



MEMORANDUM

April 24, 2023

VIA EMAIL

TO: NCAA Men's and Women's Soccer Conference Commissioners, Division I Conference Soccer Administrators, Directors of Athletics, and Head Coaches.

FROM: Tim Cupello, chair
NCAA Men's and Women's Soccer Rules Committee

Rich Grady, secretary-rules editor
NCAA Men's and Women's Soccer Rules Committee.

SUBJECT: NCAA Men's and Women's Soccer Experimental Rule and Officials' Uniform Update.

Experimental Rule: In advance of the 2023 soccer season, this correspondence is to make you aware that the Men's and Women's Soccer Rules Committee plans to consider and study potential rules changes involving expanded use of video review.

In an effort to obtain data and feedback, the Men's and Women's Soccer Rules Committee and Playing Rules Oversight Panel are allowing any Division I, II or III conference to experiment during regular season conference games and/or the conference tournament with expanded use of video review, including called penalty kicks, red cards and denial of an obvious goal-scoring opportunity situations, and to allow an assistant referee to assist the referee during video review.

Any conference interested in experimenting must submit the request in writing to Rich Grady (ncaasoccersre@gmail.com) by June 1, 2023. Conferences granted permission to experiment are required to collect data and submit it to the rules committee at the end of the season. The full details of the experimental rule, including specific reviewable situations and data collection points, are available below.

Officials' Uniform: In April 2022, the NCAA approved the concept and implementation of a consistent uniform for college soccer officials. Beginning with the 2023 regular season, officials shall wear the NCAA-established uniform. More information is available [here](#).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Rich Grady.

TC/RG:af

cc: NCAA Registered Soccer Referees
NCAA Men's and Women's Soccer Rules Committee
Selected NCAA Staff Members

Expanded Video Review Experimental Rule

In order for a conference to experiment, a request to experiment must be submitted by a conference to Rich Grady (ncaasoccersre@gmail.com) no later than June 1, 2023. Additionally, the request must meet the following criteria/information:

Criteria

- Conferences may experiment during 2023 soccer regular season conference games and/or the conference tournament.
- The data collection points must be collected and submitted to the rules committee no later than December 31, 2023.
- The conference must determine the video review equipment and ensure consistency amongst its institutions, if possible.
- The conference must appropriately train its referees and assistant referees on the reviewable situations and the video review process. The conference also must determine whether an assistant referee will be required to assist the referee during video review.

Experimental Video Review Situations

NOTE: These situations are in addition to the six currently permissible video review situations outlined in Rule 5.7.3.

1. Determining whether a called penalty kick should have been awarded.
 - A penalty kick must be awarded on the field for it to be reviewed.
2. Determining whether an issued straight red card (ejection) offense occurred.
 - a. This experiment allows any straight red card to be reviewed (expanding from only fighting and violent behavior I and II red cards).
 - b. A red card must be shown on the field for it to be reviewed.
 - c. Red cards resulting from two yellow cards are not reviewable.
3. Determining the correct call in denial of obvious goal-scoring opportunities situations.
 - a. A foul must be called on the field for these situations to be reviewed.

- b. The review could result in the call remaining at a foul or a yellow card (caution) or red card (ejection) being issued.

Data Collection

1. Number of reviews in each game and the situation reviewed in each instance. This includes the six situations currently permissible under Rule 5.7.3 and the experimental rule situations.
2. For each review, the original call on the field and whether the call was upheld or overturned.
3. For each review, the length of the review.
4. Overall game time in games with video review and games without video review for length of game comparison purposes.
5. Whether an assistant referee was used to assist the referee in video review and whether it was for every review or only certain reviews. Explain.