

# NCAA approves changes for football games

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) - Last season, the NCAA wanted to speed up football games. Next season, it wants more plays. The rules oversight panel approved two major timing changes recently that would revert the rules to what they were in 2005 — stopping the clock on possession changes and not starting it on kickoffs until the receiving team touches the ball.

Some coaches complained the 2006 changes, which resulted in about 14 fewer plays per game in Division I-A, had altered the game too much. Others said it prevented teams from rallying late in games.

In February, the football rules committee recommended going back to the old system. After meeting with the American Football Coaches' Association in March, the oversight panel

agreed. Grant Teaff, executive director of the AFCA, was overjoyed with the changes.

"It made me uncomfortable to watch it last year," Teaff said. "It put a different slant on everything, and it almost seemed to put everything in reverse. If you, as an offense, don't have the right or opportunity to manage the clock, it's not a good rule."

Last year's rules changes reduced game times by an average of about 14 minutes, meeting a goal the committee had set.

On the field, though, there were problems.

Trailing teams often sprinted onto the field after a punt, kickoff or turnover late in games to preserve precious time, while teams holding the lead in the game delayed getting onto the field because they could use 25 seconds without running a play.

Another problem occurred on kickoffs. Since the clock started when the kicker touched the ball, some teams intentionally ran offside to expend more time.

"I don't think that's what the committee really intended," said Ty Halpin, a spokesman for the oversight panel. "That's a rule the committee regretted making."

While, this year's changes likely mean games will again be longer, the panel approved several other measures intended to help keep them

closer to 3 hours than 3 1/2.

Kickoffs will be made from the 30-yard line, like in the NFL, instead of the 35. That, Halpin said, should ensure more returns and shorter stoppages.

"It should create more opportunities for what the committee feels is one of the most exciting plays in a game, and we're not really sure, but it may increase scoring, too," he said.

After media timeouts during televised games, teams will have less time to run

plays. Previously, teams had a 25-second play clock; now it will be 15 seconds.

Halpin said it could prevent the long stoppages when teams are merely simply trying to save time.

One of the most time-consuming procedures, replay reviews, will not change. The football rules committee withdrew its proposal to impose a 2-minute limit, in part, because of the potential for technical difficulties.

The committee will also begin considering a play

clock that alternates between 40 seconds and 25 seconds, depending on whether the NFL uses that system, and the committee thinks it could speed up games.

For now, Teaff is pleased with the changes designed to give athletes more playing time.

"The general point was coming up with a way to shorten games without affecting student athletes," Teaff said. "That's what happened last year."

## Pacman plans to battle sanctions

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) - Titans cornerback Adam "Pacman" Jones said Friday night he will appeal his season-long suspension and thinks NFL commissioner Roger Goodell made him the league's poster boy for disciplining players.

Jones has not talked to reporters since the suspension for conduct detrimental to the NFL was announced recently. Jones' attorneys had said they were discussing his options and have not returned telephone messages since Tuesday.

But Jones was in Tunica, Miss., and he talked to an ESPN reporter while at "Friday Night Fights" about being suspended — without pay — for the 2007 season.

His case will be reviewed after the Titans' 10th game, leaving the chance for a return.

"I think it was a little bit harsh," Jones said. "I expected the suspension, but for a whole year for a guy that hadn't been charged with nothing? I really didn't agree with it. But for the most part, I'm taking it like a man. I'm going to appeal it. We'll see what the future brings."

Any appeal would be heard and decided by Goodell.

Cincinnati receiver Chris Henry, a teammate of Jones at West Virginia, also was suspended. But Henry received an eight-game ban.

Jones, the sixth pick overall in the 2005 draft and the first defensive player taken that year, has talked with police 10 times since being drafted, and arrested five times. He has not been convicted of any charge since being drafted.

But Las Vegas police want to charge Jones for inciting a strip club fight Feb. 19 that led to a triple shooting. Jones also did not inform the Titans of two arrests in Georgia last year, and a felony obstruction charge for allegedly biting a Fayetteville, Ga., police officer was delayed until May.

Asked if he was being used as an example with the severe punishment, Jones agreed.

"Clearly, you know, for a guy that hadn't been charged, I'm clearly made to be the poster boy," Jones said.

Jones said his teammates have been calling him every day since news of the suspension.

He said defensive end Kyle Vanden Bosch has been a close friend over the past few days.

"What I'm going to do, I'm going to work out every day and make sure I'm in top-tip shape. But come Week 11, I plan on being back on the field," Jones told ESPN.

Titans owner Bud Adams said they weren't sure they want Jones back unless he changes his behavior and avoids controversy off the field.

— Purpose • KUUMBA — Creativity • IMANI — Faith • UMOJA — Unity • KUJICHAGULIA

**BLACK POWER**

A SHOW THAT WILL INFORM, STIMULATE, AND EDUCATE YOU...

**BLACK POWER**

A SHOW BUILT AROUND THE SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF KWANZAA...

**BLACK POWER**

A SHOW THAT YOU HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR...

**FRIDAY 9AM**  
**ON KCEP-88.1**

**BLACK POWER**

A HALF-HOUR OF SPIRITED AND THOUGHT PROVOKING DIALOGUE...


**TODAY'S HOT TOPICS**

**BLACK POWER**

**TUNE IN AND CALL IN!**

702.647.3688  
702.647.2145 FAX

E-MAIL: [BLKPWR4US@YAHOO.COM](mailto:BLKPWR4US@YAHOO.COM)  
[WWW.POWER88LV.COM](http://WWW.POWER88LV.COM)



Hosted by  
RAMON SAVOY

**BLACK POWER**

• KUJICHAGULIA — Self-Determination • UJIMA — Collective Work & Responsibility •

UMOJA — Unity • KUJICHAGULIA — Self-Determination • UJIMA — Collective Work & Responsibility •