

2018 Wrestling Rules Survey Report

QUANTITATIVE DATA

March 20, 2018

Title	n	N	%
DI Head Coach	61	76	80%
DII Head Coach	40	60	67%
DIII Head Coach	70	105	67%
TOTAL COACHES	171	241	71%
DI Commissioner	4	9	44%
DII Commissioner	1	6	17%
DIII Commissioner	5	11	45%
Official	276	424	65%

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS CHANGES AND CURRENT ISSUES

What is your opinion about the rules changes that were implemented in the 2017-18 season?

1. Recommending, whenever possible, that all obstructions be placed not closer than 8 feet from the edge of the competition circle?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	72%	44	80%	32	76%	53	75%	129
Negative	3%	2	3%	1	6%	4	4%	7
No Opinion	25%	15	18%	7	19%	13	20%	35
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	70	100%	171

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	50%	2	100%	1	80%	4	70%	7
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
No Opinion	50%	2	0%	0	20%	1	30%	3
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	91%	251
Negative	1%	4
No Opinion	8%	21
TOTAL	100%	276

2. Indicating the restricted zone during dual meets is the entire wrestling mat area and the area directly in front of the scorer's table, extended to the edge of the wrestling mat?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	63%	38	68%	27	59%	41	62%	106
Negative	12%	7	3%	1	9%	6	8%	14
No Opinion	25%	15	30%	12	33%	23	29%	50
TOTAL	100%	60	100%	40	100%	70	100%	170

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	0%	0	100%	1	80%	4	50%	5
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	20%	1	10%	1
No Opinion	100%	4	0%	0	0%	0	40%	4
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL		
Positive	90%	249
Negative	2%	5
No Opinion	8%	22
TOTAL	100%	276

3. Adding a definition for dead time?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	49%	30	63%	25	54%	38	54%	93
Negative	2%	1	0%	0	0%	0	1%	1
No Opinion	49%	30	38%	15	46%	32	45%	77
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	70	100%	171

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	50%	2	100%	1	40%	2	50%	5
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
No Opinion	50%	2	0%	0	60%	3	50%	5
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL		
Positive	78%	214
Negative	1%	4
No Opinion	20%	56
TOTAL	100%	274

4. Allowing tournament committees to alter the number of video review challenges issued to each team, as long as the allotment does not exceed the maximum amount outlined in Rule 3.21?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	64%	39	45%	18	59%	41	57%	98
Negative	15%	9	15%	6	11%	8	13%	23
No Opinion	21%	13	40%	16	30%	21	29%	50
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	70	100%	171

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	75%	3	100%	1	80%	4	80%	8
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	20%	1	10%	1
No Opinion	25%	1	0%	0	0%	0	10%	1
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	63%	174
Negative	5%	15
No Opinion	31%	86
TOTAL	100%	275

5. Allowing for the option to secure a third-party registered official to serve as the individual responsible for executing coach requested video review challenges?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	85%	52	87%	34	83%	58	85%	144
Negative	10%	6	5%	2	6%	4	7%	12
No Opinion	5%	3	8%	3	11%	8	8%	14
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	39	100%	70	100%	170

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	75%	3	100%	1	40%	2	60%	6
Negative	25%	1	0%	0	20%	1	20%	2
No Opinion	0%	0	0%	0	40%	2	20%	2
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	54%	149
Negative	24%	67
No Opinion	21%	58
TOTAL	100%	274

6. Replacing the video review challenge flags with a red and green foam brick?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	75%	46	80%	32	80%	56	78%	134
Negative	5%	3	3%	1	7%	5	5%	9
No Opinion	20%	12	18%	7	13%	9	16%	28
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	70	100%	171

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	75%	3	0%	0	20%	1	40%	4
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	20%	1	10%	1
No Opinion	25%	1	100%	1	60%	3	50%	5
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	77%	211
Negative	6%	16
No Opinion	17%	46
TOTAL	100%	273

7. Allowing each wrestler in the overtime tiebreaker to have the choice of either top, bottom or neutral position?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	89%	54	98%	39	81%	56	88%	149
Negative	3%	2	0%	0	10%	7	5%	9
No Opinion	8%	5	3%	1	9%	6	7%	12
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	69	100%	170

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	100%	4	100%	1	60%	3	80%	8
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
No Opinion	0%	0	0%	0	40%	2	20%	2
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	89%	245
Negative	4%	12
No Opinion	6%	17
TOTAL	100%	274

