

NCJLA Boys' Rule Changes 2016

1-19: Stringing: any strings or leathers are limited to hanging length of 2 inches. Any additional strings or laces (e.g. shooting strings, V-channels) must be located within 4 inches of the top of the crosse. No more than one sidewall string on each side.

4-3-3: ART. 3 ... FACING OFF

The official conducting the faceoff will start the procedure by holding the ball and bringing the players together.

- a. The official shall indicate to the players the spot on which the faceoff will take place and instruct the players to prepare for the faceoff by saying "down."
- b. Once the players are down they are to move into their faceoff position as quickly as possible. Players may kneel or stand as they get into position for the faceoff.
- c. The crosses and gloves shall rest on the ground along the center line, parallel to each other up to, but not touching, the center line.
- d. The official shall make certain that the reverse surfaces of the crosses match evenly and are perpendicular to the ground. Each player must have both hands wrapped around the handle of his own crosse, touching the ground. The right hand may not touch any part of the head of the crosse. The player's feet may not touch his crosse. Both hands and feet of each player must be to the left of the throat of his crosse. Each player must be positioned so his entire body is to the left of the throat of his crosse. It is legal to lean over the center line.
- e. If the players are not positioned properly, the official may adjust the players' positioning (including crosses) to ensure the faceoff will be conducted fairly for both players.
- f. Once the players are in the proper position, the official shall place the ball on the ground, in between the head of each crosse, paying close attention to placing the ball in the middle of the head of each crosse.
- g. Once the official is satisfied with the placement of the ball and the positioning of the players' crosses, he shall instruct the players to remain motionless by saying "Set." The official will still have his hand on or near the ball or crosses when the command "Set" is given. For hearing-impaired players, a reasonable accommodation for the "set" command and whistle sound will be provided.
- h. After the "Set" command, the official shall back out and blow the whistle when clear of the scrimmage area. The official does not have to be stationary, and may still be moving backwards, when he blows the whistle to start play. The whistle cadence will vary with every faceoff.
- i. A violation will be called if a player picks up and carries the ball on the back of his stick. It is legal to clamp the ball with the back of the stick, but it must be moved, raked or directed immediately. Immediately is defined as within one step.
- j. A player may not lie on the ball or trap it with his crosse longer than necessary for him to control the ball and pick it up with one continuous motion, or withhold the ball from play in any other manner.
- k. It is illegal to kick, step on, or place any other body part to his crosse or the crosse of the opponent. It is illegal for a faceoff player to use his crosse to hold or pin down a player's crosse.
- l. It is illegal for a player to use his hand or fingers to play the ball. This shall be enforced

immediately as an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty. Inadvertent touching of the ball when the hand is grasping the stick should not be called as an unsportsmanlike conduct foul.

m. It is illegal for a player to grab an opponent's crosse with the open hand or fingers. This shall be enforced immediately as an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty.

4-14-3: ART. 3 . . . Once the ball has been successfully advanced into the goal area, a team is provided the opportunity to run its offense in its offensive half of the field. If the offensive team carries, passes or propels the ball to its defensive half of the field and the offensive team was last in possession, and last touched the ball (except on shot), the result will be an immediate a turnover or play-on. If the ball does not touch or go over the centerline, no infraction has occurred. Players may legally bat the ball to keep it in the offensive half of the field, but if it is possessed and their feet are in the defensive half, it shall be a turnover.