

Episode 13 - Wednesday September 21, 2022, 3PM EDT

If Not Now, When? If Not You, Who? Part I

Episode
13-1

The crew at MatStats continues their study on potential changes on team scoring. This Episode examines the concept of continuing the Margin of Victory dual meet scoring with the inclusion of Placement Points for tournaments. Using the data from Men's NCAA D1 Championships (1988-1992 & 2017-2022), MatStats contends that we should change the scoring at tournaments to enable more fans to understand it and increase scoring and action.

This sounds like a huge undertaking by the MatStats Crew. Can you fit it all on one episode?

The importance of this topic requires two shows by the MatStats gang. It is a two-part show. One in September, one in October.

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- MatStats believes this is such an important topic for us to cover.
- We do not want to rush through anything.
- We want all viewers to understand the process and reasons for changing tournament team scoring.
- In the statistical world, common sense is something one person knows, and another person does not know.
- MatStats wants loyal and casual fans to pick up what we are laying down.
- Part I explains the changes and shows a lot of data.
- Part II will analyse the data and explain why the MOV changes are a good idea.

Has MatStats performed its typical deep penetration into Tournament Team scoring?

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We need to change tournament team scoring without affecting noticeable outcomes of team standings. The current system is too confusing for too many fans.

- In the last two MatStats Episodes (11 & 12), the MatStats crew has featured individual bout scoring in the Men's NCAA D1 NCAA Championships from 1988-1992 & 2017-2022 and the idea of trying changes in dual meet scoring.
- MatStats is continuing down this alley with ideas to change the tournament team scoring based on what we learned in the previous two episodes.
- MatStats has devised a system that is to score & understand, without changing the basic team placing outcomes.
- In life, change is inevitable and change for the better is a full-time job. MatStats has worked full time to try and find a better solution.

The Current System (CS) is so confusing, so many fans can not follow the current tournament team scoring.

K.I.S.S

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- Keep It Simple Stupid!
- Many casual & loyal fans have enough trouble understanding the current dual meet scoring system. The Current System (CS) is a rudimentary margin of victory scoring system with arbitrary points (8-14 & 15-21) that are the only places where a point differential increase team points.
- The MatStats Margin of Victory (MOV) uses **ALL** point differentials in scoring! MatStats has 15 different team scores available (excluding pins & defaults), where CS has 3.
- Tournament scoring is even more confusing. Many of the die-hard fans at the NCAA Men's D1 tournament have no idea about the scoring.

What are the results from recent Twitter Polls on MatStats?

The polls do show confusion on team scoring and interest in making a change. Granted small number of voters, but there is interest in change.

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- Poll #1 - Do you think the casual sports fan understands dual meet scoring in wrestling?
9 votes Yes 0% No 100%
- Poll #2 - Do you think colleges should try a change in the current system for dual meet scoring. One that would be easier to understand?
12 votes Yes 50% No 50%
- Poll #3 - If more fans understood the dual meet scoring, would it make the match more exciting for a greater number of fans?
61 votes Yes 51% No 49%

How to keep it simple - Margin of Victory (MOV)

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- Use the same MOV scoring system we featured in Episode 12.
- The winning team scores the same team points as each wrestler wins their individual bouts by (A winner in a tied score bout gets 1 team point). All techs are worth 15. All pins/defaults are worth 20. A bye is worth 0.
- On this front, there would be no change for the fan to follow the score.
- The MOV would be constant. Used the same in Championships bouts and Consolation bouts.

Why MOV and not total points scored by both wrestlers?

MOV works much better than the Total Point concept. Total Point concept raises many issues.

