



2025 Field Hockey Rules Modifications

The following rules modifications were approved by the NCAA Field Hockey Rules Subcommittee and the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel. All modifications are effective with the 2025 season. The modifications will be incorporated into the NCAA Field Hockey Rules Modifications document. The NCAA follows the FIH rules along with the NCAA Field Hockey Rules Modifications document.

Rule	Modification and Rationale
New 3.2	<p>To require all field players defending a penalty corner to wear a face mask (currently a recommendation). This rules modification would require four (4) face masks with a goalie or five (5) face masks if a goalie is not used. The cost of each face mask ranges from \$75-\$145.</p> <p>Rationale: The FIH and USA Field Hockey are requiring all field players to wear face masks when defending penalty corners during their tournament competition to best protect the players. The use of face masks on penalty corners is widely accepted by professional organizations and NCAA member schools and is an important consideration in mitigating injury risk.</p>
4.5b	<p>To change a complete game to the end of the third period (75%).</p> <p>Rationale: With periods instead of halves, it is more logical for the end of the third period (75%) to be considered a complete game instead of the current rule which is 80%.</p>
6.3	<p>Ejection for a Player: A player receiving a red card shall be ejected from the game and <u>shall leave the venue, be out of sight and sound and is prohibited from any communication or contact, direct or indirect, with the team, coaches and/or bench personnel until the completion of the contest, including the overtime periods.</u></p> <p>Suspension for a Player: A player serving a game suspension(s) may be in the team area, provided they are not in uniform. A player serving a game suspension(s) may not participate in any pregame activities.</p> <p>Ejection for a Head Coach: The head coach shall receive any red card assessed to their team bench area. A head coach receiving a red card shall be ejected from the game and <u>shall leave the venue, be out of sight and sound and is prohibited from any communication or contact, direct or indirect, with the team, coaches and/or bench personnel until the completion of the contest, including the overtime periods.</u></p> <p>Suspension for a Head Coach: A head coach serving a game suspension(s) shall not be in the venue from one hour <u>before the scheduled start of the game until 30 minutes after the completion of the contest. During the suspension,</u></p>

	<p><u>the head coach must be out of sight and sound and is prohibited from any communication or contact, direct or indirect, with the team, coaches and/or bench personnel until the completion of the contest, including the overtime periods. A coach serving a game suspension(s) may participate in any pregame activities up until one hour before the scheduled start time.</u></p> <p>Rationale: To clarify ejection requirements for players, coaches and bench personnel, including leaving the venue, being out of sight and sound and not communicating with the team. Additionally, to clarify suspension requirements for coaches and players. The language for ejections and suspensions aligns with other NCAA sports.</p>
New 6.3	<p>If an ejected or suspended player illegally participates in any game: (1) the original term of suspension for the player shall be doubled, and (2) the head coach shall also serve the same suspension of the player. If an ejected or suspended head coach illegally participates in any game, the original term of suspension for the head coach shall be doubled.</p> <p>Rationale: In response to the directive from the Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP), to implement a penalty for illegal participation by an ejected or suspended player, coach or other bench personnel.</p>