



2024 Women's Lacrosse Experimental Rule

Rationale: Use of video technology to reduce specific errors which could materially impact the result of a game.

Requesting Use: By February 9, any institution or conference wishing to use the experimental rule must submit the request in writing to the NCAA Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee through Stefanie Smith, women's lacrosse secretary-rules editor, at ssmithsre@gmail.com; and Jay Fitzwater, NCAA, at jfitzwater@ncaa.org.

**Not all schools within the conference are required to host video review. School A can choose to have video review while School B is not required to have it for the conference to participate. If School A hosts School B, then video review would be utilized. If School B hosts School A, then no video review would be available. The host school is responsible for providing the visiting team with equivalent technological resources.

Video Review.

Each team shall be permitted two video review requests per game regardless of the outcome of a request. Any video review request not used during regulation playing time may be used during overtime. Teams may request a video review in the same manner that they request a timeout. To be clear, unlike team requested timeouts, teams are NOT given an additional video review request for overtime.

Video review is permitted:

- a. To correct the game clock and/or possession clock when there is a malfunction or timing error at the discretion of the head official;
- b. To determine when the release of a shot at the end of a possession, quarter, or overtime period occurred in relation to the expiration of time for the game clock and/or the possession clock at the discretion of the head official;
- c. To determine whether the ball came off the body of a player of the attacking team at the discretion of the head official;
- d. To determine whether the whole ball entered the front of the goal by passing over the goal line, between the posts, and underneath the crossbar at the discretion of the head official, or request of a coach or any player on the field of play at the time of the shot;
- e. To determine whether the player shooting stepped on or into the goal circle, or any other player of the attacking team entered the goal circle, and if so, if the act of stepping onto or into the goal circle was the result of a foul at the discretion of the head official, or request of a coach or any player on the field of play at the time of the shot and only in response to a goal or no goal signal;

- f. To identify or confirm the number of the offender of a cardable foul at the discretion of the head official;
- g. To determine flopping and embellishment fouls at the discretion of the head official; and
- h. To identify, confirm, or overturn cardable fouls on any video review permitted above involving the goal circle at the discretion of the head official.

Note: Video review is only permitted to correct errors relating to timing, goals, no goals, and cardable fouls when reviewing plays involving the goal circle.

There must exist clear and conclusive video evidence for an on-field officiating ruling to be overturned.

Administration of Video Review.

If a timing error of the game clock and/or possession clock is identified during a stoppage of play, officials shall call timeout, signal their request and conduct the video review immediately. If the timing error of the game clock and/or possession clock is identified during live play, officials shall call timeout, signal their request and conduct the video review immediately following the next foul and/or natural stoppage of play, except officials shall not halt play for video review until after the completion of a scoring play.

To review whether the ball came off the body of a player of the attacking team, officials shall signal their request for video review following the pocket-depth stick check on the goal-scorer's stick and prior to the administration of the draw or possession awarded at the center. If the goal is scored during an overtime period, officials shall signal their request for video review immediately following the pocket-depth check on the goal-scorer's stick.

To review a goal ruling for parts (d.) and (e.) above, video review must be requested following the pocket-depth stick check on the goal-scorer's stick and prior to the administration of the draw or possession awarded at the center. For a goal scored during sudden-victory overtime, a request for video review must be made immediately following the pocket-depth stick check.

To review a no-goal ruling or undetected goal when the ball comes to rest in the goal circle, video review must be requested before the defensive team advances from the goal circle to above the 30-yard line of the defensive end. If the ball goes out of bounds for any reason, video review must be requested immediately. If there is a change of possession, video review must be requested immediately following the change of possession; however, if the change of possession results in an instantaneous scoring play, video review may be requested immediately following the completion of the scoring play. If a team scores on an instantaneous scoring play, then video review is only permitted for that goal.

