



2025 Rules Changes for Women's Lacrosse

The following rules changes were approved by the NCAA Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel. These changes will take effect for the 2025 season.

<u>Rule(s)</u>	<u>Rule Change and Rationale</u>
6-3 Charging	<p>To tweak last year's rules change and categorize the foul, "Charging", as a general foul; this year, "Charging" was categorized as a physical foul for the 2024 season. This change will mean that "Charging" will no longer result in a one-minute releasable penalty between the restraining lines.</p> <p>Rationale: This proposed rules change will provide for more consistency, fairness and clarification.</p>
6-44 Simultaneous Whistle	<p>To tweak the penalty administration of the rules change last year for the foul, "Simultaneous Whistle", so that if the goalkeeper saves the ball inside or outside the goal circle but does not maintain possession, play will continue; a free position will no longer be awarded to the goalkeeper. The possession clock will reset.</p> <p>Rationale: This proposed rules change will provide for more consistency, fairness and clarification. This proposed change will also improve the pace of play and allow for more efficient administration of the game.</p>
New Rule Video Review	<p>To establish video review as a permissive rule (not required). Each team will be permitted two video review requests per game regardless of the outcome of a request. Any video review request not used during regulation playing time may be used during overtime. Teams may request a video review in the same manner that they request a timeout. To be clear, unlike team requested timeouts, teams are NOT given an additional video review request for overtime. If a team requests video review of a play/call and the call on the field is confirmed, the team loses a timeout. A team must have a timeout available in order to request a video review of a play/call.</p> <p>During every video review whether requested by a team or per the Head Official's discretion, officials will ensure that any error with the game clock or possession clock time is corrected and cardable fouls are identified, confirmed, or overturned.</p> <p>At the discretion of the Head Official, officials may use the designated video monitor at the table to review the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To correct the game clock and/or possession clock when there is a malfunction or timing error;

2. To determine when the release of a shot at the end of a possession, quarter, or overtime period occurred in relation to the expiration of time for the game clock and/or the possession clock;
3. To determine whether the ball came off the body of a player of the attacking team;
4. To determine whether the whole ball entered the front of the goal by passing over the goal line, between the posts, and underneath the crossbar;
5. To determine whether the player shooting stepped on or into the goal circle, or any other player of the attacking team entered the goal circle, and if so, if the act of stepping onto or into the goal circle was the result of a foul at the discretion of the head official, or request of a coach or any player on the field of play at the time of the shot and only in response to a goal or no goal signal;
6. To determine whether as a result of a shot the ball hits a pipe or deflects off of the goalkeeper's stick;
7. To determine if a team had possession of the ball during a power play at the end of a quarter, overtime half or period for purposes of retaining possession at the start of a subsequent quarter, overtime half or period;
8. To identify or confirm the number of the offender of a cardable foul;
9. To determine flopping and embellishment fouls; and
10. To identify, confirm, or overturn cardable fouls.

Teams, through a coach or any player on the field of play at the time of the play/call, may request video review for the following:

1. To determine when the release of a shot at the end of a possession, quarter, or overtime period occurred in relation to the expiration of time for the game clock and/or the possession clock;
2. To determine whether the whole ball entered the front of the goal by passing over the goal line, between the posts, and underneath the crossbar;
3. To determine whether the player shooting stepped on or into the goal circle, or any other player of the attacking team entered the goal circle, and if so, if the act of stepping onto or into the goal circle was the result of a foul at the discretion of the head official, or request of a coach or any player on the field of play at the time of the shot and only in response to a goal or no goal signal;
4. To determine whether as a result of a shot the ball hits a pipe or deflects off of the goalkeeper's stick;
5. To confirm or overturn yellow- and red-card fouls; and
6. To identify yellow- and red-card fouls during the act of shooting (e.g., dangerous follow through and dangerous propelling).

<p>Rationale: The proposed change of making video review a permissive rule will permit video review to be utilized during all NCAA competition provided it is made available by the host. In addition, this change supports the image and integrity of the game of women's lacrosse. These changes are an extension of two years of an experimental rule process for video review that will provide for more consistency, fairness and clarification.</p>
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