



Future Playing Rules Changes with a Potential Financial Impact
(Updated August 16, 2024)

Sport	Year Effective	Year Approved	Rules Change
Baseball	2023-24 DI and 2024-25 DII. Permissive for DIII.	Summer 2022/Made permissive for DIII in Summer 2024	Effective Jan. 1, 2024, for Division I and Jan. 1, 2025, for Division II, the use of one or more visible clocks will be required during all times of the game to enforce all timing rules effectively. Effective Jan. 1, 2025, for Division III, the use of one or more visible clocks shall be highly recommended, but not required, during all times of the game to enforce all timing rules effectively.
Baseball	2023-24 DI and 2024-25 DII and DIII	Summer 2022	Recommended immediately and required effective January 1, 2024, for Division I and January 1, 2025, for Divisions II and III, that facilities for collegiate baseball have protective fencing or netting on the field side of the dugout at a height not less than 3-feet from the field level.
Water Polo	2025-26	Summer 2024	<p>To define a Goal Area in front of the goal that attacking players cannot enter unless they are behind the line of the ball. This change permits an attacking player who is outside the goal area to go inside 2 meters ahead of the ball without being penalized.</p> <p>“Section 8. Goal Area Red markings shall be placed at each end of the field of play on the boundary line to denote the Goal Area. The marks shall be placed 2 meters outside the inner side of each goal post such that the Goal Area is defined as the rectangular area in front of the goal bounded by the goal line, the 2-meter line, and lines 2 meters outside the inner side of each goal post.</p> <p>Beginning September 1, 2024, non-continuous temporary markings can be used. For floating goals, the temporary markings can include red tape, red paint, red foam markers, or a red towel tied to the goal line lane line, each at a distance of 2 meters outside the inner side of each goal post. For wall goals the temporary markings can include a cone on the pool deck, long red horizontal deck markers, red tape, or red paint, each at a distance of 2 meters outside the inner side of each goal post.</p> <p>Beginning September 1, 2025, continuous red markings will be required. For floating goals, continuous red buoys on the goal line lane line for a distance of 2 meters outside the inner side of each goal post are required. For wall goals, the continuous markings can be provided using long red horizontal deck markers or continuous red paint.”</p>

Sport	Year Effective	Year Approved	Rules Change
Softball	2026-27	Summer 2022	Beginning January 1, 2027, require sideline and home run fences constructed of a hard material (e.g., wood, concrete or brick) to be padded. Padding must begin not higher than 1 foot off the ground and extend to the top of the wood, concrete or brick or 6 feet from the ground, whichever is shorter.
Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field	2026-27	Summer 2024	Beginning December 1, 2026, require all equipment used for timing, weighing, and measuring implements and performance be certified for accuracy by an appropriate testing agency.
Cross Country	2027	Summer 2024	Beginning August 1, 2027, require all equipment used for timing be certified for accuracy by an appropriate testing agency and recalibrated for accuracy in accordance with method's specified by the manufacturer.