Something that would fix this (and it has been discussed) would be a clock which counts down and stops for all injuries, etc. That is something that college soccer has right. To change to an inferior system, which will inevitably be improved one day would be shortsighted, and it would be a major digression.
The substitution rule is key. The game of soccer is not made for subs and by having re-entry in the second half, it slows the game down too much and does not put enough emphasis on tactics, coaching management, and player accountability on the field (which are all the cornerstones of what makes soccer such a different, unique sport).

The NCAA student athlete is not a professional. They need to have as many opportunities to play as possible. Re-entry needs to be maintained. Many programs do not have players that can play 90 minutes nor the funding to recruit those players. The level of soccer will diminish.

Eliminating "OT" & "Re-entry" are key for the growth of our players and game. Thoughts should be given to having the clock count up as well.

for bench personnel staying seated I agree with players being seated as they do tend to get in the way - however when it comes to staff there are a lot of assistant coaches out there or the goalkeeper coaches that should be able to stand and make a point to the players playing.

With the lack of recovery time between games during the season, eliminating overtime would be beneficial to the health of the athletes.

There is no need for overtime during the regular season. This should have been eliminated years ago!

All of these ideas for change except the band are TERRIBLE ideas for our game and would change it in ways to HURT student-athlete experience. 1. Overtime being golden goal, is short and VERY exciting and fun for the players. Eliminating it will force more tie games which is bad for the game. 2. Changing the second half sub rule, which we have done in the past, will give players lower on the roster less opportunity to play and therefore hurting student-athlete experience. 3. The players LIKE to stand all game and should be allowed to show support to their teammates. This rule is ridiculous. 4. Having the official time on the scoreboard enhances the excitement to the college game and the players LOVE it. Further, our officials do not need one more thing to worry about. 5. Limiting the assistant coaches from speaking to the officials in an appropriate way should be allowed. if they are out of line, the officials can and should card them. Apply the rules we have!!! 6. Most teams have 2 or 3 captains, again enhancing student-athlete experience and helping manage the roster size most of us have to carry. Forcing us to have only one captain is an terrible idea and hurts the players in so many ways.

I understand the desire to simplify the substitution rule but I think for the sake of the student-athletes, participation should be part of the discussion. Most rosters are 25+ so eliminating chances to sub, eliminates opportunities for players to play.

Would like to see the substations be limited more but think there are better solutions then the one presented here. For example think that coaches should have a certain number of substations or "moves" they can make in a game and ice they have made those they are done. It will limit substations which I feel is important but will not be subject to one half or another.

I would only support the referee as the official time keeper if FIFA time requirements would be followed (from zero to 90 minutes rather than the current 45 min countdown to zero).

Over Time in the regular season is a big negative on the player loads on female athletes in NCAA college. Playing two games a week with limited rest, with a roster of 18-22 players leads to injuries. Overtime exacerbates the problem.

Referees don't need anymore power! The game is not about the referees and it's troubling that half of topics are centered around them.

I see no reason why head and assistant coach cannot be standing. if this question can be amended then I am in full support of it.

I believe that an assistant coach should be able to coach players while in the run of play. If I was talking with a player on the bench and my assistant coach sees something I would expect him to communicate. The same would go when dealing with the officials. In addition, the size of the field is another reason why an assistant coach should be allowed to com. with players. The head may be talking with players while on the attack and the assistant coach may see that situation as an ideal time to com. with the back line. This is a common situation for myself and our staff.

I feel that the emphasis on protecting the official is not warranted. They can do a poor job and have anonymity/protection. I feel that like anyone, they should be approachable. Often times coaches need to understand what is going on and why calls were made. The inability to communicate with a part of the game that is not consistent is not ideal. What should happen is that DA's should have control over their coaches and assistant coaches so that there is not a need to create these types of rules. If an official has an issue with a coach they should report it and the DA's should be held responsible.

The big issue is overtime. That is extra time that is not necessary for the regular season. Fatigues that players more. Also, we are the only country in the world that uses this format. If you are tied at regulation, then you are tied. No point in playing overtime, and if nobody is a winner after overtime then its a tie? Outrageous.

I'm a little unclear on the re-entry rule: I would support there being one re-entry in each half.
Communication is key. We already have in place a way for officials to admonish those who are not respectful. I believe it will only frustrate and incite to take away players and assistant coaches ability to communicate with officials. I believe officials need to learn to communicate and manage the game in an effective way and deal with coaches and players who are not being respectful, as opposed to silencing all.

What if there's an associate head coach? Can two people talk to the officials? Surely that gives unfair advantage to those with this resource.

If you only designate one team captain as the only one to speak to a game official. Then when that player is not on the field who is the players contact with the official? It could be the captain that is designated on the field at any given time, but wearing the captains arm band.

Overtime is the most ridiculous party of our game. No other country or League does it. If you are going to continue to with this ridiculous rule, at least play the full 20 minutes and not golden goal.

I certainly think something needs to happen with head coaches or coaches talking to the referee, we always aspire to be like those in Europe and you just don't see it there. I also think they can be influenced by certain coaches say for example, "Power 5 school vs. Midmajor", you have to wonder if the official listens and caters to their yielding so they will get a good review and a good paycheck again. Plus, it is just wrong on all levels.

I think if a team has 2 or 3 captains, which is fairly typical at the Div.III level, that they all should be able to talk with the officials.

I like the team captain rule, but I would include up to 2 team captains to be able to speak with the officials. Require arm bands to be worn during the game to signify the captains.