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- We want dual meet and tournament scoring system to use the same scoring systems. The only difference in tournament scoring would be the inclusion of Placement Points.
- In a dual meet you are competing against 1 team, in a tournament many. The average number of teams in the NCAA Men's D1 Championships from 2017-2022 was 68.
- If you use total points, you run the risk of a wrestler not caring about MOV and just their scoring. Defense would not be a concern if a top team was wrestling a school near the bottom or a school with just a few wrestlers in the tournament. We all know what happened to Gray Simons in the Olympics when they used black marks. We also don't want some matches to look like the NBA All-Star games.
- There is also concern about losing wrestlers scoring points in bouts they lose, due to the uneven number of matches. 6th and 8th place lose 3 bouts. Scoring their points there would throw a full nelson in the works.
- If you use all points a loser in the finals can put their team over the top for a team title. How would that look?
- In both MOV and total points, all points will matter. A losing wrestler can score points that cut into the winning teams score and equally feel responsible for their teams win in the MOV or total point system.
- A great goal line stand does not get a team any points in football, but it can definitely win a game for their team.

How to keep it simple - Placement

- Honestly how many listeners know the current placement points?
- How many casual fans know them? If someone explains it to them, can they remember them?
- MatStats has done the math and is stressing the following placement points.

Placement Points in MOV Scoring

	Placement Points		MOV over CS
Place	MOV	Current System	Multiplier
1	80	16	5.00X
2	70	12	5.83X
3	60	10	6.00X
4	50	9	5.55X
5	40	7	5.71X
6	30	6	5.00X
7	20	4	5.00X
8	10	3	3.33X
Average			5.18X

MatStats has done the math, these points work with MOV system. You will see many times a multiple of around **5.5** on this episode. Also, easy to remember. 8 All-Americans. 10-point increments. Easy to add. Easy to remember add the place to the first digit on points and you get 9. This is keeping it simple!!

Does MatStats have any other ways to help the fans remember when the Placement Points are awarded?
And how many are awarded when they are?

Some ways to remember the MOV Placement Points. Much easier for the fans than the Current System.

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- There are 3 times in the Championship Rounds that Placement Points are awarded.
- The 3rd round of the Championships (Quarters) are in Session III. The winner gets 30 Placement Points.
- The 4th round of the Championships (Semis) are in Session IV. The winner gets 40 Placement Points.
- In the Finals the winner gets 10 Placement Points.
- All these Placement Points are added to the MOV points the winner earns in these matches.

Starting Friday night, it is 10, 20, 20, 10 as the consolation rounds progress.

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- The first round that wrestlers get Placement Points in the consolations is CO4 better known as the blood round. This is the first conso on Friday night. This round gets 10 points.
- The next two conso rounds (CO5 & CO6) each get 20 points.
- The 3,5,7 placing rounds get 10 team points.
- To remember it is 10, 20, 20, 10.
- All placing bouts 1, 3, 5, 7 are worth 10 points each.

What does MatStats do with Advancement Points?

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How to keep it simple - Advancement Points

- The MOV scoring system does not have advancement points.
- They are not needed in this system.
- They are baked in to the MOV and Placement Points.
- This helps keep it simple!
- In the Current System (CS), you get 1 advancement point for a win in the Championship round and 0.5 points for a win in the Consolation round. Except in the 4 Placing bouts.
- However, to make the CS more confusing, you don't get Advancement Points in the finals and placing bouts. Countless loyal fans mix this up.

Will MOV scoring help increase action and maybe scoring?

In MOV all points matter, so perhaps the action and scoring will increase as a result of the change in scoring systems.

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- We learned in Episode 11 “If Winning Isn’t Everything, Why Do They Keep Score?” on 7/20/22, that scoring was down at the Men’s D1 NCAA Championships from 1988-1992 to 2017-2022 that scoring was down 10%.
- Yes, we do keep score and winning matters, so let’s make it easier for the fans to keep score in person, on TV, or the Net.
- Scoring has gone down 10% over the last 30 years, but MatStats does believe the MOV will help increase action and perhaps scoring since all points matter.

Scoring is down 10% across all weight classes. It is down for winner's, losers, and total points (except 275/285 winner's and total).

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	% Change	From 1988-1992	to 2017-2022	
		W	L	Total
125	118	-7%	-18%	-10%
133	126	-15%	-25%	-18%
141	134	-12%	-21%	-14%
149	142	-9%	-13%	-10%
157	150	-1%	-9%	-3%
165	158	-8%	-25%	-13%
174	167	-4%	-15%	-7%
184	177	-8%	-16%	-10%
197	190	-10%	-16%	-11%
285	275	+11%	-10%	+5%
Mean		-7%	-17%	-10%

Scoring has been down 10%, but what about the margin of victory in that same time frame?

