



2020 Soccer Rules Change and Waivers due to COVID-19

Due to challenges resulting from COVID-19, PROP approved rules changes and expressed support for waivers for several fall sports for the 2020 fall season. The rules changes and waivers are consistent with the guidance included in the NCAA Resocialization of Collegiate Sport: Developing Standards for Practice and Competition document. In this regard, PROP will continue to monitor any additional developments and make adjustments as appropriate.

(Note: This rule change will not be reflected in the hardcopy rules book.)

<u>Rule</u>	<u>Rule Change and Rationale</u>
12.7.4.2, 12.7.4.8 and 12.8.1.1	Enhance the spitting at or biting an opponent or any other person penalty to a two-game suspension and categorize it as a violent behavior II red card. Add coughing at an opponent or any other person to this rule and also categorize it as a violent behavior II red card. All ejection and suspension rules related to violent behavior II will apply. Rationale: To reduce the risk of spreading germs.

<u>Rule</u>	<u>Rule Waivers and Rationale</u>
1.12.2	Allow the coaching and team area to be extended beyond 20 yards from the five-yard neutral zone measured from the halfway line in both directions, if available. Rationale: To enhance the opportunity for physical distancing.
5.5.2	If using a paper official NCAA box score, allow the referee to visually/verbally verify the information is correct rather than requiring a signature (this is the same process for electronic box scores). Rationale: To reduce the risk of spreading germs.