



2019 and 2020 Major Rules Changes for Men's Lacrosse

The following rules changes were approved by the NCAA Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel. They will be incorporated into the rules book for the 2019 and 2020 seasons.

*Note – rule references are associated with the new rules book.

Rule	Rule Change and Rationale
Rule 1-10 <i>Table Area, Team Benches</i>	To adjust the current rule to read: "The substitution area shall be 20 <u>10</u> yards wide." Rationale: This proposal is intended to encourage more fast break opportunities, many of which are negated by the larger substitution area.
Rule 1-25 <i>Game Administration</i>	To add to Rule 1-25: " <u>Starting in 2021 season, all lacrosse schools shall have two visible shot clocks with the ability to set/reset the clocks to two different times.</u> " Rationale: The committee believes two shot clocks are needed for the game with a shot clock being in place on every possession. Additionally, the committee would like to have the option in future years to reset the shot clock to different time frames, depending on the situation. Currently, the playing rules call for all institutions to have a minimum of one visible shot clock. Previous rules only had a shot clock start when game officials determined the team with the ball was stalling. Providing three full competition seasons to comply should allow those institutions that do not currently have clocks that may be set to two different time settings, plenty of time to budget and install.
New Rule 4-10 <i>Goal Scored/Goals Not Counted</i>	To add a new Rule 4-10-b to read: " <u>If a player leaves his feet under his own volition in a direction away from the goal mouth and the ball enters the goal before he touches the crease, the goal shall count.</u> " Rationale: The committee believes this proposal will allow some athletic moves by offensive players to count as a goal and make this an easier play to officiate. Rule 4-11-k is removed, as new Rule 4-10-b replaces it.
Rule 4-15 <i>Advancing the Ball</i>	To alter the current rule to read: "Upon gaining possession of the ball, a team must advance the ball into its attack area within 30 <u>into the offensive half of the field within 20</u> seconds." Rationale: The committee believes this time sequences will keep the game moving and also provide some riding opportunities for the defending team.
Rule 6-3-d <i>Crease Violations/Goalkeeper Interference</i>	To add a new Rule 6-3-d to read: " <u>A player that leaves his feet under his own volition and dives at the goal mouth shall be penalized with a minimum of a one-minute foul. The penalty may be releasable or non-releasable at the discretion of the referee.</u> " Rationale: The committee is making this proposal to guard against offensive players diving toward the goal mouth, which could create contact with the goalkeeper.

<p>Rule 6-11-a <i>Shot Clock</i></p>	<p>To adjust the current rule to read: “The shot clock is a 30 80-second period that <u>starts when a team clearly gains possession of the ball. In situations where the shot clock is reset, it shall be reset to 80 seconds.</u>”</p> <p>Rationale: The committee initially proposed a 60-second timeframe, after a 20-second clear, as the shot clock time frame. After the comment period feedback, however, the committee revised its proposal to create one visible possession clock. The committee noted in the future having a different reset timeframe is preferred, but until all shot clocks have such capability, the committee believes this is the easiest to understand and manage.</p>
<p>New Rule 7-14 <i>Video Replay During NCAA Championships</i></p>	<p>To add a new Rule 7-14 to codify the use of video: <u>“Video replay at NCAA Championships will now include the review of a release of a shot relating to a shot clock, in addition to the end of a quarter. Additionally, the committee is requesting feedback from conference offices to gauge interest in the use of video replay for officiating purposes during the regular season.”</u></p> <p>Rationale: With the rules change regarding the shot clock, the committee believes these situations should be included as reviewable during the NCAA championships where technology is available.</p>