

# 2009 NFHS Lacrosse Rules Changes

## Major Rules Revisions

**1-7-4 new** More clearly defines the measurement procedure and requirements for the table-top diagram.

**1-9-1 Note** Stipulates in the rules that the tooth and mouth protector can cover either the upper or lower teeth.

**1-9-2d** Clarifies that tinted eye glasses are allowed unless a player is also wearing a clear, molded and non-rigid helmet eye shield. Also defines an eye shield as a helmet eye shield to more clearly identify that the eye shield is attached to the helmet.

**4-22-2a** Clarifies that the common practice of allowing substitution after a goal, time-serving penalty or time-out is allowed without the necessity of a request for a horn by the coach.

**4-23-3** Stipulates that regular substitutions are allowed for time-serving violations since the horn is sounded but are not allowed after play has been suspended for non-time-serving violations or inadvertent whistles.

**4-24-2f** Stipulates by deleting 4-24-2f that special substitutions are now allowed when play is stopped for equipment violations.

**5-5** Stipulates that gloves must cover the fingers and palms and that gloves manufactured without a palm are not allowed.

**7-3** Clarifies that, should a time-out be called when the ball is in the goal area, it must be re-started laterally outside the goal area, nearest to the spot of the ball at the time of the whistle instead of at the "top of the box."

**7-6-4** Clarifies that, if both teams are awarded equal penalty time when neither team has possession of the ball and a faceoff is pending, the faceoff shall be held instead of using alternate possession.

## **Points of Emphasis**

### **Stalling**

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

### **Glasses and Helmet Eye Shields**

**Helmet eye shields are allowed provided they are clear, molded and non-rigid. Eye glasses are not helmet eye shields and are not restricted by these provisions. Thus, glasses (either tinted or clear) are allowed to be worn during play. The only exception to this provision is that tinted glasses cannot be worn with a helmet eye shield. A player can wear clear glasses with a clear helmet eye shield but not tinted glasses with a clear helmet eye shield.**

### **Uniforms and Equipment**

**Officials are reminded that a revised jersey rule took effect with the 2008 season. The jersey must be a single, solid color with only limited trim in a contrasting color allowed. These trim requirements are included in rule 1-9 in this rule book. Should a team have jerseys or other uniform violations, these must be identified by the officials prior to the beginning of the contest and penalized accordingly. Following the contest, the officials must notify the state association of the school's illegal uniforms so that they can address the situation with the school. Realize that equipment violations are handled differently as stipulated in the rules.**

# 2009 NFHS New or Revised Situations and Rulings

## Situations and Rulings

**1.9.1 Situation F:** Team A purchased new shoulder pads for the team. Parts of the shoulder pads came from the manufacturer with parts attached with Velcro. In addition to the parts attached with Velcro, there were two additional parts in the box that could be added to the pads with Velcro. Is it a requirement that all parts of the pad be worn to be in compliance with the rules? **Ruling:** Players are not required to wear pieces of the pads and other protective equipment that the manufacturer intended to be optional. Thus, pieces that came with the pads that are attached with Velcro or loose in the box and could be added with Velcro attachment are considered optional and players are not required to wear them.

**1.9.2 SITUATION D:** During the game, A1 is discovered to be wearing a helmet eye shield which is clear and eye glasses which are (a) tinted or (b) clear. **RULING:** In (a), A1 is assessed a one-minute non-releasable foul for illegal equipment. In (b), no penalty. Wearing a clear, molded and non-rigid helmet eye shield and clear eyeglasses is legal.

**4.5 SITUATION:** A1 makes a pass to A2. While the ball is in flight, B1 commits a (a) technical foul or (b) personal foul. **RULING:** In (a), the official will signal play-on. If the pass is completed, the penalty flag is thrown and a slow-whistle situation begins. If the pass is not completed, the whistle is blown immediately and team A is awarded the ball. In (b), it is a flag-down, slow-whistle situation.

**4.24 SITUATION:** During a special substitution (during play), player A1 exits the field and A2 delays his entry onto the field. **RULING:** Illegal procedure on A2. If it was deliberate, this could be an unsportsmanlike conduct with a one-minute releasable penalty.

**4.24.2 SITUATION:** Play has been suspended for an official's timeout. A2 substitutes for A1 through the box. **RULING:** Legal. Special substitution may take place during an official's timeout.

**4.29 SITUATION:** (a) The ball goes out-of-bounds on the end line. (b) The ball goes out-of-bounds on the end line following a violation. Either team calls a timeout. **RULING:** In (a), the ball should be re-started at the spot where the ball crossed the end line. In (b), the ball should be re-started laterally outside the goal area.

**5.4 SITUATION E:** A1 scores a goal. The official sees him adjust the strings before the official is able to ask him for his stick. The equipment check will continue. **RULING:** a one-minute non-releasable unsportsmanlike conduct penalty shall be served and the goal will be disallowed.

**5.5 SITUATION C:** B1's crosse is too short and he is not wearing arm pads. **RULING:** A player with both an illegal crosse and an equipment violation will only be penalized for the most severe of the violations. B1 will serve a 3-minute non-releasable penalty.

**6.5 SITUATION:** During the course of play, goalie B1's stick becomes broken or any other required equipment becomes broken or dislodged. **RULING:** The officials will stop play as soon as they notice the problem, regardless of whether the goalie is in or out of the crease. However, if a shot is already in flight when the equipment becomes broken or dislodged, the shot will be allowed to come to its normal conclusion before the whistle blows to stop play.

**6.7 SITUATION E:** A1 drops his crosse with the ball in it. (a) A1 tries to retrieve his crosse. (b) A2 or B1 kicks the crosse on the ground to try to gain access to the ball. (c) A2 or B1 uses his crosse to try to gain access to the ball. **RULING:** If the ball is stuck in the crosse, immediate whistle and award the ball to team B. Otherwise, (a) Illegal procedure for participating in the play without a crosse. (b) No foul. (c) Interference on B1.