

## **Neutral Danger Rule-High School**

**With the level and technique of today's athlete, coupled with creative coaches, and an ever-evolving sport, the good to elite wrestlers are all placing their opponents in jeopardy (on their backs) while, at the same time, only one of their legs is "only" being held by their opponents in the Neutral Position. This is known at the NCAA level, as being placed in a "Neural Danger" situation. This situation (position) is being reached with a maneuver known as the "Funk" or more recently, named, the 'Win-Dixie.'**

During wrestling in the "neutral position" anytime one opponent can put his opponent, in jeopardy for one second, "neutral danger" criteria has been met. "Jeopardy" means, holding or keeping the following pinning areas- (any "one" shoulder AND at the same time, any "one" scapulae), OR the official can visually see a "45-degree" angle with any of the above combination of either shoulders or scapulae's), this will be considered a "neutral danger situation. This "One Second" count/event (or better known in our sport "beyond reaction time", and/or "being restrained") must be occurring, for the Neutral Danger Situation to be recognized, and called by the official.

When "Neutral Danger" is recognized, the official shall **announce (verbally) "Neutral Danger."** At this time, if either wrestler is to be deemed in this situation, and still remains in the neutral danger situation, the official shall count, (just as the official counts with Near Fall criteria, (just as the official does when any wrestler is in a near fall situation (Example: 1,000/1, 1,000/2, 1,000/3), a **Take down will be awarded.**

**If the wrestler remains in the same situation, the official shall continue to count near fall points, because the wrestler is now also in Near Fall Criteria.**

### **Rationale!**

- **With the level and/or technique of today's athletes, coupled with an ever-evolving sport, with creative coaching, the good to elite wrestlers are all placing their opponents in this neutral situation more and more every year.**
- **This will bring more consistency to our sport in many different areas, as more take downs, near falls, and the fall (the primary goal of our sport), will bring more excitement, action, and more scoring to the sport of wrestling.**
- **This rule has been in play at the NCAA level with huge success. Simply put, the model test pilot has been well received with positive justification.**