Most teams have two captains. Both captains should be able to talk to the official. Any with a captains arm band should be able to talk to the official. "Eliminating substitution re-entry in the second period, making the substitution re-entry the same for all periods." This is a horrible idea! I am so against this. This is not international play. Players want to play and get opportunity in college. This reduces the ability for coaches to do it. This keeps the bench players on the bench longer and the starters on the field longer. This also seems to go against DIII mission statement.

More restrictive substitution rule. No re-entry for the entire game would make the game better. If you come out, you can't go back in.

OT rules like in the NHL. Keep Overtime, but if a winner is scored in OT, the winner gets 2 points and the loser gets 1 point. That was you are still rewarded for the 90 min. draw, with a chance at a bonus point. Should make for more exciting attacking OT.

Thank you for the opportunity to have a voice in this process - I believe the closer we can bring the game to be in line with the way the game is intended to be played (and is played in the rest of the world), the better it is for the game (and the players) - No re-entry in the second half will help bring the game much closer to how it is intended to be played - Elimination of overtime in all regular season games needs to happen as it is a health/recovery/safety issue (and if teams are tie after 90 minutes that is telling you all you need to know).

I am NO in favor of any of these proposals. In regards to OVERTIME, we are still dealing with collegiate soccer and not pros or Fifa. We have larger rosters and often those are mandated from within the institutions. Again, requiring seating, why do we need to go there? Unlike the pros, in college, you often have multiple captains and there is always a chance that this player may not be on the field due to substitution but we have multiple so at least one is on the field at all time. The role of captain/leader should be valued differently than in pro or Fifa soccer. Thank you!

As a former assistant coach, part of my game duties was to coach certain players and concepts that the head coach passed on. When necessary, this meant I needed to stand and coach players during the run of the game. It also meant that I had eyes on the field and saw things that sometimes the head coach missed. When that occasionally resulted in a dangerous play, foul, or a card being given, I was the ONLY coaching staff who saw the play and had perspective to speak to the officials. I believe it was better for me, the assistant, to communicate with officials in those scenarios instead of having the head coach be the middle man. All staff should be able to stand, coach, and communicate as to the needs and digression of the program's head coach.

The referee already is the official timekeeper. He has the ability to stop the clock at any time to make up for lost time. Before we give officials the ability to add time, would it make more sense to count up instead of counting down?
If the designated captain is not in the game then a team does not have any one who can speak to the game official. Any player wearing a captain's armband should be permitted to speak to the official provided he is in the game at the time. re: elimination of overtime - I feel that by eliminating the overtime periods, you are denying the vast majority of teams in the country the opportunity to experience both the joys and disappointment of a golden goal. For most of the players in the country, it is the experience of playing college soccer that is the highlight of their post-secondary education and to start to eliminate some of these things is a disservice to all of the student-athletes who are participating in college soccer for the right reasons. I don't buy into the argument of the potential extra 20 minutes having negative impacts on player safety. We have substitutes available to us that this should not be an issue.

Team captains - I believe there should be a maximum of two captains permitted to speak to game officials. Timekeeping - in my opinion the referee is the official timekeeper, they stop and start the clock. Maybe reducing the limitation as to when the ref can stop the clock will help cover some of these allowances for lost time.

Some great topics here and a huge opportunity for us to improve our sport for both the participants and the spectators. Thanks.

I think all of those changes would be amazing for the game! Hope that they pass.

Keeping coaches sat down, eliminating coaches speaking to officials and prohibiting all players from speaking to officials? Why? Officials already can deal with this easily enough, trying to manage this by implementing more rules will do nothing more that continue to reduce the quality of officiating which needs to be improved. The interpretation of the rules already gives the officials the jurisdiction to deal with unruly coaches and players - leave it at that. Keep the clock on the field - one of the rules I think the college game could teach the rest of the world, adds excitement too.

I think any player who is respectful should be allowed to speak to the referee. We should clamp down on dissent and help bring back more respect for the officials. Overtime should be eliminated in regular season. Nothing wrong with a tie.

Bands, noise makers should be allowed...we are trying to create atmosphere not limit it! I agree regarding assistant coaches being seated but officials get stick from them because they make poor decisions (translation....dumb decisions). I'm not sure on the re-entry in 2nd half re-entry. Be easier with 1 game weekends. Regarding the referee acting as the timekeeper.....be good to know what parameters would be considered for extra time. So it is not just made up..... Some kind of guideline.

It has become a very confusing and individualistic ruling by each head official to explain what they view as "Ball within playing distance in regards to FIFA Rules Law 12 Fouls and Misconduct... Impeding the progress of an opponent. More and more we see players five to ten yards AWAY FROM THE BALL, shield, impede and obstruct an opponent from attempting to get to a ball, calling it riding it out, or lay balls off to another teammate and pick or screen players or obstruct a defender trying to win a ball out for a corner. At some point this needs to be clarified as to the what actual distance is to be considered BALL WITHIN PLAYING DISTANCE. If you DO NOT have the ball within two yards or three yards of your foot, the ball is not within your playing distance, and attempts to move laterally to impede an opponent need to be considered obstruction. I am hoping that this can be addressed with all officials and a common ruling of actual distance can be established. There is currently NO consistency on this ruling and each individual official has their own interpretation, which leads to confusion and frustration by players and coaches. PLEASE, find common ground on this ruling and establish an actual measure of distance for all of us to better the game.

I wish there was a button for "strongly vote NO" because I would have used it a lot on these. I really hope some of these don't get through and frankly am shocked that some are even being considered.

We had a few matches where the assistant coach and head coach from an opposing team would gang up on the referee with no action taken. I don't support the sudden death overtime.