



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA MEN'S LACROSSE RULES COMMITTEE
JUNE 2-4, 2021, ANNUAL MEETING VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items. The NCAA Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee approved the following rules change proposal for the 2022 season. While this is a non-change year in men's lacrosse, due to the moratorium on rules changes with a financial impact that were set to take effect in the 2020-21 academic year, the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee was unable to make any changes to a potential reset of the shot clock to a different time should the offense retain possession in the offensive half of the field last year. The NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel gave permission to the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee to bring forward a proposed rules change related to the reset during the non-change year as a result of not being able to make the change during last year's rules change year. The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee requests approval from the Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following item:

- **Shot Clock Reset (Rule 4-15).**

(1) Recommendation. To establish a 60-second reset of the shot clock in the following situations unless stated otherwise:

- (a) A valid shot retained by the offensive team in the offensive half of the field.
- (b) A loose ball technical foul where possession is retained by the offense in the offensive half, and the shot clock is at or below 60 seconds. If the shot clock is above 60 seconds, the reset shall be 80 seconds.
- (c) In a slow whistle flag down situation, the shot clock does not reset. However, once adjudicated, the shot clock will be reset to 60 seconds if the shot clock was at or below 60 seconds. If the shot clock was above 60 seconds, the shot clock will be reset to 80 seconds.
- (d) If there is a stoppage of play for a defensive injury, the shot clock shall be reset to 60 seconds if the shot clock is at or below 60 seconds at the time of the stoppage. If the shot clock is above 60 seconds, the reset shall be 80 seconds.

- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. To apply the concept of resetting the shot clock to a lower number to existing reset situations in our game. In an effort to enhance pace of play, the additional twenty seconds needed to clear the ball is not required when the offense is already in the offensive half of the field. This rules change coincides with the rules change set to go into effect in 2022 requiring each institution to have two shot clocks that can be set/reset to two different times.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. **Welcome, introductions and announcements.** The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee chair and staff liaison welcomed the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee and thanked them for their time.
- 2. **Review schedule, agenda and committee operations manual.** The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee reviewed the schedule, agenda and the committee operations manual. The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee operations manual includes important policies for committee services, such as document retention, confidentiality, conflict of interest, rules writing and voting procedures.
- 3. **Approval of reports from 2020 annual meeting.** The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee reviewed and approved the annual meeting report from 2020 as distributed.
- 4. **Review Playing Rules Oversight Panel directive.** The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee reviewed a directive from the Playing Rules Oversight Panel regarding facility changes that include a financial element. The directive reminds playing rules committees to provide plenty of lead time (at least a one-year delay) when making such changes.
- 5. **US Lacrosse report.** A representative from US Lacrosse joined the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee and shared several initiatives and updates. The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee appreciated US Lacrosse's participation in the annual meeting and hearing about the continued effort to grow the sport at the youth level. US Lacrosse made note of initiatives in a number of areas. US Lacrosse would like to similarities in the playing rules at the youth, high school and collegiate levels.

6. **National Federation of High School State Associations report.** A representative from the National Federation of High School State Associations provided a report to the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee. The NFHS appreciates our continued collaboration and hopes it continues in the future. The NFHS also noted challenges with finding new officials and retaining officials.
7. **Active official's report.** The active official provided an update to the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee. The National Intercollegiate Lacrosse Officials Association will continue to educate officials through virtual training methods as well as looking for event for officials training this summer and fall. In addition, this year presented some challenges for officials as 35 percent of NIOLA membership did not work a game.
8. **Intercollegiate Men's Lacrosse Coaches Association representative's report.** The IMLCA representative provided an update to the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee and provided insight to the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee on behalf of the coaches. The coaches supported exploring a 60-second shot clock reset and were generally pleased with the changes that the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee approved last year. The coaches also continued to express some concerns over plays around the crease area.
9. **Secretary-rules editor's report/review of correspondence.** The secretary-rules editor reviewed correspondence (memorandums and interpretations) that were distributed throughout the season. The secretary-rules editor also reviewed the past year's significant rules changes through the annual report. This was a quiet year overall for rules related issues and questions, but the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee did address remote coaching waivers on a case by case basis on their February 21, 2021, videoconference.
10. **National coordinator of officials' report.** The national coordinator of officials reviewed a thorough report distributed to the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee noting several items during the season, including evaluations of officials. The in-season training videos are a great tool for officials. The national coordinator noted that due concerns related to COVID-19 some officials chose to not officiate this season, but the national coordinator will continue to work to grow our officiating pool. As the season went on, officials continued to improve on officiating plays around the crease area.
11. **NCAA championship updates.** NCAA men's lacrosse championship staff joined the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee for portions of the meeting and provided updates on the NCAA championships.
12. **NCAA injury surveillance data and report.** Staff reviewed injury surveillance data for men's lacrosse with the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee. Since the season abruptly ended early last season, there was not enough injury data to compile a report for the 2020 season, so the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee reviewed the 2019 report. The Men's Lacrosse