8. Changing the questioning a rules application violation sequence from warning, warning, 1 team point, 2 team points, ejection to warning, warning, 1 team point for each subsequent questioning a rules application violation?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	66%	40	55%	22	74%	52	67%	114
Negative	8%	5	10%	4	10%	7	9%	16
No Opinion	26%	16	35%	14	16%	11	24%	41
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	70	100%	171

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	75%	3	0%	0	40%	2	50%	5
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	20%	1	10%	1
No Opinion	25%	1	100%	1	40%	2	40%	4
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	64%	176
Negative	26%	71
No Opinion	10%	27
TOTAL	100%	274

9. Changing the control of mat violation sequence from warning, 1 team point, 2 team points and ejection to 1st and all subsequent violations will be a 1-team point deduction?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	44%	27	55%	22	64%	45	55%	94
Negative	28%	17	30%	12	19%	13	25%	42
No Opinion	28%	17	15%	6	17%	12	20%	35
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	70	100%	171

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	50%	2	0%	0	40%	2	40%	4
Negative	25%	1	0%	0	0%	0	10%	1
No Opinion	25%	1	100%	1	60%	3	50%	5
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	69%	189
Negative	26%	71
No Opinion	5%	14
TOTAL	100%	274

10. Requiring the referee to display the appropriate signal and verbally inform the coach on the mat when they have received a control of mat violation?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	74%	45	80%	32	81%	57	78%	134
Negative	7%	4	3%	1	3%	2	4%	7
No Opinion	20%	12	18%	7	16%	11	18%	30
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	70	100%	171

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	75%	3	100%	1	80%	4	80%	8
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
No Opinion	25%	1	0%	0	20%	1	20%	2
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	92%	253
Negative	4%	10
No Opinion	4%	11
TOTAL	100%	274

11. Allowing NCAA institutions to hold open events that include prospective student-athletes per Bylaw 13.11.3.1?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	32%	19	65%	26	57%	39	50%	84
Negative	45%	27	20%	8	25%	17	31%	52
No Opinion	23%	14	15%	6	19%	13	20%	33
TOTAL	100%	60	100%	40	100%	69	100%	169

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	25%	1	0%	0	20%	1	20%	2
Negative	0%	0	100%	1	60%	3	40%	4
No Opinion	75%	3	0%	0	20%	1	40%	4
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	46%	126
Negative	8%	22
No Opinion	46%	124
TOTAL	100%	272

12. Limiting the number of matches a wrestler can compete in, in one day, to 6 matches?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	66%	40	60%	24	49%	34	58%	98
Negative	25%	15	20%	8	46%	32	32%	55
No Opinion	10%	6	20%	8	4%	3	10%	17
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	69	100%	170

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	75%	3	100%	1	80%	4	80%	8
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
No Opinion	25%	1	0%	0	20%	1	20%	2
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	66%	181
Negative	16%	45
No Opinion	18%	49
TOTAL	100%	275

13. Requiring a mandatory 30-minute rest between all matches?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	77%	47	75%	30	74%	52	75%	129
Negative	11%	7	13%	5	23%	16	16%	28
No Opinion	11%	7	13%	5	3%	2	8%	14
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	70	100%	171

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	50%	2	100%	1	80%	4	70%	7
Negative	25%	1	0%	0	20%	1	20%	2
No Opinion	25%	1	0%	0	0%	0	10%	1
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	55%	152
Negative	32%	88
No Opinion	12%	34
TOTAL	100%	274

14. Creating a neutral danger signal and neutral danger zone takedown?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	73%	44	93%	37	80%	56	81%	137
Negative	17%	10	3%	1	11%	8	11%	19
No Opinion	10%	6	5%	2	9%	6	8%	14
TOTAL	100%	60	100%	40	100%	70	100%	170

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	50%	2	0%	0	40%	2	40%	4
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
No Opinion	50%	2	100%	1	60%	3	60%	6
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	71%	194
Negative	19%	51
No Opinion	11%	29
TOTAL	100%	274

15. Outlining in individual team tournament scoring, when more than one competitor from the same institution competes in a given weight class, only the score for the competitor with the highest number of team points shall be used for calculating team points?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	84%	51	85%	34	88%	60	86%	145
Negative	0%	0	5%	2	3%	2	2%	4
No Opinion	16%	10	10%	4	9%	6	12%	20
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	68	100%	169

