



2027 GIRLS LACROSSE RULES CHANGES

2-2-4: Field crosse pockets must comply with additional stringing requirements regarding attachment to the head, shooting strings, runners, and nylon. Additionally, all materials used for pockets must meet the elasticity standards established in the Manufacturer's Specification found on the USA Lacrosse website.

Rationale: Provides detailed guidance for pocket construction for equity and fairness.

2-2-5b: All crosses must be commercially available to the general public and listed on the USA Lacrosse.

Rationale: Requires manufacturers to make crosses commercially available eliminating inequity in access.

2-4-4b & c: During crosse inspection, officials must ensure the ball moves freely to touch both sidewalls with lateral movement on the front of the pocket and on the back side of the upper third of the pocket.

Rationale: Clarifies that the ball must be mobile from sidewall to sidewall on the front and back face of the pocket.

2-9-4: Beginning January 1, 2031, the home team shall wear white jerseys when playing at home. Non-white jerseys will no longer be allowed as the home jersey.

Rationale: Requiring white jerseys establishes a clear color requirement and removes ambiguity. Additionally, it aligns with other NFHS uniform requirements.

3-8 (NEW): By state association adoption, member state associations may implement a possession clock requiring a team in possession to attempt a shot on goal within 90 seconds of gaining possession.

Rationale: Allows state associations the option to implement a possession clock to reduce stalling and increase pace of play.

4-2-3: A player suspected of injury may remain in the game if, after the time-out called by the official, no health care professional or coach enters the field to attend to the player. If a health care professional or coach comes onto the field, the injured player must leave the field.

Rationale: Allows officials to stop the clock and check on a potentially injured player without requiring the player to leave the field. Aligns with other NFHS player injury rules.

4-8-1, 4-8-2, 4-8-3 (NEW), 4-8 PENALTIES 5 (NEW): Guidance is established for when a goal shall count following the release of a shot before the horn ending the quarter or overtime period.

Rationale: Removes repetitive language while clarifying the criteria for a goal when time is expiring and aligns criteria with the NFHS Boys Lacrosse rules.

9-1h: Players may not switch sticks with other players on the field during the course of play.

Rationale: Simplifies when and where players may switch sticks during play.

9-1a, b and e-r PENALTIES: Any player on the offended team who is on the field of play when a minor foul occurs may take the free position.

Rationale: Clarifies who may restart play when a minor foul occurs and increases pace of play.

10-1m: Removes the word “tagging” from the definition of holding.

Rationale: Removes an undefined action to eliminate confusion.

2027 Girls Lacrosse Editorial Changes

4-3-3 PENALTY, 7-1-1, 7-3 PENALTIES 1, 9-1a, 9-1h (NEW), 9-1i, 9-1l, 11-1-1, State Association Adoption Chart (NEW)

2027 Girls Lacrosse Points of Emphasis

1. Leading by Example
2. Repeated Midfield Fouls
3. Efficient Draw Administration
4. NFHS Authenticating Mark