Rules Committee offered to assist the Datalys Center to help increase the number of institutions participating.

13. **Review of statistical trends.** Due to the timing of the annual meeting, the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee was unable to review a final set of meeting materials. Staff will follow up with the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee with once the final season stats are compiled.
14. **Review of 2021 NCAA rules survey and call for proposals.** The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee thoroughly reviewed the survey results, survey comments and the call for proposals which helped guide the discussion of the potential rules change related to resetting the shot clock. While this is a non-change for men's lacrosse, the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee was given permission from the Playing Rules Oversight Panel to explore a rules change related to resetting the shot clock due to the delay of the financially related rules changes that would have required by 2021 all institutions have two shot clocks that can be set and reset to two different times. The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee unanimously approved a rules change that would reset the shot clock to 60 seconds during certain situations where the offense retains possession of the ball in the offensive half of the field.

The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee also discussed plays around the crease area. The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee acknowledged the lack of support with the current rule based on the survey data. That said, with limited opportunities to teach the new rule to officials during the fall segment, officials continued to improve as the season progressed. The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee will continue to monitor plays around the crease as we head into next year's rules change year.

The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee was pleased with the changes to the faceoff that were implemented this season. They felt that there were fewer long stalemates that had been a concern in the past. Feedback from the rules survey also indicated that coaches were pleased with the rules change as well. The ability to have counter moves to the faceoff is a component that the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee was pleased to see and one of the driving factors in adopting the new faceoff procedure.

The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee continued discussions on video review. The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee would like to take a measured approach to the potential expansion of video review within the sport of lacrosse. The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee understands the importance of getting calls right in important moments of the game. With that said, the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee does not want to hinder the pace of play with added reviews and certainly understand that it is hard to limit reviews once situations become reviewable.

The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee discussed shots from the defensive half of the field. There were a few comments within the rules survey suggesting that a valid shot should only occur in the offensive half of the field goal line extended. The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee had some reservations about modifying the current rule but will have further discussion as we head into next year's rules change year.

- 15. Identify 2022 points of emphasis.** The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee reiterated the points of emphasis from the 2021 season. The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee wanted to further emphasize that importance.
- 16. Future meeting dates.** The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee will meet for next year's annual meeting June 6-9, 2022.
- 17. Other business.** The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee thanked Lars Tiffany and Kevin Wallace for their service on the committee. The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee conducted no other business.

Committee Chair: Jon Hind, Hamilton College.

Staff Liaison(s): Andy Supergan, NCAA Championships and Alliances.

| NCAA Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee June 2-4, 2021, Annual Meeting Videoconference | |
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| Attendees: | |
| Jay Artinian, Hofstra University. | |
| Andrew Frink, University of St. Joseph (Connecticut). | |
| Jon Hind, Hamilton College. | |
| Michael Murphy, University of Pennsylvania. | |
| Willie Scroggs, Secretary-Rules Editor. | |
| Alex Smith, Saint Michael's College. | |
| Lars Tiffany, University of Virginia. | |
| John Tillman, University of Maryland, College Park. | |
| Kevin Wallace, Eastern University. | |
| Guests in Attendance: | |
| Brian Abbott, active official; Tom Abbott, national coordinator of officials; Rick Lake, US Lacrosse; Dave Pietramala, IMLCA; and Dr. James Weaver, NFHS. | |
| NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance: | |
| Andy Supergan. | |
| Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance: | |
| Will Hopkins and Ryan Tressel. | |