



2018 and 2019 Women's Lacrosse Rules Changes

The following rules changes were approved by the NCAA Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel. They will be incorporated into the rules book for the 2018 and 2019 seasons.

Rule(s)	Page(s)	Rule Change and Rationale
4-1, 4-2 4-7 5-5 5-6	24 25-26 30 30-31	<p>To allow self-starts in the last two minutes of each half, during sudden-victory overtime, from out of bounds (sideline and end line), and following illegal draws (no longer requiring an official's timeout). In order to permit self-starts during the last two minutes of each half and during sudden-victory overtime, play must be continuous during the last two of minutes of each half and during sudden-victory overtime (i.e., no stop-clock). Additionally, in order to permit self-starts when the ball goes out of bounds, the 90-second possession clock will not stop when the ball goes out of bounds, unless an official calls a time out (i.e., the ball went too far out of bounds). The game clock and possession clock will always mirror each other, except when there is a score differential of ten or more goals, and the game clock continues to run.</p> <p>Rationale: Currently, the clock is stopped on every whistle in the last two minutes of each half and during sudden-victory overtime, self-starts are not permitted when the ball goes out of bounds and following illegal draws, and the game clock and possession clock do not mirror each other (the possession clock stops when the ball goes out of bounds). This proposed change will improve the pace of play and allow for better administration of games.</p>
5-2	29	<p>During the administration of the draw, require that the entire length of both crosses be parallel to and above the center line.</p> <p>Rationale: Currently, the entire length of both crosses must be contained within the vertical plane of the center line; however, the crosses are not required to be parallel to the center line. This proposed change will allow for more fairness, consistency, and better administration of draws.</p>
2-13	18	<p>Beginning January 1, 2022, the jersey number must be of a color that is clearly in distinct contrast with the color of the jersey, irrespective of any border around the number.</p> <p>Rationale: Jersey numbers are becoming increasingly difficult to see. This proposed change will provide a clearer view of the jersey number for the officials, coaches, game administrators, fans, and media. This proposed change will go into effect January 1, 2022. The delay for implementation will permit sufficient time for institutions to comply with the rule without incurring unreasonable expense.</p>
7-29 7-30 7-31	55-57	<p>The fourth and all subsequent yellow cards issued to a team will result in a two-minute non-releasable penalty.</p> <p>Rationale: Currently, for all yellow cards, except yellow cards issued for crosses that violate Appendix E, if the</p>



2018 and 2019 Women's Lacrosse Rules Changes

The following rules changes were approved by the NCAA Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel. They will be incorporated into the rules book for the 2018 and 2019 seasons.

7-34 Appendix F	88-89	opposing team scores during the two-minute penalty, the carded player is eligible to re-enter the game. This proposed change will enhance student-athlete safety by discouraging continuous aggressive play with a non-releasable penalty.
6-1.w	44	Eliminate the foul Dangerous Shot. Rationale: This proposed change will help provide for more consistency, clarification, and objectivity in the game. Additionally, the foul Dangerous Propelling is sufficient to address safety concerns with shots.
7-1 6-1.o	49 43	Count goals when there is a whistle blown for a defensive foul simultaneous with or immediately following the shot. Rationale: Currently, goals are waived off when there is a whistle blown for a defensive foul simultaneous with or immediately following the shot. This occurs most often with the foul Obstruction of Free Space to Goal. This proposed change will allow for better competitive balance between the attack and defense, better administration of games, and help provide for more consistency, clarification, and objectivity in the game.
5-7 5-1 6 7 5-5 5-24 5-26	31 28 42-48 49-57 35-36 36 37-38	Permit players to move when the official blows the whistle (also referred to as “free movement”). For fouls outside of the Critical Scoring Area, defensive players must be at least 2 meters (6.5 feet) from the player awarded the free position. The 2-meter circle (area of circle = 33.18 feet) surrounding the ball carrier will be referred to as the “non-engagement area.” A defensive player may engage the player awarded the free position once that player has taken one step or passed the ball. If the player awarded the free position does not self-start (take a step or pass the ball) then the official will commence play with a whistle, and upon the whistle, a defensive player may engage the player awarded the free position. <u>Delays</u> If a defensive player does not immediately move 2 meters (6.5 feet) from the player awarded the free position or if a defensive player engages the player awarded the free position before the player takes a step, passes the ball, or the official commences play with a whistle, the official will verbally warn the team. All subsequent delays in moving 2 meters (6.5 feet) away or violations of the non-engagement area will result in a green card (one-minute releasable penalty). <u>Multiple Fouls</u>