From 1988-1992 to 2017-2022 went down 10%, but the point differential remained constant.

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- We also learned in Episode 11, that the margin of Victory has remained constant despite the scoring going down by 10%.
- Point differential from 1988-1992 was 4.93 per match not including pins & defaults.
- Point differential from 2017-2022 was 4.96 per match not including pins and defaults.
- A Pin and Default do not have a number attached to them, so MatStats assigned 15 points for all techs and 20 points for pins and defaults.

Can MatStats show us the break down of MOV per bout from 1988-1992?

The MOV per bout from 1988-1992 was 4.93.

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1988-1992	W	L	Total	Pin	OT	DEF	Margin
1988	8.95	3.45	12.40	10.26%	6.03%	0.02	5.50
1989	8.28	3.47	11.75	10.53%	7.02%	0.02	4.81
1990	8.16	3.57	11.70	8.95%	5.41%	0.01	4.59
1991	8.55	3.44	12.00	10.30%	5.90%	0.02	5.11
1992	8.30	3.66	11.96	10.71%	5.72%	0.01	4.64
Mean	8.45	3.52	11.96	10.15%	6.02%	0.0181	4.93
STD DEV	0.280497	0.082214	0.247931	0.006195	0.005438	0.005367	0.335408
+2 (95%)	9.01	3.68	12.46	11.39%	7.10%	0.03	5.60
+1 (68%)	8.73	3.60	12.21	10.77%	6.56%	0.02	5.26
Mean	8.45	3.52	11.96	10.15%	6.02%	0.0181	4.93
-1 (68%)	8.17	3.44	11.71	9.53%	5.47%	0.01	4.59
-2 (95%)	7.89	3.35	11.46	8.91%	4.93%	0.01	4.26

Can MatStats show us the break down of MOV per bout from 2017-2022?

The MOV per bout from 2017-2022 was 4.96.

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2017-22	W	L	Total	Pin	OT	DEF	Margin
2017	8.18	2.88	11.05	10.94%	5.78%	0.02	5.30
2018	8.13	3.08	11.21	10.94%	8.28%	0.02	5.05
2019	8.08	2.97	11.05	9.84%	7.97%	0.00	5.11
2021	7.74	2.77	10.51	9.38%	8.75%	0.02	4.97
2022	7.24	2.85	10.09	9.22%	8.13%	0.02	4.39
Mean	7.87	2.91	10.78	10.06%	7.78%	0.0147	4.96
STD DEV	0.350334	0.106938	0.418554	0.007435	0.010336	0.006889	0.305208
+2	8.58	3.12	11.62	11.55%	9.85%	0.03	5.58
+1	8.22	3.02	11.20	10.81%	8.81%	0.02	5.27
Mean	7.87	2.91	10.78	10.06%	7.78%	0.0147	4.96
-1	7.52	2.80	10.37	9.32%	6.75%	0.01	4.66
-2	7.17	2.70	9.95	8.58%	5.71%	0.00	4.35

What is the average MOV team scoring for individual bouts?

The MOV dual meet scoring per individual bout from 1988-1992 was 6.75 & from 2017-2022 was 6.62. Or 6.68 for the 10 years in the study.

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- These numbers are different than the MOV (4.93 & 4.96) because they do not include the MOV team points for pins and defaults.
- We learned in Episode 12 “All Matches Are equal, but Some Are More equal Than Others” on 8/17/22 that even though scoring has decreased the Margin of Victory has remained constant and the average MOV scoring per match (or Dual meet Team Points) has remained virtually constant.
- Combining what we learned in Episodes 11 & 12 we see that the Dual meet team MOV system scoring per match was 6.75 for 1988-1992 and 6.62 for 2017-2022.
- The dual meet MOV system scoring per bout from all 10 years is 6.68.

What is the mathematical break down for MOV scoring?

The average total dual meet points with the MOV scoring system is 6.68 for the 10 years. This will be the same numbers used in tournament MOV scoring.

