

**US Lacrosse
Rule Changes – 2010 Season**

The Women's Division Rules Committee met from August 7-9, 2009 and took the following actions:

Rule Changes

Rule 2 – Equipment and Uniforms

Section 13 – If a number appears on a player's kilt, shorts or pants it must match the number on her shirt.

Rule 3 – Game Personnel

Section 7 – Umpires jurisdiction extends from 30 minutes before the game begins until the umpires leave the playing venue. [Jurisdiction pre-game was in the rules but we had nothing about after the game ended. This was needed to allow umpires to card for a post game incident.]

Section 13 – Official timer will notify the coach when her player's 3 minute penalty time is over.

Rule 4 – Time Factors and Scoring

Section 4 – Allow the team in possession of the ball to call a time out during a dead ball situation.

Rule 5 - Play of the Game

Section 27 – Added a new section to address what will happen if a coach asks for a stick measurement – only the overall length will be measured. In lieu of measuring the head of the crosse the umpire will perform a check on the pocket.

Rule 6 – Fouls

Section 1 – A new example of Illegal Use of the Crosse was added: Cross Check-using the shaft of the crosse to hit, push, or displace an opponent.

Section 2 – Made stepping on/into the center circle or on/over the restraining line early on the draw part of the illegal draw minor foul.

Rule 7 – Penalty Administration

Section 34 (new) – Added wording that allows the officials to issue a post-game ejection to any player or coach where conduct directed at any umpire occurs that would warrant a red card during play.

Rule 8 – Definition of Terms

Definition of Within a Stick's Length was changed to inside a crosses' length only.

Rule 9 – Manufacturer's Specifications

Section 24 – All crosses must be in compliance with shooting string specifications by 2011. [The issue is the strings being rolled or coiled or twisted more than twice between each thong – this was not being strictly enforced as we allowed manufacturers to deplete their supply of pre-made pockets. The Committee feels that enough time has passed since this change was implemented and setting a definite date will allow all sticks to come into compliance.]

Editorial/Wording Changes

Rule 1 – Playing Area and Goals: Clarified wording on goal post measurements – 1.5-2" in diameter

Rule 2 – Equipment and Uniforms: Clarified that piping will be allowed in the new uniform specifications but only in areas where trim or side panel is allowed. Combined piping and trim must fall within new measurement specifications

Rule 3 – Game Personnel: Added wording that the scorer must also record in the scorebook any card issued to a coach or other team personnel.

Rule 5 – Play of the Game: Clarified wording in the section on The Draw-entire crosse must be above hip level; entire length of both crosses must be contained within the vertical plane of the center line.

Rule 6 – Fouls: Clarified what is meant by False Start.

Rule 7 – Penalty Administration: Incorporated wording from rule interpretations issued last season-position of the goalie on restart of play if she has been carded; next game suspension at end of season is served in the first regular season game of the next season; anyone serving next game suspension may not be at the game; entry before penalty time expires will be a card to the head coach.

Rule 8 – Definition of Terms: Clarified the definition of Grounded and Checking (no longer Crosse Checking).

Youth Rules – Full Checking Program

Added a new umpire mechanic to assist with the 3 second closely marked rule – verbal and visual count will be required.

Clarified that teams qualified to participate at Level FC will be using the regular women's rules with the exception of the mandatory red card for a check to the head and not playing stopped clock.

Lightning Policy

At the request of the NFHS we will add their policy on how to deal with lightning/bad weather to the USL rule book. Please note that this will be a default policy, meaning if a state, league or school system has a different policy in place and chooses not to follow what it is the rule book that would be acceptable.