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Tomorrow is the first leg of the Shoot the Shooto/Shooto the Shoot events, with Shooto's portion of the card taking place and I've decided to finish this look at kickboxing vs MMA with what is one of the strangest, most bizarre fights, in theory and in practice, between kickboxing and MMA and that is last year's special rules match between Shinya Aoki and Yuichiro Nagashima at Dynamite!!! 2010. When the fight was announced, most were confused as to what rules it would take place under, but FEG released the details that there would be a 3 minute kickboxing round and a 5 minute MMA round using MMA gloves for both, with the order being decided by a coin flip. When it happened, the kickboxing round was determined to be first and most figured Nagashima would need to put Aoki away in that three minutes or else the fight would almost assuredly be Aoki's. What followed was the strangest 3 minutes of kickboxing, characterized by Aoki clinching whenever Nagashima got close, shooting for takedowns and throwing dropkicks. However, he made it through the three minutes and it seemed to be smooth sailing for Aoki. Aoki ran in face first, shot for a takedown and Nagashima hit the only window he had in the fight, catching Aoki with a knee and following up with a few hammerfists. Since, Aoki has picked up 3 straight submission wins and Nagashima has spent his time mostly in professional wrestling and has had one fight in K-1 against Kenmun where he didn't look all too impressive.

{jcomments on}