# 2019 Major Rules Modifications for Field Hockey

The following rules modifications were approved by the NCAA Divisions I, II and III Field Hockey Committees and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel. They will be incorporated into the rules modifications document for the 2019 season.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Modification</th>
<th>Modification Change and Rationale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| New Modification 3.1.a/FIH Rule 4.1 | FIH Rule 4.1 – add to NCAA Modifications as 3.1.a  
3.1 Uniforms  
a. Field players of the same team must wear uniform jersey or shirt and socks/stockings. Field players may have the choice of shorts or kilt/skirt as long as the shorts/kilt/skirt are of the same color and similar design/trim and cut.  
**Rationale:** This modification was based on a recommendation to better align with the NCAA’s Inclusion of Transgender Student-Athletes best practices document. |
| 4.1 and 4.4 | Delete the NCAA modification for halves and follow the new FIH rule of four quarters of 15 minutes with an interval of two minutes between quarters 1 and 2 and quarters 3 and 4. Halftime will continue to be 10 minutes. As part of moving to quarters, delete the timeouts modification (Modification 4.4 a., b., c., and d.) since there will be more natural stoppages in play, however, keep Modification 4.4 e., f., and g. (now a., b., and c.) to administer the return to play process at the end of the quarter and halftime breaks.  
**4.1 Length of Game.**  
The duration of the game shall be two periods of 35 minutes each, with Ties will be played off by using up to two 10-minute “Sudden Victory” periods and shoot-out.  
**4.4 Timeouts.**  
a. One timeout per team per game shall be permitted.  
b. The timeout will be a two-minute timeout administered by the umpires.  
e. A timeout can be called after a goal or during any dead ball situation, including after the award of a penalty corner by the team with possession of the ball. Any coach or player may call a timeout.  
**Point of Emphasis:** It is not permissible for anyone from the bench area to enter the field of play to call a timeout.  
d. The timeout can be used at any time during regulation and the seven versus seven overtime periods.  
**4.4 Timing** |
The visible game clock will count down the 2 minutes between quarters and 10 minutes for halftime.

| a. | At the 0:15 second mark of the **timeout end of the quarter and halftime breaks** a warning signal will be made – by the scoreboard, table scorer or timer – and an umpire will notify each coach of the signal. |
| b. | A second signal will be made at the 0:00 minute mark of the **timeout end of the quarter and halftime breaks** and play must be resumed immediately. |
| c. | If a team delays in returning to the field, the captain will be carded for delay of game. |

**Rationale:** Since all international levels of field hockey are playing the four-quarter format, it would be beneficial for collegiate field hockey to also play this format. As part of the format change, the current timeout modification is no longer needed since there will be more natural stoppages in play.