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	50%	2	0%	0	60%	3	50%	5
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	20%	1	10%	1
No Opinion	50%	2	100%	1	20%	1	40%	4
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	53%	146
Negative	3%	8
No Opinion	44%	120
TOTAL	100%	274

16. Allowing wrestling action to continue and the defensive wrestler afforded the opportunity to score when a referee is executing a verbal and visual count for a drop-down and the defensive wrestler is in the process of scoring. Once the scoring opportunity has passed, the stall call can then be issued?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	97%	59	95%	38	94%	64	95%	161
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	3%	2	1%	2
No Opinion	3%	2	5%	2	3%	2	4%	6
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	68	100%	169

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	75%	3	0%	0	60%	3	60%	6
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
No Opinion	25%	1	100%	1	40%	2	40%	4
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	97%	265
Negative	2%	5
No Opinion	1%	4
TOTAL	100%	274

17. Removing the requirement that referees review all unsportsmanlike conduct calls when video review is available?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	49%	30	44%	17	44%	30	46%	77
Negative	18%	11	21%	8	13%	9	17%	28
No Opinion	33%	20	36%	14	43%	29	38%	63
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	39	100%	68	100%	168

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	75%	3	0%	0	60%	3	60%	6
Negative	0%	0	100%	1	40%	2	30%	3
No Opinion	25%	1	0%	0	0%	0	10%	1
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	76%	210
Negative	9%	26
No Opinion	14%	40
TOTAL	100%	276

18. Clarifying that having uniform straps down within the competition circle and aggressively throwing and/or spiking headgear is unsportsmanlike conduct?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	72%	44	92%	36	66%	45	74%	125
Negative	7%	4	3%	1	12%	8	8%	13
No Opinion	21%	13	5%	2	22%	15	18%	30
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	39	100%	68	100%	168

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	75%	3	100%	1	100%	5	90%	9
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
No Opinion	25%	1	0%	0	0%	0	10%	1
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	93%	255
Negative	2%	5
No Opinion	5%	13
TOTAL	100%	273

19. Disqualifying a competitor from that match after they are called for their second unsportsmanlike conduct during a single match?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	87%	53	97%	37	85%	58	89%	148
Negative	5%	3	3%	1	4%	3	4%	7
No Opinion	8%	5	0%	0	10%	7	7%	12
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	38	100%	68	100%	167

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	75%	3	100%	1	100%	5	90%	9
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
No Opinion	25%	1	0%	0	0%	0	10%	1
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	93%	255
Negative	3%	9
No Opinion	4%	10
TOTAL	100%	274

20. Clarifying that the offensive wrestler is always responsible for making an effort to return the defensive wrestler to the mat in all rear-standing situations?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	82%	50	92%	36	82%	56	85%	142
Negative	15%	9	3%	1	10%	7	10%	17
No Opinion	3%	2	5%	2	7%	5	5%	9
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	39	100%	68	100%	168

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	50%	2	0%	0	40%	2	40%	4
Negative	25%	1	0%	0	0%	0	10%	1
No Opinion	25%	1	100%	1	60%	3	50%	5
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	93%	255
Negative	5%	13
No Opinion	2%	6
TOTAL	100%	274

21. Extending the jurisdiction of the referee to when they enter their locker room post-competition?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	39%	24	45%	18	37%	25	40%	67
Negative	20%	12	33%	13	22%	15	24%	40
No Opinion	41%	25	23%	9	41%	28	37%	62
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	68	100%	169

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	50%	2	100%	1	40%	2	50%	5
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	40%	2	20%	2
No Opinion	50%	2	0%	0	20%	1	30%	3
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	75%	206
Negative	5%	15
No Opinion	19%	53
TOTAL	100%	274

22. Changing the final weight assessment deadline to establish the wrestler's lowest allowable weight class from not later than the first official practice (October 10) to not later than the first date of wrestling competition (November 1)?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	93%	57	95%	38	87%	58	91%	153
Negative	3%	2	3%	1	6%	4	4%	7
No Opinion	3%	2	3%	1	7%	5	5%	8
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	67	100%	168

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	0%	0	0%	0	80%	4	40%	4
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
No Opinion	100%	4	100%	1	20%	1	60%	6
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	23%	64
Negative	1%	4
No Opinion	75%	208
TOTAL	100%	276

