



Memorandum

To: State Association Executive Directors and Boys Lacrosse Contacts
From: Kent Summers
Subject: NFHS Boys Lacrosse Rule Interpretations
Date: January 28, 2014

Memo to Lacrosse Contacts

The following items are interpretations and new and revised situations for the 2014 boys lacrosse season:

Rule 1-5 Interpretation:

The officials arrive at a game and find that the balls supplied by the home team include labeling that says "Meets NOCSAE Standard" but the balls do not have the NFHS mark. The officials begin the game using the balls supplied by the home team with no penalty to the home team and inform the state association or sponsoring authority after the conclusion of the game.

Rule 1-5 Interpretation:

If, at any time after the start of the game, no ball with the label "Meets NOCSAE Standard" is available, the game is suspended. Officials will notify the sponsoring authority. The sponsoring authority shall determine the result of the game or, if the game will be continued.

4.10 SITUATION J: A1 is in the penalty box serving a penalty. Team A has either 6 players in its offensive half of the field or 7 players in its defensive half of the field. **RULING:** Team A is offside. **Note:** In this situation, player(s) serving penalties in the penalty box count as player(s) on the field.

4.11 SITUATION A: Team A has either started play or advanced the ball into its offensive half of the field and when it is called for offside. **RULING:** The ball shall be awarded to the offended team at the spot where the ball was when play was suspended. If the ball was in the goal area when play was suspended, it shall be restarted laterally outside the goal area nearest to the spot of the ball at the time of the whistle. **NOTE:** This ruling is the result of the deletion of Rule 4-12 Articles 4 and 5 from the 2013 Rules Book.



7.2 SITUATION H: A1, A2, A3 and A4 receive one-minute releasable penalties that are all reported during the same dead ball. A1, A2 and A3 begin to serve their penalties at the same time, while A4 waits in the bench area immediately next to the scorer's table but not in the table area. Team A restarts play with seven players on the field. Team B scores a goal after 30 seconds. **RULING:** A1 and A2 may enter the field. A3 must exit to the bench area and A4 steps into the table area and begins serving his penalty. Team A will be playing with nine players on the field. A3 may then substitute into the game in the normal manner, if desired.

7.2 SITUATION J: During a live ball situation, A1, A2 and A3 are each called for releasable or non-releasable fouls. Penalty time has started on those three penalties and a fourth releasable or non-releasable foul is called on a Team A player or coach. **RULING:** The fourth penalty is stacked and is not served until one of the first three penalized players is released.

7.2 SITUATION K: During a live ball situation, A1, A2 and A3 are each called for releasable or non-releasable fouls. Penalty time has not started on those three penalties and a fourth releasable or non-releasable foul is called on a Team A player or coach. **RULING:** The fourth penalty is stacked and is not served until one of the first three penalized players is released.

7.2 SITUATION L: During a live ball situation, A1, A2, A3 and A4 or a coach from Team A are all called for releasable or non-releasable fouls. **RULING:** If the officials can determine the order in which the fouls occurred, they shall be enforced in that order. If the officials cannot determine the order in which the fouls occurred, the most severe penalties shall be enforced first (up to three non-releasable penalties) and the fourth penalty shall be stacked and not served until one of the first three penalized players is released. **NOTE:** In determining which penalties are more severe for this situation, non-releasable penalties are considered more severe than releasable penalties, regardless of length. If all penalties are of the same type, however, a longer penalty is considered more severe than a shorter one.

7.2 SITUATION M: During a live ball situation, A1 and A2 are each assessed one-minute non-releasable penalties and A3 and A4 are each assessed one-minute releasable penalties. The officials cannot determine the order in which the fouls occurred. A1, A2 and A3 begin serving their penalties immediately which makes Team A three players down. A4 waits in the bench area as the stacked player. After 28 seconds of the penalty time has elapsed, a goal is scored by Team B. **RULING:** A3 is released and A4 begins serving his penalty time with Team A still three players down. After 32 more seconds of penalty time has elapsed, A1 and A2 are both released and Team A is one player down. After 28 more seconds of penalty time has elapsed, A4 is released and Team A is again at full strength.

KS/ah

National Federation of State High School Associations



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