2018 and 2019 Women’s Lacrosse Rules Changes

The following rules changes were approved by the NCAA Women’s Lacrosse Rules Committee and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel. They will be incorporated into the rules book for the 2018 and 2019 seasons.

		<p>On the third defensive foul that is administered before a team crosses over the restraining line into their offensive end, the offending team will receive a green card (one-minute releasable penalty). The foul count will begin once a team gains possession anywhere on the field outside of their attacking end of the field.</p> <p><u>Critical Scoring Area & Categorization of Fouls</u></p> <p>Eliminate the categorization of fouls as “Major” or “Minor.” Fouls will be categorized as “Delay Fouls” (see proposal relating to green cards), “Mandatory Card Fouls” (same as indicated currently in the Rules), “Goal Circle Fouls,” “Team Fouls/Offside,” and “Fouls.” All fouls that occur in the 8-meter arc will be penalized with an 8-meter free position. If there is an Obstruction of Free Space to Goal (“Shooting Space”) foul or Three Seconds violation in the Critical Scoring Area, the foul will be penalized with an 8-meter free position. All other fouls that occur in the Critical Scoring Area above goal line extended (but not in the 8-meter arc) will be administered at the 12-meter fan with a non-engagement area (i.e., all defensive players must be 2 meters (6.5 feet) from the player awarded the free position). All other fouls that occur in the Critical Scoring Area below goal line extended will be administered at the dot with a non-engagement area (i.e., all defensive players must be 2 meters (6.5 feet) from the player awarded the free position). All “Goal Circle Fouls” and offsetting fouls in the Critical Scoring Area will be administered at the dot. For all fouls within the Critical Scoring Area, the player who fouled will be moved 4 meters directly behind the player taking the free position. As currently outlined in the Rules, the game clock and possession clock will stop for all fouls within the Critical Scoring Area and self-starts are not permitted.</p> <p><u>Substitution</u></p> <p>During timeouts, substitutions will be permitted for all players, except the player who is in possession of the ball and/or has been awarded a free position.</p> <p>Rationale: This proposed change will increase the pace of play, contribute to the growth of the game, allow for better and simpler administration of games, permit more consistency, clarification, and objectivity in the game, and improve the safety of the game (injuries occur from the incessant stopping on the whistle). Specifically, the one-minute releasable penalty for multiple fouls in the mid-field will discourage a team from committing multiple fouls in the mid-field as a strategy to slow down a team and take time off of the possession clock.</p>
--	--	--



2018 and 2019 Women’s Lacrosse Rules Changes

The following rules changes were approved by the NCAA Women’s Lacrosse Rules Committee and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel. They will be incorporated into the rules book for the 2018 and 2019 seasons.