23. Eliminating the February 15th deadline that requires a wrestler to reach or descend back to their lowest certified weight class?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	95%	58	95%	38	91%	61	93%	157
Negative	3%	2	5%	2	4%	3	4%	7
No Opinion	2%	1	0%	0	4%	3	2%	4
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	67	100%	168

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	25%	1	0%	0	80%	4	50%	5
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
No Opinion	75%	3	100%	1	20%	1	50%	5
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	22%	60
Negative	3%	8
No Opinion	75%	208
TOTAL	100%	276

24. Establishing fixed penalties for violations of the NCAA weight certification, rules, protocol and processes?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	74%	45	63%	25	78%	53	73%	123
Negative	5%	3	5%	2	6%	4	5%	9
No Opinion	21%	13	33%	13	16%	11	22%	37
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	68	100%	169

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	25%	1	100%	1	80%	4	60%	6
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
No Opinion	75%	3	0%	0	20%	1	40%	4
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	35%	96
Negative	1%	4
No Opinion	64%	175
TOTAL	100%	275

25. Allowing individuals who fail skin checks, at national qualifying events, to weigh-in and be listed on the bracket as a medical forfeit?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	79%	48	78%	31	63%	43	72%	122
Negative	3%	2	3%	1	7%	5	5%	8
No Opinion	18%	11	20%	8	29%	20	23%	39
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	68	100%	169

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	50%	2	0%	0	20%	1	30%	3
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
No Opinion	50%	2	100%	1	80%	4	70%	7
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	41%	114
Negative	7%	18
No Opinion	52%	143
TOTAL	100%	275

26. Providing a 1-pound weight allowance on the second day of competition when there are back-to-back dual, triangular and quadrangular meets?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	98%	60	98%	39	99%	66	98%	165
Negative	0%	0	3%	1	0%	0	1%	1
No Opinion	2%	1	0%	0	1%	1	1%	2
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	67	100%	168

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	75%	3	100%	1	100%	5	90%	9
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
No Opinion	25%	1	0%	0	0%	0	10%	1
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	78%	216
Negative	2%	5
No Opinion	20%	55
TOTAL	100%	276

27. Establishing a fixed penalty structure for severe violations of the NCAA weigh-in, medical examinations and prohibited practices rules?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	75%	46	73%	29	82%	55	77%	130
Negative	5%	3	5%	2	6%	4	5%	9
No Opinion	20%	12	23%	9	12%	8	17%	29
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	67	100%	168

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	75%	3	100%	1	100%	5	90%	9
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
No Opinion	25%	1	0%	0	0%	0	10%	1
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL

Positive	47%	130
Negative	2%	5
No Opinion	51%	140
TOTAL	100%	275

28. Requiring by the 2018-19 season that all wrestling mats comply with the most current ASTM specification standards?

HEAD COACH	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	72%	44	70%	28	58%	39	66%	111
Negative	10%	6	8%	3	18%	12	13%	21
No Opinion	18%	11	23%	9	24%	16	21%	36
TOTAL	100%	61	100%	40	100%	67	100%	168

COMMISSIONER	Division I		Division II		Division III		Overall	
Positive	75%	3	100%	1	20%	1	50%	5
Negative	0%	0	0%	0	40%	2	20%	2
No Opinion	25%	1	0%	0	40%	2	30%	3
TOTAL	100%	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%	10

OFFICIAL		
Positive	78%	216
Negative	2%	5
No Opinion	20%	55
TOTAL	100%	276

there is not enough consistency on the calls when an athlete goes out of bounds on how it is called. Also when athlete is pushed out of bounds or does not allow the athlete to come back in the call is hardly ever made in the correct manner. The officials for some reason never make the call that he wash pushed out!! I saw this watching the Big 10s and the coached challenged it and won. For some reason they dont want to make that call??! The 5 sec drop down rule also could use some tweaking.

Thank You Nan !!

1. Strongly consider rewarding greater bonus points for pins and bonus point wins on championship side of brackets, than on consolation side. 2. clarification of "length of reaction time" in neutral danger situations - there is far too much variability amongst officials. 3. clarification of stalling calls on the edge (i.e. if one wrestlers does all the work to attack an opponent to the edge, and the more defensive wrestler simply turns and shoots his opponent out of bounds, currently the rule calls for the warning to go against the wrestler that has done more of the work, rewarding the "clever" wrestler. this needs to change.