

# **2010 Boys Lacrosse**

Rule Changes and Clarifications

# NFHS Stick Specifications

- The stick chart is available on-line at
- [http://www.laxworld.com/\\_pdf/2010\\_NCAA\\_RULES.pdf](http://www.laxworld.com/_pdf/2010_NCAA_RULES.pdf)

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Major Rules Revisions

- Rule 2-1-1 Number Designation of Players
- A team shall begin the game with at least 10 players, and must have a legally equipped goalkeeper on the field at all times, or it forfeits the game.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Revised Situation and Rulings

- **2.1 Situation B:** Goalkeeper B1 must leave the game due to an injury, expulsion or penalty. Team B refuses to send in another player to play that position.  
**Ruling:** Team B must put a legally equipped goalkeeper on the field or it forfeits the game. The official will allow a full one-minute delay for replacing the goalie on the field beginning with his warm-up.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Major Rules Revisions

- Rule 4-3-4 Facing Off
- Each player shall have both hands and the fingers wrapped around the handle of his own crosse, touching the ground but not touching any strings of the crosse.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Major Rules Revisions

- Rule 4-16 Body Checking
- Body checking of an opponent in possession of the ball or within five yards of a loose ball or when the ball in flight is within five yards of the player, from the front or side above the waist and below the neck, is legal

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Major Rules Revisions

- **4.16 Situation:** A1 takes a shot from midfield. While the ball is within five yards of A2, B1 legally checks A2, causing him to be in the air above the crease area. Ball then enter goal, then A2 lands in the crease.
- **Ruling:** Legal goal. If A2 lands in the crease before the ball enters goal, no goal would be allowed.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Major Rules Revisions

- Rule 6-3-2f Holding
- A player may not:
  - Hold the crosse of an opponent using any part of his body

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Revised Situations and Rulings

## New:

- **6.3 Situation F:** A1, with the ball in his possession, locks down his free arm (or arm pit) over B1's crosse. **Ruling:** Technical foul against A1

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Major Rules Revisions

- Rule 6-5-2t Illegal Procedure
- The following are examples of illegal procedure.
  - Failure to have a properly equipped designated goalkeeper on the field of play.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Editorial Rules Revisions

- Rule 4-3-1 Facing Off
- **Exception 1:**
  - In the event of an extra-man situation or a flag-down creating an extra-man situation at the conclusion of any period, the next period shall be commenced by awarding possession of the ball in the same relative position on the field to the team that had possession of the ball (or is entitled to possession by a play-on) at the conclusion of the prior period.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Revised Situations and Rulings

- **4.3 Situation E:** (a) Team A has a one man advantage or (b) both teams are even strength. B1 has possession and A1 commits a penalty; a flag is down, ball becomes loose as period ends. **Ruling:** (a) Next period begins with a faceoff as both teams are down one man, (b) Team B retains possession to begin the next period.

# **2010 Boys Lacrosse Editorial Rules Revisions**

- Rule 4-6-3a Out of Bounds
- In the case of a loose ball declared out of bounds, the location of the restart is determined by the point where the ball broke the plane of the boundary line.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Revised Situations and Rulings

## New:

- **4.6 Situation H:** A1 throws the ball far downfield where it is declared out of bounds. **Ruling:** Team B awarded the ball at the spot where the ball broke the plane of the boundary line.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Editorial Rules Revisions

- Rule 4-9-2k Goal Not Counted
- A goal shall be disallowed:
  - When the scoring player's crosse is found to be illegal, or if the scoring player adjusts the strings before the official requests it, or adjusts the crosse in any way after the official asks for it.

