
Major Rules Changes/ Emphasis for 2009-10

Each change or altered segment is identified in the rules by a screened background. The figures below refer to rule and section, respectively. The rule numbers on the left margin are from last year's book. The page numbers in the right margin are for this book. In all Approved Rulings (A.R.), Team A is the offensive team and the home team and Team B is the defensive and visiting team. If there is a conflict between the official rules and the approved rulings, the rules take precedence. Thanks to Doyle Smith, formerly of the University of Virginia, for providing the statistical definitions in the Appendix.

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Page</i>
4-7-b	Clarified situation where player loses his crosse, but the ball remains; ball will be awarded to opponent.....	41
6-6-z	If player is in possession of the ball during a scoring play and loses a piece of equipment, he retains the ball.....	76
7-12	Added new approved ruling dealing with correctable errors and timing of the protest	95

Points of Emphasis

Sportsmanship

The committee is increasingly concerned that in some areas, inappropriate conduct is occurring in and around NCAA lacrosse contests. The committee asks administrators, coaches, student-athletes and game officials to take measures if needed to address these issues.

Protection of Head and Neck

Student-athlete safety plays a part in virtually every rules committee decision. In recent years, the committee has attempted to address head and neck contact in a variety of ways. In this rules cycle, the committee asks game officials to stringently penalize head and neck contact.

Index to Editorial Changes

The following editorial changes indicate deletions, corrected errors, omissions and changes in location from the previous rules book, and rules items adjusted for improved readability. They do not change the meaning of rules. Although these changes are not shaded, similar to rules changes, they provide considerable help to those closely associated with the rules. All notations refer to the previous year's rules, except where noted. This list does not include every change made.

Rule 1: No significant changes.

Rule 2: No significant changes.

Rule 3: No significant changes.

Rule 4: In 4-6, Out of Bounds, a section was added dealing with restarts to assist new officials; In 4-28, some unneeded wording was removed for clarity; several other minor clarifications made.

Rule 5: In Rule 5-5, Illegal Crosse, wording was adjusted to make it clear that an illegal crosse may return to the game if adjusted.

Rule 6: No significant changes.

Rule 7: No significant changes.

Officials Signals: Added signals for a Free Clear and Tipped/Deflection.