



## MEMORANDUM

January 16, 2019

### VIA EMAIL

TO: NCAA Men's Lacrosse Head Coaches and Conference Commissioners.

FROM: Willie Scroggs, Secretary-Rules Editor  
NCAA Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee

Tom Abbott, National Coordinator of Officials  
NCAA Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee.

SUBJECT: Clarifications and Interpretations to the Playing Rules

This communication is being shared on behalf of the NCAA Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee to provide additional guidance regarding several situations involving the reset of the 80-second shot clock and some minor rules book clarifications.

### **The Ball (Rule 1-16):**

- As a reminder, the ball shall be white, yellow, orange, lime green, pink, smooth or slightly textured solid rubber. The ball must meet the current NOCSAE lacrosse ball standards. If either coach disagrees as to which ball to use, a white smooth ball shall be used.

### **Goal Not Counted (Rule 4-11-k):**

- Due to an editorial oversight, Rule 4-11-k should have been removed given the implementation of Rule 4-21, Goal-Crease Prohibitions.
- An offensive player may not enter the crease area even when the goalkeeper is NOT in the crease area. The offensive player may not, at any time, dive in a direction that is not away from the goal mouth.

### **Officiating Mechanics (Rule 4-15-a):**

- During flag down situations, a loose ball push does not reset the shot clock during an existing flag down situation.
- During flag down situations, subsequent flag downs will not reset the shot clock.

### **Timeouts (Rule 4-15-c):**

- If the offensive team calls a timeout, the shot clock will continue from the point of the timeout.

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- If the defensive team calls a timeout, the shot clock will be reset to 80 seconds on the restart.
- Timeouts called by the game officials, due to injury or player safety, will result in the shot clock continuing from the point of the called timeout.

**Equipment and Inadvertent Whistles (Rule 4-15-d):**

- The shot clock will restart at the point of stoppage due to offensive equipment issues.
- If a defensive player continues to participate after losing equipment, a flag will result, and play will continue. The shot clock will not reset until the next stoppage of play per Rule 7-8, Slow-Whistle Technique.
- The shot clock will restart at the point of stoppage due to inadvertent whistles.

**Over and Back (Rule 4-16-b):**

- The team in white satisfies the clear and is in their offensive half of the field with the shot clock below 60 seconds. The team in red makes a good defensive play and deflects the ball back into the team in white's defensive half of the field. The team in white is now in possession in their defensive half of the field and by rule can maintain possession in their defensive half for the remainder of the shot clock.
- However, if the team in white chooses to cross back over the midfield line into their offensive half of the field, the ball shall not return to the team in white's defensive half of the field through the actions of the team in white. If this occurs, the result will be an over and back violation.

**Officiating:**

- The wave off signal (Official Lacrosse Signal 15) is no longer used as the reset signal will be used in all situations.

**Field Diagram:**

- When preparing to line the men's lacrosse field for the 2019 season, please refer to the Men's Lacrosse Field Diagrams on pages nine and 10 of the 2019 and 2020 NCAA Men's Lacrosse Rules Book. Rules 1-10, 1-11 and 1-12 (pages 12-13) may be confusing or misleading as written.
- If additional markings are added to the men's lacrosse field that do not conform to the Men's Lacrosse Field Diagram, officials shall ask for the lines to be corrected as per Rule 1-2 A.R.3.

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Thank you for your attention to this information. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Andy Supergan ([asupergan@ncaa.org](mailto:asupergan@ncaa.org) or 317-917-6081) the NCAA staff liaison to the NCAA Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee.

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cc: NCAA Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee  
NCAA Registered Officials  
Selected NCAA Staff