

2024 Meeting

2023 Major Rules Changes Rule Description Page(s)

Rule Descriptions

1. Rule 1-17 No protrusions or sharp edges are permitted on the sidewall of the crosse head (GATE D HEAD)
2. Rule 4-21-d: Illegal defensive contact that forces the offensive player into the goal crease/mouth shall NOT negate a goal provided the ball is in the goal before the offensive player makes contact with the crease, goal mouth or goalkeeper
3. Rule 5-3 Establishes standard penalties for contact to the head or neck area
 - Contact to head – DIRECT contact to head – Excessive or Flagrant contact to head.

2024 Meeting

2024 Major Rules Changes Rule Description Page(s)

Rule Description (Rule 6-6-aa) Page 74

3. Rule 6-6-aa Players are required to leave the field of play should their helmet come off during live play

2024 Meeting

2023 Points of Emphasis + 2024

1. Head Coach Pregame Meeting & Equipment Certification
 - Head coach is required to meet with officials 30 minutes before the scheduled start of the game. (See Rule 2-7.)
 - Coaches certify that all players are properly equipped. The pregame equipment certification by the head coach shall act as the team warning.
 - **2023 Players are required to wear their equipment properly. There is a concerning trend with players not securing helmets as designed.** In addition, other equipment including shoulder pads, chest protectors, gloves and arm pads must be worn as designed. (2023 Enforcement: Wear the helmet right or you can get :30. Could become USC.)
 - **2024 = Players are REQUIRED to wear their equipment properly. There is a ZERO tolerance for helmets coming off during live play.**

2024 Meeting

2024 Points of Emphasis

2. Sportsmanship Team Conduct/Decorum Pregame and Postgame

- Coaches are asked to monitor and discuss sportsmanship issues with their teams; image of the sport is at risk.
- Player behavior during pregame warmups is a concern in some cases.
- Coaches and officials are to be respectful of the 5-yard buffer on either side of the midline that the committee previously established as a neutral area during pregame.
- Coaches are reminded to remain on the sidelines during live-ball play.
- The substitution area is only for coaches and for players who are about to substitute. The exiting player has the right of way.
- Postgame, coaches shall be cognizant of teams crossing at the end of the game, which can create issues.

2024 Meeting

2024 Points of Emphasis

3. Uniforms

- Rule 1-21-b states that a white or light-colored uniform shall have dark-colored numbers; a dark-colored uniform shall have light-colored numbers. Uniforms and specifically uniform numbers serve a purpose and when numbers do not clearly contract, it makes it challenging for officials, fans, broadcast partners and coaches to clearly identify a player. The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee may look at future rule changes if this is not addressed.
- Note for Officials – Let's make sure ours look good too. No salt stains on hats or black shorts/shoes that are now a faded brown. Don't let your shoes melt at UT either!

2024 NILOA Meeting

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3. Rule 6-6-aa Players are required to leave the field of play should their helmet come off during live play



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aa. During a live ball scenario within the scrimmage area, anytime a player's helmet comes off their head the officials will stop play immediately. That player is required to leave the field of play. Play is to be restarted once that player reaches the substitution area, and that player may not return until the next dead ball after the restart of play.

Note: Officials are instructed to differentiate between an offensive and a defensive player when it comes to the loss of equipment other than the helmet. If the offensive player, A1, in possession, loses equipment, other than the helmet, play should be stopped immediately, and the ball is awarded back to Team A. If the official judges that any player is in danger, play should be stopped immediately.

A.R. 38. A1, with possession, is attacking the goal, either with or without an imminent scoring opportunity, and (1) loses any required equipment, other than the helmet or (2) loses the helmet. A1 shoots at the goal and scores. **RULING:** (1) No goal, award the ball to Team A. This applies to any player in possession anywhere on the field. (2) No goal, play is stopped immediately. Award the ball to Team B unless the officials determine that the helmet came off as a result of illegal contact by the defender.

2024 Meeting

Rule Description (Rule 6-6-aa) Page 74

A.R. 39. Defensive player, B1, while playing A1 who has possession of the ball, (1) loses any required equipment, other than the helmet and continues to play or (2) loses the helmet. **RULING:** (1) Flag-down. Technical foul. (2) Immediate whistle. Flag-down. Technical foul. B1 is required to leave the field of play.

A.R. 40. During a loose ball, any player involved in the scrimmage area, (1) loses any required equipment, other than the helmet and continues to play or (2) loses the helmet. **RULING:** (1) A play-on or an immediate whistle and a technical foul. (2) Immediate whistle. Technical foul. Player losing the helmet must leave the field of play. Ball will be awarded to the opposing team unless the officials determine that the helmet came off as a result of illegal contact.

A.R. 41. A1 has the ball, and A2 or B1, neither of whom is in the scrimmage area, loses a piece of required equipment. **RULING:** If the player immediately goes to retrieve the player's equipment, no foul. If the player continues to play without retrieving the player's equipment, technical foul.

Summary of Lost Helmet Rulings in
2024 NCAA Rule 6-6-aa

	A.R. 38	A.R. 39	A.R. 40	A.R. 41
During?	Live action	Live action	Live action	Live action
Ball is?	In possession	In possession	Loose	Loose or in possession (does not matter which)
In scrimmage area?	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Who loses helmet?	Ball carrier, A1	B1 (defender of the ball carrier)	Any player	Any player
Immediate whistle?	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Player leaves field?	Yes, A1	Yes, B1	Yes, offender	No
Sits out next play?	Yes, A1	Yes, B1	Yes, offender	No
Change of possession?	Yes **	No **	N/A. Loose ball awarded to the offended team. **	No effect
Possession awarded to?	Team that did not lose the helmet **	Team that did not lose the helmet **	Team that did not lose the helmet **	N/A since play continues

** Unless illegal contact by an opponent (first foul) creates the loss of helmet (second foul), in which case the team that lost the helmet would restart with possession, as per the rules for Simultaneous Fouls. Note that ANY player who loses his helmet in a scrimmage area still has to leave the field of play and sit out a play, even if the lost helmet is caused by illegal contact.

2024 Meeting

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Rule Description (Rule 6-6-aa) Page 74

POP QUIZ: If the same player keeps being sent off the field because of his Helmet coming off, can you give him an Unsportsmanlike Conduct Penalty?

ANSWER: Yes. Rule 5-4-e (repeatedly commit the same technical foul)

Is this Non-Releasable?

Note 2: A nonreleasable (one- to three-minute) penalty will be imposed for a, b, c, d and h. Situations e and f are releasable. Situation g may be either releasable or nonreleasable per Rule 5 A.R. 8.

2024 NILOA Meeting

FACEOFF MECHANICS NOTE – BE STATIONARY – GET CLOSER

Faceoff Official and Helper (Shotgun) Official should be well inside soccer circle

30

RULE 4 / PLAY OF THE GAME

6. If a player is not positioned properly the official shall call that player for a violation and award the ball to the opponent. There is zero tolerance for a player not positioned properly to begin the faceoff.
7. Once the official is satisfied with the placement of the ball and the positioning of the players' crosses, the official shall remain motionless and by saying "set" instructs the players to remain motionless and whistles play to begin.
8. The entire procedure listed above shall be completed quickly and the whistle cadence will vary with every faceoff.
9. Violations, if they occur, may be called by any official and shall be recorded by all officials. Three or more violations on a team in one half or during the entirety of overtime will result in a time-served technical foul on the violating team and shall be served by the violator.

2024 NILOA Meeting

Take Back Control Of This Area or more rules are going to be in place that make us - Tom Abbott

(preventative officiate as often as you can)