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Margin of victory	Team Points	% in numeric form	Team Pts * % in numeric form	Margin of victory	Team Points	% in numeric form	Team Pts * % in numeric form
0	1	0.009246	0.009246	15	15	0.025425	0.381377
1	1	0.14314	0.14314	16	15	0.008255	0.123824
2	2	0.154697	0.309394	17	15	0.002972	0.044577
3	3	0.104507	0.313522	18	15	0.001981	0.029718
4	4	0.087667	0.350669	19	15	0.000165	0.002476
5	5	0.071322	0.356612	20	15	0	0
6	6	0.066039	0.396236	21	15	0	0
7	7	0.038468	0.269275	pin	20	0.098564	1.971273
8	8	0.056629	0.45303	def	20	0.015519	0.310385
9	9	0.038798	0.349183				
10	10	0.0246	0.245996	Average points per bout			6.683507
11	11	0.021793	0.239723				
12	12	0.014529	0.174344	Total mean points for the dual meet			66.835
13	13	0.010071	0.130923				
14	14	0.005613	0.078587				

The following charts and tables come from 2017-2022 Men's D1 Championships.

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13-20

- Since scoring has gone down 10% and the MOV has remained constant, the data from 1988-1992 was consistent with 2017-2022.
- For the study we have performed in this episode the MOV scoring data for the following charts and graphs all come from 2017-2022 unless otherwise indicated.
- With this being said, we still have inherently data from 10 years and 6060 bouts (1988-1992 2862 bouts & 2017-2022 3198 bouts) at Men's D1 NCAA Championships.
- The one rattail for CH1 and CO1 are included in the CH1 & CO1 data.

What are the break downs to compare the scoring systems for Thursday at NCAA's?

The scoring is about 5.5X higher in the MOV system, but the % of points per round and % of points per win to total points per weight are very similar in MOV and CS on Thursday.

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			Thursday AM		Thursday PM		Thursday PM	
2017-2022 NCAA Men's D1 Championships			Session I		Session II		Session II	
			CH1		CH2		CO1	
			MOV	Current	MOV	Current	MOV	Current
Place	Placement							
			Pts/Win (Adv, Bonus, Place)					
1	80		Total Pts Round	1263.10 262.10		525.60 116.60		612.00 86.30
2	70		Total Pts Each Year	7841.20 1409.70		7841.20 1409.70		7841.20 1409.70
3	60		% Pts This round	16.11% 18.59%		6.70% 8.27%		7.80% 6.12%
4	50		# Matches Round	170.00 170.00		80.00 80.00		90.00 90.00
5	40		Total # matches annually	640.00 640.00		640.00 640.00		640.00 640.00
6	30		% matches round	26.56% 26.56%		12.50% 12.50%		14.06% 14.06%
7	20		Advancement	0.00 1.00		0.00 1.00		0.00 0.50
8	10		Place	0.00 0.00		0.00 0.00		0.00 0.00
Sum	360		Pts win/Total Pts per weight	0.95% 1.09%		0.84% 1.04%		0.87% 0.68%

What are the break downs to compare the scoring systems for Friday at NCAA's?

The percentages in MOV and CS are also very similar on Friday.