# **2010 Boys Lacrosse Editorial Rules Revisions**

- Rule 7-3 Resuming Play After Penalty
- If the ball has crossed the end line prior to the penalty occurring, the ball shall be restarted at that spot.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Revised Situations and Rulings

## New:

- **7.3 Situation C:** Ball crosses end line in Team A attack area, Team A awarded possession. Either team calls a time-out. Before restart, Team B commits a foul.  
**Ruling:** Team B penalty is assessed; ball is restarted at the same spot on the end line and is not moved laterally outside the goal area.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Revised Situations and Rulings

- **1.6.2 Situation:** During an equipment inspection, the following situations are discovered: (a) the crosse has two ball stops, (b) the crosse has a ball stop from another manufacturer, (c) the crosse has no ball stop.  
**Ruling:** (a) Illegal. Assess a three-minute, non-releasable penalty. In (a), the intent of the player was to make it more difficult for the defender to check the ball free. As a result, the three-minute penalty is assessed and the stick may not be used again for the remainder of the game. (b) No foul. (c) No foul. It is not a requirement for a crosse to have a ball stop.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Revised Situations and Rulings

- **4.5 Situation:** During normal play, A1 makes a pass to A2. While the ball is in flight, B1 commits (a) a technical foul or (b) a personal foul. **Ruling:** In (a), the official calls out “play on” and the “play on: is over if the pass is completed. If the pass is not completed, award the ball to Team A. In (b), Flag down, slow whistle.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Revised Situations and Rulings

- **4.9 Situation A:** A1 shoots the ball. Before the ball enters the goal, A1's crosse makes contact with the goal post or the net or the goalkeeper in the crease.  
**Ruling:** No goal.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Situations and Rulings

## New:

- **4.10 Situation K:** Team A has three or more players serving penalties when a faceoff occurs. **Ruling:** Team A's faceoff player's gloved hands grasping the crosse may touch the center line during the faceoff. This is not considered an offside violation.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Revised Situations and Rulings

- **4.20 Situation A:** A1 drives toward goal and dives into the crease and the ball goes into the goal. **Ruling:** No goal, award ball to Team B.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Revised Situations and Rulings

## New:

- **5.8 Situation F:** A1 with possession of the ball advances toward stationary defender B1 and with a bull-dodge runs over B1.  
**Ruling:** Unnecessary roughness if A1's actions were deliberate and excessively violent.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Revised Situations and Rulings

- **6.5 Situation O:** As the referee is administering the faceoff by sounding his whistle, B1 violates the wing area line by entering early. **Ruling:** A play-on is called. If Team A gains possession, play continues. If Team A does not gain possession, the whistle is blown and Team A is awarded possession in its offensive half of the field at the Center Faceoff X.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Revised Situations and Rulings

## New:

- **7.3 Situation B:** A1 gains possession in his defensive end and is fouled by B1, flag down. A1 passes to goalkeeper A2 who is in his crease. B2 (a) interferes with A2 or (b) checks the ball out of A2's crosse while he is still in the crease.  
**Ruling:** Since there is a flag down in (a) a second flag would be thrown and the slow whistle would continue or (b) the whistle must sound as soon as the ball touches the ground. B2 serves 30-seconds for the goalie interference foul.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Revised Situations and Rulings

## New:

- **7.6 Situation P:** Goalkeeper B1 has possession of the ball within his crease, at which time A1 checks B1's crosse. Official signals play-on. In retaliation, B1 goalkeeper intentionally slashes A1 on the follow through of his outlet pass.  
**Ruling:** SIMULTANEOUS FOULS: Both A1 and B1 serve penalty time, with the first 30-seconds non-releasable. Ball is awarded to Team A, 20 yards lateral from the goal.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Revised Situations and Rulings

## New:

- **7.6 Situation Q:** A1 has possession of the ball. B1 slashes A1. During the flag down, A2 interferes with B2. The official blows the play dead and assesses a personal foul to B1 and a 30-second technical foul to A2, indicating that fouls are simultaneous fouls.

**Ruling:** The official has incorrectly assessed time-serving penalties on both teams for these simultaneous fouls. The technical foul by A2 simply ends the flag down situation. B1 serves a one-minute personal foul; A2 serves no penalty time. Team A retains possession of the ball.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Revised Situations and Rulings

- **7.9 Situation I:** During a slow whistle, A1 shoots the ball toward goal. A2 catches the ball either in front of or in back of the goal and shoots it into the goal.

