



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA WOMEN'S LACROSSE RULES COMMITTEE  
JUNE 17-18, 2024, MEETING

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- None.

**2. Nonlegislative items.** The NCAA Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee approved the following rules change proposals for the 2025 season. The NCAA Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following items:

**a. Charging (Rule 6-3).**

1. Recommendation. To tweak last year's rules change and categorize the foul, "Charging", as a general foul; this year, "Charging" was categorized as a physical foul for the 2024 season. This change will mean that "Charging" will no longer result in a one-minute releasable penalty between the restraining lines.
2. Effective date. Immediately.
3. Rationale. This proposed rules change will provide for more consistency, fairness and clarification.
4. Estimated budget impact. None.
5. Student-athlete impact. None.

**b. Simultaneous Whistle (Rule 6-44).**

1. Recommendation. To tweak the penalty administration of the rules change last year for the foul, "Simultaneous Whistle", so that if the goalkeeper saves the ball inside or outside the goal circle but does not maintain possession, play will continue; a free position will no longer be awarded to the goalkeeper. The possession clock will reset.
2. Effective date. Immediately.
3. Rationale. This proposed change will provide for more consistency, fairness and clarification. This proposed change will also improve the pace of play and allow for more efficient administration of the game.
4. Estimated budget impact. None.
5. Student-athlete impact. None.

**c. (New Rule) (Video Review).**

1. Recommendation. To establish video review as a **permissive** rule (not required). Each team will be permitted two video 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. If a team requests video review of a play/call and the call on the field is confirmed, the team loses a timeout. A team must have a timeout available in order to request a video review of a play/call.

During every video review, whether requested by a team or per the Head Official's discretion, officials will ensure that any error with the game clock or possession clock time is corrected and cardable fouls are identified, confirmed, or overturned.

At the discretion of the Head Official, officials may use the designated video monitor at the table to review the following:

- To correct the game clock and/or possession clock when there is a malfunction or timing error;
- 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;
- To determine whether the ball came off the body of a player of the attacking team;
- 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.
- 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 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;
- To determine whether as a result of a shot the ball hits a pipe or deflects off of the goalkeeper's stick;

- To determine if a team had possession of the ball during a power play at the end of the quarter, overtime half or period;
- To identify or confirm the number of the offender of a cardable foul;
- To determine flopping and embellishment fouls; and
- To identify, confirm, or overturn cardable fouls.

Teams, through a coach or any player on the field of play at the time of the play/call, may request video review for the following:

- 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;
- 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;
- 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;
- To determine whether as a result of a shot the ball hits a pipe or deflects off of the goalkeeper's stick;
- To confirm or overturn yellow- and red-card fouls; and
- To identify yellow- and red-card fouls during the act of shooting (e.g., dangerous follow through and dangerous propelling).

2. Effective date. Immediately.

3. Rationale. The proposed change of making video review a permissive rule will permit video review to be utilized during all NCAA competition provided it is made available by the host. In addition, this change supports the image and integrity of the game of women's lacrosse. These changes are an extension of two years of an experimental rule process for video review that will provide for more consistency, fairness and clarification.