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			Friday AM			Friday AM			Friday AM			Friday PM			Friday PM			Friday PM		
			2017-2022 Men’s D1 NCAA Championships			Session III			Session III			Session IV			Session IV			Session IV		
				CH3 - Quarters			CO2			CO3		CH 4 - Semis			CO4			CO5		
				MOV	Current		MOV	Current		MOV	Current		MOV	Current		MOV	Current		MOV	Current
Place	Placement																			
			Pts/Win (Adv, Bonus, Place)																	
			36.25	7.42		6.55	0.95		5.92	0.88		45.81	7.39		15.96	3.89		25.51	3.83	
1	80		Total Pts Round	1449.80	296.70	524.00	76.00		236.80	35.20		916.20	147.70		638.40	155.50		510.2	76.5	
2	70		Total Pts Each Year	7841.20	1409.70	7841.50	1409.70		7841.50	1409.70		7841.50	1409.70		7841.50	1409.70		7841.5	1409.7	
3	60		% Pts This round	18.49%	21.05%	6.68%	5.39%		3.02%	2.50%		11.68%	10.48%		8.14%	11.03%		6.50%	5.43%	
4	50		# Matches Round	40.00	40.00	80.00	80.00		40.00	40.00		20.00	20.00		40.00	40.00		20	20	
5	40		Total # matches annual	640.00	640.00	640.00	640.00		640.00	640.00		640.00	640.00		640.00	640.00		640	640	
6	30		% matches round	6.25%	6.25%	12.50%	12.50%		6.25%	6.25%		3.13%	3.13%		6.25%	6.25%		3.13%	3.13%	
7	20		Advancement	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.50		0.00	0.50		0.00	1.00		0.00	0.50		0.00	0.50	
8	10		Place	30.00	6.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00		40.00	6.00		10.00	3.00		20.00	3.0	
Sum	360		Pts win/Total Pts Per Weight	4.62%	5.26%	0.84%	0.67%		0.75%	0.62%		5.84%	5.24%		2.04%	2.76%		3.25%	2.71%	

What are the break downs to compare the scoring systems for Saturday at NCAA's?

The MOV scoring system helps remedy the problem in the CS of the 357 Place bouts not meaning much in tournament team scoring.
This round just means more than the CS values it.

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13-23

				Saturday AM			Saturday AM			Saturday PM	
			2017-2022 Men's NCAA D1 Championships	Session V			Session V			Session VI	
				CO6			357 Place			CH5 - Finals	
				MOV	Current		MOV	Current		MOV	Current
Place	Placement										
			Pts/Win (Adv, Bonus, Place)	25.49	3.81		17.034	1.49		14.76	4.21
1	80		Total Pts Round	509.8	76.1		511.02	44.7		147.6	42.1
2	70		Total Pts Each Year	7841.5	1409.7		7841.5	1409.7		7841.5	1409.7
3	60		% Pts This round	6.50%	5.40%		6.51%	3.17%		1.88%	2.99%
4	50		# Matches Round	20	20		30	30		10	10
5	40		Total # matches annually	640	640		640	640		640	640
6	30		% matches round	3.13%	3.13%		4.69%	4.69%		1.56%	1.56%
7	20		Advancement	0	0.5		0	0		0	0
8	10		Place	20	3		10	1		10	4
Sum	360		Pts win/Total Pts	3.25%	2.70%		2.17%	1.05%		1.88%	2.98%

How much of a change will MOV be from the CS in the big picture?

This chart shows how similar the two systems are with a 5.5X point multiplier and very consistent percentages. The big differences are simplicity for the fans and encouragement of action in the MOV.

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Category	MOV	Current		MOV/Current Multiple	MOV over Current %
Total Points Championship	4302.30	865.20		4.97	397%
Total Points Consolations	3542.22	550.30		6.44	544%
Total Points (rounding 2021 285-32)	7844.52	1415.50		5.54	454%
% Points Champ	54.84%	61.12%		0.90	-10%
% Points Conso	45.16%	38.88%		1.16	16%
# Bouts Champ	320	320		N/A	N/A
# Bouts Conso	320	320		N/A	N/A
% Champ over Conso Total Team Points	21%	57%		N/A	N/A
Points/win All Bouts	12.26	2.21		5.54	454%
Points/win (w/o placement MOV)	6.63	1.16		5.69	469%
Placement points/match	5.63	1.05		5.37	437%
Advancement Points/win	0.00	0.71		0.00	-100%
Bonus Points/win includes Adv in CS	6.63	1.16		5.71	471%
Place Winner (PW) wins/year	354.4	354.4		N/A	N/A
Non-Place Winner (NPW) win/year	285.6	285.6		N/A	N/A
% wins by PW	55.38%	55.38%		N/A	N/A
% wins by NPW	44.63%	44.63%		N/A	N/A
Points by PW	6065.60	1106.64		5.48	4.48
Points by NPW	1778.92	308.86		5.76	4.76
% pts PW	77.32%	78.18%		0.99	-1.10%
% pts NPW	22.68%	21.82%		1.04	3.93%

Why are there no Advancement Points in the MOV scoring system?