**Ruling:** Legal goal. What appeared to be a shot turned out to be a pass.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Points of Emphasis

- **Pre-Game Management:** Teams must stay in their designated end of the field for warm-ups. They should not circle the field interfering with the other team's game preparations. Also, to minimize risk for players during warm-ups, the following suggestions should be implemented:
  1. Encourage all players who utilize the goal during pre-game drills to properly wear their protective equipment.
  2. Have no drills occur directly behind the goal during goalie warm-up.
  3. Have no players feed shooting drills from directly behind the goal.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Points of Emphasis

- **Enforcement of Illegal Body Checking:** The rules specify that a player who excessively body checks an opponent to the head area or whose excessive check rides up to the head area is to be assessed a two or three-minute penalty for a personal foul. Officials are reminded to make this call for excessive body checks when it is appropriate and coaches are reminded to teach players that this is illegal and should not be a part of the game.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Points of Emphasis

- **Stalling:** Officials should be alert to and call stalling warning during the game if it is apparent that the offensive team is not attempting to attack the goal and score.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Points of Emphasis

- **Stick Specifications:** NFHS stick specifications remain unchanged for 2010 and for the foreseeable future. Be advised that there are crosses on the market that meet the specifications for other rule codes but do not meet NFHS specifications.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Points of Emphasis

- **Crosse Construction – Cap-Plugs:**

Cap-plugs minimize risk. A metal crosse that does not have a cap-plug must be adequately taped. A single strip of tape is not considered adequate.

# 2010 NFHS Boys Lacrosse Rules Clarifications

- On P. 25 of the Rule Book, Rule 4-3-1, Exception 1, the first sentence should read:

In the event of an extra-man situation or a flag down **creating an extra-man** situation at the conclusion of any period, the next period shall be commenced by awarding possession of the ball in the same relative position on the field to the team that had possession of the ball (or is entitled to possession by a play-on) at the conclusion of the prior period.

The phrase “creating an extra-man” was inadvertently omitted from the rules book at the time of printing.

# 2010 NFHS Boys Lacrosse Rules Clarifications

- On P. 33 Section 9, Art. 2K, the following clarification has been determined.
  - Officials may decide to do an equipment check on both teams directly after a goal. This check may or may not include the goal scorer. If, when approaching the goal scorer to check his stick the goal scorer pulls his strings, then 4-9-2k goes into effect. Obviously, some common sense is needed here. Officials are not trying to trap someone. This is for the situation where the goal scorer sees the official coming and then pulls his strings because he thinks he does or may have a deep pocket. Good preventive officiating would have the official loudly and directly warn the goal scorer immediately after the goal: "Please don't touch your stick, I need to check it." If, after asking the goal scorer for his stick, the goal scorer adjusts his stick in any way, then 4-9-2k goes into effect. The goal comes off the board. The goal scorer is assessed a 1-minute unsportsmanlike conduct. The equipment check continues and the worst of any infractions is added to the 1-minute unsportsmanlike conduct penalty.
  - **This could be an additional 1-minute or an additional 3-minutes....for a grand total of either 2 or 4 minutes non-releasable penalty time.**

# 2010 NFHS Boys Lacrosse Rules Clarifications

- Rule 4-9-2k (Continued)
  - The language of 4-9-2k is “...scoring player adjusts the strings before the official requests it...” It does not say, “adjusts the strings after a goal and the opposing coach sees it and points it out to the official and demands that the goal not count...” “Before the official requests it” strongly implies that a request is coming from the official. Also, after a goal, a scorer may jam the head, twist the head, and bend the shaft: anything he wants to that stick except “adjust the strings before the official requests it” or “adjust the stick in ANY way AFTER the official requests it.

# 2010 Boys Lacrosse Rules Clarifications

- In the 2010 Rules Book, the second sentence of Rule 1-7-3 states:
  - A metal handle that does not have a cap-plug on the end shall be considered illegal; at the next whistle, it shall be removed from the game until corrected.
  - The word “not” was inadvertently omitted from that statement. The rule should state:
  - A metal handle that does not have a cap-plug on the end shall **not** be considered illegal; at the next whistle, it shall be removed from the game until corrected.
  - Even though the stick must be removed from the game, there is no penalty assessed. Thus, the handle is not considered illegal.
  - Butt ends which are more than 3 ½ inches in circumference (i.e. tape rings) do not draw a penalty other than to be removed from the game and fixed before re-entering the game.

# Questions

- If you have any suggestions for rules changes for the 2011 season please contact your rules interpreter and he/she will contact the NYS interpreter.
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