

## Loose Balls And Crease Play: The Do's & Don'ts

Rules regarding loose balls, and especially crease play, can sometimes be confusing to an official. The following "Do's" and "Don'ts" of loose balls and crease play should help in eliminating some of that confusion.

<b><u>Do's</u></b>	<b><u>Don'ts</u></b>
<b>Loose Ball OUTSIDE The Crease</b>	<b>Loose Ball OUTSIDE The Crease</b>
<p>When the ball is loose <b><u>outside</u></b> the crease an attacking player <b><u>can</u></b>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kick the ball into the goal</li> <li>• Scoop the ball up</li> <li>• Flick the ball into the goal</li> <li>• Check the goalies stick</li> <li>• Check a defender's stick</li> <li>• Flick the ball to a teammate</li> <li>• Body check a player within 5 yards of the ball</li> </ul>	<p>When the ball is loose <b><u>outside</u></b> the crease an attacking player <b><u>cannot</u></b>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cover the ball with his stick</li> <li>• Body check the goalie if any part of his body is in the crease</li> <li>• Step into the crease</li> <li>• Hold a defender's stick against his body</li> <li>• Step on a defender's stick</li> <li>• Push a defender from behind</li> </ul>
<b>Loose Ball INSIDE The Crease</b>	<b>Loose Ball INSIDE The Crease</b>
<p>When the ball is loose <b><u>inside</u></b> the crease an attacking player <b><u>can</u></b>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reach into the crease with his stick (remember, an attacking player's body can't be in the crease) to tap the ball into the goal</li> <li>• Reach in with his stick to scoop the ball</li> <li>• Reach in with his stick to bat or flick the ball out of the crease</li> <li>• Reach in with his stick to bat or flick the ball to a teammate</li> </ul>	<p>When the ball is loose <b><u>inside</u></b> the crease an attacking player <b><u>cannot</u></b>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Step into the crease</li> <li>• Initiate contact with the goalie's stick</li> <li>• Make contact with the goalie</li> <li>• Body check a defender more than 5 yards away from the ball</li> <li>• Push or body check a defender into the crease from behind</li> <li>• Hold a defender's stick against his body</li> <li>• Reach in with his stick and cover the ball.</li> </ul>