



MEMORANDUM

January 27, 2021

VIA EMAIL

TO: NCAA Divisions I, II and III Men's Lacrosse Conference Commissioners,  
Directors of Athletics and Head Coaches

FROM: Jon Hind, Chair  
NCAA Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee.

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

SUBJECT: NCAA Men's Lacrosse Playing Rules Update.

This communication is being shared to provide some preseason rules guidance for the 2021 season.

**COVID-19 Rules Waivers:** Due to challenges resulting from COVID-19, playing rules waivers for several sports have been granted for the 2021 spring season. The playing rules waivers are consistent with the guidance included in the previously published NCAA Resocialization of Collegiate Sport documents. In this regard, the NCAA playing rules committees and staff will continue to monitor any additional developments and make adjustments as appropriate. A summary of men's lacrosse 2021 COVID-19 playing rules waivers can be found [here](#).

**Major Rules Changes:** As you may know, the NCAA Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee approved a number of rules changes during their annual meeting in May 2020. The complete list of the new rules changes is located [here](#). A copy of the 2021 and 2022 rules book has been mailed to each head coach and conference commissioner. A free digital version of the rules book is posted at [www.ncaapublictions.com](http://www.ncaapublictions.com) and additional physical copies may be purchased as well. Lastly, the 2021 Table Crew Reference Sheet can be found [here](#).

**NCAA Faceoff Central Hub:** The home of the NCAA's officiating education and guidance is open to all coaches and conference administrators for free. You are encouraged to sign up for credentials by going to the link below and clicking on the "REGISTRATION" tab. All educational materials that are distributed to officials will be posted here, including testing, in-season training videos and other guidance. By clicking the "Video" tab across the top banner on the Central Hub, you can access the in-season rules training videos. As coaches and administrators, we hope you will take advantage of being a part of this important training tool.

**Men's Lacrosse Faceoff Central Hub:**  
<http://ncaamenslacrosse.arbitersports.com/front/107528/Site>

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**Chest Protectors and Shoulder Pads:** Beginning for 2021 season, goalkeepers shall use chest protectors designed for lacrosse certified to the NOCSAE commotio cordis protective device standard at the time of manufacture, or they shall wear an alternative protective device certified to the NOCSAE commotio cordis protective device standard at the time of manufacture.

Beginning January 2022, field players shall wear shoulder pads protectors certified to the NOCSAE commotio cordis protective device standard at the time of manufacture, or they shall wear an alternative protective device certified to the NOCSAE commotio cordis protective device standard at the time of manufacture.

**Shot Clocks:** As a reminder, in September 2018 the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel approved a rules change that requires all men's lacrosse institutions to have two visible shot clocks with the ability to set/reset to two different times by the start of the 2022 season.

Thank you for your attention to this memorandum. If you have any questions, please contact the men's lacrosse secretary-rules editor, Willie Scroggs ([williescroggs@unc.edu](mailto:williescroggs@unc.edu)) or the men's lacrosse national coordinator of officials, Tom Abbott ([laxstripes@hotmail.com](mailto:laxstripes@hotmail.com)).

AS/WS:brr

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