4. Estimated budget impact. Varies.

5. Student-athlete impact. None.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and announcements.** The chair of the Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee welcomed the committee and invited guests and thanked them for their time.
2. **Review schedule, agenda, committee operations manual and Playing Rules Oversight Panel directive.** The rules committee reviewed the meeting schedule, agenda and operations manual, which included the NCAA conflict of interest policy, guidance for committee members regarding meeting reports, notes and email, voting procedures, principles for rules writing, and experimental playing rules guidelines. The rules committee was reminded of the directives of PROP from 2009 and 2014. These directives outline the two-year rules process and reasons a rules committee could propose a rules change in a non-rules change year, and encourage all rules committees to strongly consider providing at least a one-year delay for Division II and Division III institutions before implementing any rules changes that have financial or facility implications.
3. **Review of the 2023 annual meeting report and approval of the April 24 videoconference report.** The committee reviewed the 2023 annual meeting report and the April 24 videoconference report. The reports were approved as written.
4. **Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association report.** The IWLCA representative provided an update to the Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee and provided insight to the Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee on behalf of the coaches. The IWLCA also mentioned that they serve as a resource to the Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee through sending out surveys and providing updates from the collegiate women's lacrosse coaching body. Furthermore, the IWLCA representative provided an update on the 2024 IWLCA Convention.
5. **NCAA Division I Women's Lacrosse Championship update.** The NCAA Division I Women's Lacrosse Championship manager provided an update on the recent 2024 NCAA Division I Women's Lacrosse Championship and the successful tournament. Also mentioned was the positive feedback for the use of video review from the Division I women's lacrosse coaches and the desire for this review to be used in future NCAA competitions, including the NCAA tournament.
6. **Active official report.** The active official provided an update to the Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee. The active official noted some of the main subjects of discussion from the 2023-2024 season such as green cards, illegal use of sticks, charging and simultaneous shooting space. The active official also mentioned the crucial need of recruiting women's lacrosse officials. Also mentioned was the appreciation of the lessons and education that were

performed last season. The active official gave insight as to how officials would prefer video review not to be an experimental rule, instead an official rule.

7. **National coordinator of officials report.** The national coordinator of officials provided a report to the Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee. The national coordinator of officials noted the increase of new officials receiving opportunities to officiate the NCAA postseason. Challenges with broadcast and experienced individuals who can work the table. Furthermore, the national coordinator of officials mentioned the focus on green cards and flopping/embellishment and how they plan to educate moving forward. Other challenges included the large number of officials who have work conflicts during the NCAA postseason, finding qualified officials who can commit was challenge this year.
8. **Secretary-rules editor report.** The secretary-rules editor provided a report to the Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee. The secretary-rules editor noted the large number of changes from the previous year and noted the IWLCA Convention was helpful in gauging the current thoughts from the coaching body. A future enhancement the secretary-rules editor would like to implement would be posting the preseason documents earlier on the NCAA website. Sending a rules survey in the fall prior to the IWLCA Convention could be a helpful tool and aid in understanding the current playing rules needs of the sport. Also mentioned were the focus on items such as green cards, flopping/embellishment and video review.
9. **Trends and length of game data.** The Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee reviewed the statistical trends and length of game data from the previous women's lacrosse season.
10. **Review 2024 call for proposals and rules survey results.** The Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee reviewed 46 rules proposals and approved three rules changes as noted above in the Action Items section of this report. The committee reviewed several topics for
11. **Video review discussion.** After having video review as an experimental rule for the previous two seasons, the Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee reviewed the current state of video review, and considered how to make video review a permissive rule to ensure that video review is accessible during any NCAA competition. The Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee approved video review as a permissive rule beginning with the 2025 women's lacrosse season.
12. **Future annual meeting and videoconference schedule.** The rules committee will determine the 2025 annual meeting and upcoming videoconference schedule at a later date.
13. **Selection of chair.** The rules committee elected Sara Tisdale, head women's lacrosse coach at Eastern Michigan University, as chair.
14. **Other business.** Outgoing committee members were recognized and thanked for their service to the committee and Association.
15. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. Eastern time Tuesday, June 18.

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*Committee Chair:*        *Kimberly Wayne, Davidson College*

*Staff Liaison(s):*       *Connor Lancashire, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating*

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<b>Attendees:</b>	
Kari-Lei Berry, Notre Dame of Maryland University.	
Amy Foster, Cornell University.	
Nicole Ham, Southern New Hampshire University.	
Jaclyn Lawrence, State University of New York at Cortland.	
Meghan McDonogh, Catholic University.	
Stefanie Sparks Smith, secretary-rules editor.	
Sara Tisdale, Eastern Michigan University.	
Kimberly Wayne, Davidson College.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Lynn Bowers, active official.	
Melissa Coyne, national coordinator of officials.	
Liz Robertshaw, Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:</b>	
Connor Lancashire.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Andy Supergan.	