

Most Important NFHS vs. NCAA Rules Differences for 2007

Rule	NFHS	NCAA
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
Ball stop	Required	Not required
Glove color	No mention (MIAA 73.6, page 66, do not have to be the same color.)	Non-GK players must wear same team color
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
Quarters	12 minutes stop time	15 minutes stop time
Mercy rule	Running time in 2nd half (MIAA 73.7, page 66, in 4th Quarter) if lead is 12 or more	None
Faceoff position	Sticks within 4-inch-wide center line	Sticks and gloves outside 4-inch-wide center line
Start of faceoff	Official tells players "Down," then "Set," then blows whistle (MIAA 73.9, page 66, same as NCAA)	Official tells players "Down," then blows whistle when players are in position.
Violation during face-off before possession	Possible play-on; if ball is awarded it starts one step over center X	Possible play-on; if ball is awarded, it starts at the spot where the ball was or outside box
Penalty expires before possession during faceoff	Player may return to field provided the wing area was left vacant for faceoff	Player must wait for possession even if wing area is left vacant
Tech. foul with ball is in flight, then ball caught by teammate	Flag down, time-serving technical foul	Play-on when foul occurs; play-on ends when ball is caught
Offsides	Ball awarded just over center X	Restarts at the spot or outside the attack area.
New count when team regains possession in def. end after having possession in off. end	No mention (except that on any restart the count is determined by the field position)	Once 10-count starts for Team A, all subsequent counts will be 10-counts unless Team B gains possession or a goal is scored
Player loses required equipment 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 illegal procedure)
Airborne player	No general rule	Player is where he left from (except attack area for purposes of 10-count)
Head coach/field player from team in poss. calls live ball TO	Permitted no matter where the ball is on the field (MIAA 73.5, page 66 in offensive half of field)	Permitted with player in possession in contact with ground past offensive restraining line
Warm-up when replacing goalkeeper	Penalized or injured goalie is permitted 1:00 warmup; otherwise must call TO	Timeout required to warm up; be "reasonably lenient" for time to switch
Broken goalie stick or dislodged or broken goalie equipment	Unclear. Play suspended immediately per 4-27-5, but play continues in Sit. 6-5-D. Only broken equipment addressed, not dislodged equipment	Play suspended immediately
Delayed substitution	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
Multiple penalties	Any number of players from one team may be in the penalty area	Penalties "stack"; a team is never down more than 3 men 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
Second NR USC foul against same player or coach	Expulsion and 3:00 NR penalty	Usual penalty is assessed
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 at the end of the halftime period
Inadvertant whistles	Ball awarded to team in possession; if loose, AP (unless in crease; then ball goes to defense)	Ball goes to team in or entitled possession; o/w AP (unless in crease; then ball goes to defense)
Inadvertent flags/horns	Ball awarded to team in possession when flag is thrown; if loose, AP (no mention of horn)	Award possession or face off depending on the result of the play. (7-13)