To review a no-goal ruling or undetected goal when the ball does not come to rest in the goal circle as a result of a deflection or rebound and the defense gains possession of the ball, video review

must be requested before the defensive team advances the ball above the 30-yard line of the defensive end. If the ball goes out of bounds for any reason, video review must be requested immediately. If the attacking team maintains possession of the ball, video review must be requested immediately; however, if the deflection or rebound results in an instantaneous scoring play, video review may be requested immediately following the completion of the scoring play. If a team scores on an instantaneous scoring play, then video review is only permitted for that goal.

If there is a team requested timeout, media timeout, injury, or other event that causes a delay during the time period following a goal ruling, no-goal ruling, or undetected goal, the head official will check in with coaches from both teams at the start of the delay and any team requested video review must be requested during that check in.

To conduct a video review, officials must utilize TV camera coverage or a system provided by the host institution. High resolution technology must be utilized for video review. Officials are permitted to ask for replays from any camera angle as necessary to reach a decision. Officials shall be mindful of the time taken for video review. Video review must take place at the scorer's/timer's table. Coaches are not permitted near the scorer's/timer's table during the review, including the substitution and penalty areas as defined by the rules. If coaches or team personnel interfere with the review or violate other video review protocols, a misconduct foul will be assessed to the team's head coach. Coaching is permitted during video review. The head official will be responsible for communication with coaches following the completion of a video review.

If there are any equipment malfunctions, the requesting team is not assessed a video review request. Malfunctions do not include a single camera that goes down or is out of focus. A malfunction would only occur if there is no video available at all or the monitor does not function so the video cannot be reviewed.

Note: If the equipment either is not functioning at the start of the game, and then is repaired, or if the game started with functioning equipment that then fails, it is appropriate to use the equipment when it is available. If the equipment fails multiple times in a game, the head official will use their discretion as to when to discontinue use for that game.

Restart of Play Following Video Review.

Officials will instruct teams as to the restart of play.

If a video review results in a goal ruling, play will commence with a draw and player positioning for the draw shall apply, unless a free possession or alternate possession has been awarded pursuant to these rules. Play will commence on the official's whistle.

If the attacking team with possession of the ball requests a video review and the video review results in a no-goal ruling, the attacking team retains possession and play shall commence with a free position at the dot if the ball is in the critical scoring area, or if outside of the critical scoring area, at the spot of the ball, except that no free possession shall be taken within two meters of the boundaries. Any player from the attacking team that is on the field of play at the time of the request may take the free position. No player may be within two meters of the player taking the free position. Play will commence on the official's whistle.

If following the signal for a goal, the defensive team requests a video review and the video review results in a no-goal ruling, play will commence with a free position awarded to the requesting team's goalkeeper within the goal circle. Play will commence on the official's whistle.

If the officials request a video review that results in a no-goal ruling, play will commence with a free position awarded to the team with the player in possession of or nearest to the ball at the time of the whistle for the request. The free position will be awarded either at the dot if the ball is in the critical scoring area, or if outside of the critical scoring area, at the spot of the ball, except that no free possession shall be taken within two meters of the boundaries. Any player that is on the field of play at the time of the request may take the free position. If the ball is within the goal circle when the whistle is blown for the request, the free position is awarded to the goalkeeper within the goal circle. Play will commence on the official's whistle.

For video reviews involving the goal circle that result in the overturning of a card, officials shall communicate the overturning of the card to the coaches and scorer's/timer's table. The game shall then commence per the administration outlined above. For video reviews involving the goal circle that result in the issuance of a card, officials shall communicate the issuance of the card to the coaches and scorer's/timer's table. The officials shall determine the proper administration outlined above and then administer the card per the applicable rule(s).

Data Collection.

If this experimental rule is used, the following data must be collected and reported to the NCAA Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee:

- a. Quarter/overtime period and time of game.
- b. Call on the field.
- c. Requestor of video review.
- d. Length of time official reviewed video.
- e. Result of video review.
- f. Length of time for game stoppage.
- g. Type of review system used by official during video review.
- h. Whether a card was issued or overturned during a review involving the goal circle.