



2024 Rules Changes for Men's Lacrosse

The following proposed rules changes were approved by the NCAA Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee and the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel. These changes will be incorporated into the rules book for the 2024 season.

Rule(s)	Rules Proposal and Rationale
1-20 (Helmet Coming Off)	<p>To establish that anytime a player's helmet comes off their head during a live ball scenario, the officials will stop play immediately. That player is required to leave the field of play. Play is to be restarted once that player reaches the substitution area, and that player may not return until the next dead ball after the restart of play.</p> <p>Rationale: There continues to be a trend of players not properly securing their helmets as designed. The rules committee is concerned about the potential increased risk of injury for players that are playing without their helmet as designed.</p>
4-33 (Video Review)	<p>To permit but not require the following video review process: <u>(Note: The underlined language is new language that will be added to the current video review rule.)</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>A coach may use a challenge up until the last four minutes of regulation. Referee discretion may be used at any time during the game to review the following:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To correct the game and/or shot clock when there is a malfunction or timing error; 2. To determine if the release of a shot at the end of a period in relation to the expiration of time for the game clock or the shot clock; 3. To determine if a shot at the end of a period was deflected off of a defensive or offensive player before it entered the goal; 4. To determine if a shot hits the camera mounted inside the goal cage; 5. <u>To determine if a loose ball crosses the goal line;</u> 6. <u>To determine if the ball was in the goal before the dislodgement of the goal cage;</u> 7. <u>To determine if an offensive player was in or landed in the crease or prior to the ball entering the goal;</u> 8. <u>To determine if an offensive player landed in the goal mouth prior to the ball entering the goal as a result of illegal contact by the defense; and</u> 9. <u>To determine if a goal was scored as a result of the head of the shooters crosse coming off during the shot or follow through.</u> <p>Rationale: Video review is currently only permitted during the NCAA championships for a limited set of situations. This rules change would permit video review during all NCAA competitions. Under this video review process,</p>

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	<p>timing scenarios and goals would be the only reviewable situations. In the last four minutes of regulation and any overtime period, these goals would be reviewed by referee’s discretion. To review prior to the last four minutes of regulation, would require a coach’s challenge or referee’s discretion. There must be conclusive video evidence for the call on the field to be overturned. Video review shall be provided by the home team or host institution and if available, it shall be used.</p>
<p>4-33 (Video Review)</p>	<p>To permit, but not require, video review to review contact to the head and/or neck area through the following review process:</p> <p>Contact to the head and/or neck area may only be reviewed if the on-field official makes a call on the field that a potential contact to the head and/or neck area has occurred.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Officials may only use this procedure if a contact to the head and/or neck area is called on the field. 2. Officials will notify coaches before starting the review. 3. Officials have three penalty options to consider under this review: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Indirect contact to the head and/or neck area. b. Direct contact to the head and/or neck area. c. Excessive or flagrant contact to the head and/or neck area with possible expulsion. <p>Officials are permitted to review a possible infraction that was not observed during play, however, only contact to the head and/or neck area may be considered. Should the officials determine that another infraction occurred, they may not assess that penalty by video review. However, if the officials determine that contact to the head and/or neck area did occur, they may enforce those penalties under this rule.</p> <p>Rationale: Contact to the head and/or neck area is one of the most challenging plays to officiate. These plays often occur quickly during live action that also come with substantial penalties including the possibility of expulsion for the remainder of the game. Providing officials, the opportunity to review these types of plays will assist in officials more accurately adjudicating these plays on the field. These plays would be reviewed at the referee’s discretion.</p>

Rule(s)	Rules Proposal and Rationale
<p style="text-align: center;">4-33 (Coach’s Challenge)</p>	<p>To establish that a team will be permitted two team timeouts and one coach’s challenge each half or one timeout during any overtime period(s). If a coach’s challenge is unsuccessful, that team will be charged a timeout and lose their challenge for that half. If the challenge is successful, they will retain that timeout and coach’s challenge. Should a team no longer have any timeouts remaining in a half a coach may not challenge a call on the field.</p> <p>A coach’s challenge may only be requested for the reviewable items in Rule 4-33. Challenges do not carry over from each half.</p> <p>A coach would have 30 seconds to challenge a non-goal play. If there is not an imminent scoring opportunity, the officials will stop play as soon as possible to conduct a review.</p> <p>If the challenging team or the opposing team scores a goal during that period of time, the goal would not be counted if it was determined that the reviewable non-goal play was a goal.</p> <p>All reviews in the last four minutes of regulation or any overtime period would be reviewed at the referee’s discretion.</p> <p>Rationale: By establishing a coach’s challenge outside of the last four minutes of regulation and overtime, the rules committee believes this will reduce the number of reviews outside of end of the game situations. In addition, tying challenges to timeouts will also reduce the number of potential stoppages throughout the game and coaches will have to make a decision on utilizing a timeout versus a coach’s challenge in some situations.</p>