7-28 Appendix F 6-2	55 88 45-46	<p>All green cards will result in a one-minute releasable penalty. Green cards will be issued for the following fouls: Illegal Substitution, Delay of Game (including delays from timeouts and halftime), Illegal Timeout, Jewelry, requesting additional stick checks beyond the three allotted per team, violating the non-engagement area, and on the third defensive foul that is administered before a team crosses over the restraining line into their offensive end.</p> <p>Rationale: This proposed change will allow for better administration of games. Additionally, mandating a green card and one-minute releasable penalty for the violation of the non-engagement area will assist with the implementation of free movement by discouraging defensive players from delaying their movement away from the ball following a foul as well as engaging the player awarded the free position before that player takes a step or passes the ball. Mandating a green card and one-minute releasable penalty for multiple fouls in the mid-field will discourage a team from committing multiple fouls in the mid-field as a strategy to slow down a team and take time off of the possession clock.</p>
5-2	29	<p>During the draw, players positioned below the restraining line may not cross the line until possession has been determined. Players below the restraining line may reach over the line with their stick to play the ball, as long as no part of the player’s foot is on or over the line.</p> <p>Rationale: This proposed change will improve the safety of the game (players crashing in on the draw from behind the restraining line pose a safety concern). Additionally, this proposed change will allow for better administration of the draw as many times it is difficult for officials to accurately determine which player is responsible for a foul, and as a result, which team is awarded possession of the draw. The necessity of this rule is underscored during the administration of draws on shorter fields.</p>
4-8 4-9.c	26 26	<p>Count goals when the shot has been released prior to the expiration of the game clock.</p> <p>Rationale: Currently, if the ball enters the goal after the whistle has been blown or the horn has sounded, the goal does not count. This proposed change will allow for better administration of games and help provide for more consistency, clarification, and objectivity in the game. Additionally, this proposed change will provide alignment with the possession clock which is determined by the release of a shot.</p>
5-25 5-26	37 38	<p>Require that a player switching sticks with a stick from the bench area must enter and exit the field through the substitution area.</p> <p>Rationale: This proposed change will allow for better administration of games, help provide for more consistency</p>



2018 and 2019 Women’s Lacrosse Rules Changes

The following rules changes were approved by the NCAA Women’s Lacrosse Rules Committee and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel. They will be incorporated into the rules book for the 2018 and 2019 seasons.

		and fairness, and help eliminate much of the gamesmanship that surrounds the utilization of draw sticks.
6-2.r 7-5	46 50	<p>The penalty for an illegal uniform may only be administered at the start of the game.</p> <p>Rationale: This proposed change will allow for better administration of games, help provide for more consistency and fairness, and help eliminate much of the gamesmanship that surrounds the penalty administration for illegal uniforms.</p>
5-5	29-30	<p>The 90-second possession clock will not reset on the awarding of an alternate possession unless there is a change of possession.</p> <p>Rationale: This proposed change will help provide for more consistency and fairness.</p>
7-14	52	<p>For the administration of 8-meter free positions, the player fouled will be awarded the hash mark nearest to the spot of the foul, on the 8-meter arc. All players’ bodies and crosses (except the shooter’s crosse) must be positioned outside of the 8-meter arc. The player who fouled will be moved to the 12-meter fan directly behind the player taking the free position. Defensive players will be entitled to the adjacent hashes to the hash where the free position has been awarded. All other players will be permitted to move prior to the whistle for the 8-meter free position; however, players’ bodies and crosses must be cleared outside of imaginary lines that extend from the hanging hashes to the dots, from one hanging hash to the other hanging hash, and from one dot to the other dot. No player may be positioned closer than 4 meters from the player awarded the 8-meter free position. See diagram with red lines below (not drawn to scale).</p>



2018 and 2019 Women's Lacrosse Rules Changes

The following rules changes were approved by the NCAA Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel. They will be incorporated into the rules book for the 2018 and 2019 seasons.

		<div style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p>Rationale: This proposed change will help eliminate Obstruction of Free Space to Goal (“shooting space”) fouls during 8-meter free positions, which ultimately promotes student-athlete safety. Additionally, this proposed change will allow for better competitive balance between the attack and defense during 8-meter free positions and allow for better and simpler administration of 8-meter free positions as well as allow for free movement during 8-meter free positions, which will increase the pace of play, contribute to the growth of the game, and permit more consistency, clarification, and objectivity in the game.</p>
Appendix F	88-89	<p>Currently, when a non-releasable yellow card, followed by a yellow card is issued to players on the same team, the player who received the non-releasable yellow card is not released if a goal is scored (she serves the entire 2-minute penalty), nor is the player from her team who was issued a yellow card subsequent to the issuance of the non-releasable yellow card. The player who received the subsequent yellow card is released if a second goal is scored. The committee proposes that the player who received the subsequent yellow card is released on the first goal, instead of waiting to be released until the second goal.</p> <p>Rationale: This proposed change will provide for more consistency and clarification for carding procedures.</p>