

Most Important NFHS vs. NCAA Rule Differences 2008

Rule	NFHS	NCAA
Warm-up when replacing goal-keeper	Penalized or injured goalie is permitted 1:00 warm-up; otherwise must call TO	Timeout required to warm up; be "reasonably lenient" for time to switch
Field width	Field may be 53 1/3 to 60 yds wide (attack area must be 35 yds by 40 yds)	Variations in alterable dimensions must be agreed to in writing prior to game day
Illegal field or goals	No penalty for field; 3:00 for illegal goals	3:00 NR penalty plus possession
Mouth guard	Must cover all upper or all lower teeth	Must cover all upper teeth
Glove color	No mention	Non-GK players must wear same team color
Palmless or fingerless gloves	Illegal if altered by the player; legal if manufactured that way (per NFHS rules committee 1/18/07)	Illegal
Quarters	12 minutes stop time	15 minutes stop time
Mercy rule	Running time in 2nd half if lead is 12 or more	None
Face-off position	Sticks within 4-inch-wide center line	Sticks and gloves outside 4-inch-wide center line
Start of face-off	Official tells players "Down," then "Set," then blows whistle	Official tells players "Down," then blows whistle when players are in position
Penalty expires before possession during face-off	Player may return to field provided the wing area was left vacant for face-off	Player must wait for possession even if wing area is left vacant
Pre-whistle face-off violation by B1	Team A awarded possession just past midfield	Team B's face-off man must sub out; play begins immediately when A1 is in possession
Offside	Ball awarded as any other technical foul except when Team A is offside and in possession in its offensive end ball is awarded to Team B at center X	Restarts where the ball was when play was suspended or outside the attack area
Head coach/field player from team in poss. calls live ball TO	Permitted no matter where the ball is on the field	Permitted with player in possession in contact with ground past offensive restraining line
Offensive 10-second count for Team A starts when:	(1) Team A is in possession in Zone 3 or (2) A1 gains possession outside of Zone 4 after a loose ball exits Zone 4	Ball or player in possession: (1) leaves Zone 4 and touches something outside of Zone 4 or (2) touches something on or over midfield to end 20-count
Timeout called while 10- or 20-second count is in effect	The count is determined by the location of the ball on the restart	Once an offensive 10-count begins, all successive counts are 10-counts unless there is an intervening defensive possession, even after a timeout
Substitute deliberately violating rules for entering field of play	Releasable 1:00 USC foul	Illegal procedure
Delayed special sub (A1 leaves and is not immediately replaced by A2)	Releasable 1:00 USC foul if deliberate; illegal procedure otherwise	Silent play-on, with technical foul called if sub gets involved in play; offside rules still apply
Mouthpiece violation	1-minute NR Personal foul	Technical foul
Equipment check each half	All equipment inspected	Only stick inspected
Jewelry	Prohibited (exception: religious/medical, which must be taped to body); 1:00 NR	Permitted unless deemed dangerous by officials
Player loses required equip. without being guarded, shoots and scores	Goal is allowed	Goal disallowed (player who loses equip. must get rid of ball immediately or is guilty of I.P.)
Second NR USC foul against same player or coach	Expulsion and 3:00 NR penalty	Usual penalty is assessed
Period ends with A1 serving a penalty and a flag down for a foul by B1	Team A starts next period with possession	Since the flag-down creates an even situation, the next period starts with a face-off
Technical foul while ball is in flight, then caught by passer's teammate	Flag down, time-serving technical foul	Play-on when foul occurs; play-on ends when ball is caught
Multiple penalties on Team A	No limit to the number of Team A players serving	"Stacking" rule: maximum of 3 players serve at once
Flag down procedure	Whistle blows when ball touches ground (not on a shot) or a shot is completed	Once ball enters the attack area, play continues until one of a number of conditions is met
Challenging the application of a rule by head coach	Permitted; if appeal denied, coach is charged TO (or technical) and may use remainder of TO	No mention; can speak with officials only during halftime