Including Advancement Points in MOV would be a double counting and superfluous task.

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- There are no advancement points in the MOV.
- Essentially the advancement points are baked into the MOV system. This would be an example of a double counting hybrid.
- Including Advancement Points in MOV would basically be the same statistical mistake many baseball fans use when citing OPS (On base percentage + Slugging percentage), they are double counting At Bats and singles. It does tell the fan information and let's you know who is producing, but fortunately is not used to determine who wins the game.

What is the average team score under the current system by Place winners?

The average scoring by place at Men's D1 NCAA Championships from 2017-2022 under the current scoring system (Advancement, Bonus, & Placement Points).

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Place	Total Team Points/Wrestler (TTP) Current System
1	23.05
2	18.48
3	16.45
4	14.62
5	12.31
6	10.86
7	8.06
8	6.83

It looks like a lower placed wrestler has scored more points than a higher placed wrestler often under the CS.
Is that true?

Yes, under the CS it is very plausible for a lower placed wrestler to score more points than a higher placed wrestler.

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- Lower placer can score more team points in the current system very easily.
- Many of the team point differentials between place winners in the CS are around 2 points.
- A pin or default are worth 2 points.
- In the 3-4, 5-6, & 7-8 scenarios an extra pin by the losing wrestler during the tournament will put 3-4 in a virtual tie and 5-6 and 7-8, would have more points for 6 & 8 than 5 & 7.

What would the average team scoring be in the new MOV system by Place winner?

The average scoring by place at the Men's NCAA D1 Championships from 2017-2022 with the new MOV scoring (including Placement points).

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Place	Total Team Points/Wrestler (TTP) MOV
1	120.14
2	101.36
3	99.78
4	80.16
5	73.50
6	55.94
7	44.34
8	31.34

Will it still be possible under the MOV scoring system for a lower placed wrestler to score more than a higher placed wrestler?

This “problem” is inherited in a modified double elimination wrestling tournaments.

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- MOV will still have the “problem” with the lower place winner scoring more team points.
- Because of wrestlebacks, lower placed wrestlers can wrestle more matches than higher placed wrestlers.
- There is nothing a scoring system can do to remove this problem short of ruining the concept of the best wrestlers placing the highest.

In the MOV system will a lower placed wrestler score more team points than a higher placed wrestler more often than in the CS?

Yes, the MOV system is more likely than the CS to have a lower placed wrestler to score more team points than a higher placed wrestler.

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Between Places	MOV Points Difference	CS Points Difference	Multiple MOV over CS
1&2	18.78	4.57	4.11
2&3	1.58	2.03	0.78
3&4	19.62	1.83	10.72
4&5	6.66	2.31	2.88
5&6	17.56	1.45	12.11
6&7	11.60	2.80	4.14
7&8	7.00	1.23	5.69
Mean	11.83	2.32	5.78
Mean w/o 1&2	10.67	1.94	6.05
Pin Team Points	20.00	2.00	10.00

The reward by changing to MOV from the CS far outweigh the risks!

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- With the team scoring rule changes in MOV, the wrestlers would be likely to alter their action to score more points. This could reduce the likelihood of a lower placed wrestler scoring more points than a higher placed wrestler.
- MOV would also predictably increase action. Isn't this good for the sport and the fans?
- MOV is also a much easier system for all fans (rabid & casual) to understand the scoring system. How many other sport do fans not understand the scoring system?
- This risk is a very small risk to have a great upside reward for the fans to understand the scoring system.

What is the topic next month (Wednesday 10/19/22 3PM EDT)?

Episode
13-32

If Not Now, When? If Not You, Who? Part II Statistical Analysis of Tournament Team Scoring

- Tune In Next Month
 - Same Mat Time
 - Same Mat Channel
- Part II - If Not Now, When? If Not You, Who?
- The MatStats gang continues its statistical analysis of changing tournament team scoring.
- MatStats wants to hear from you. Twitter, Facebook, Instagram (@NWCAMatStats). Email - NWCAMatStats@gmail.com
- MatStats library of shows website - www.NWCAonline.com/MatStats