

Boys Lacrosse:

In support of the Guidance for Opening Up High School Athletics and Activities, the NFHS Boys Lacrosse Rules Committee offers this document as guidance on how state associations can consider modifications to the NFHS Boys Lacrosse Rules Book. The modifications outlined in this document are meant to decrease potential exposure to respiratory droplets by encouraging social distancing, limiting participation in administrative tasks to essential personnel and allowing for appropriate protective equipment.

1. Boys Lacrosse Rules Book Modifications: The Field (1-2-7): The Scorer's Table.
 - a. Provide adequate spacing for 6-foot social distancing between individuals.
2. Boys Lacrosse Rules Book Modifications: The Field (1-2-8): Players' and Coaches' Box.
 - a. Extend the players' box to 30 yards total, in order to ensure proper social distancing.
 - b. PLAYERS BENCH: Starts at the Table area (40yd line) extends to Goal Line Extended (10 yd Line).
 - c. COACHES BOX remains the same 15yds (40yd line to 25yd line)
3. Boys Lacrosse Rules Book Modifications: Player Equipment (1-9-2): Optional Equipment, Face Shields.
 - a. Clear, molded, and non-rigid face shields approved by the helmet manufacturer are allowed.
4. Boys Lacrosse Rules Book Modifications: Players, Coaches, and Other Game Personal: Overall Suggestion.
 - a. Coaches and officials should attempt to maintain social distancing whenever possible during a game including stick checks, official's meetings, etc.
5. Boys Lacrosse Rules Book Modifications: Facing Off (4-3-1, 2, and 3): Starting Play with Facing Off
 - a. See diagram and narrative below

1. Faceoff Official places the ball on the spot where the faceoff will take place at the centerline. Players will stand 6ft from the ball on opposite sides of the centerline.



<p>1. The Official will back away 6-8ft from the ball. Officials will verbally use the “DOWN” command for players to step forward and take their positions. *Faceoff players will not be allowed to place their knee on the ground. Players are required to have both feet on the ground. The top hand on the crosse will be underhanded. No motorcycle grip. *Modification – this is a technique now used in the NCAA for less contact, faster, quicker faceoffs.</p>	
<p>3. When the player's crosses are in legal position, **crosse head centered to ball, crosses match top to stop, gloves and crosse off the centerline, crosse vertical to ground, showing tape, head and feet out of the neutral zone, gloves touching the ground. The Official will verbally use the “SET” command, so players do not move. The Official will immediately blow the whistle for the faceoff to start. **If these requirements are not met, the ball will be awarded to the offended team. If both teams offend, ball is awarded according to Alternate Possession rule (4-30).</p>	

6. Boys Lacrosse Rules Book Modifications: Penalty Enforcement (7-10): Procedure “PLAY-ON”
 a. If there is a violation, blow the whistle quick and award ball if there is going to be a group together (officials discretion)

7. Points of Emphasis and Pre/Post Game Considerations:
 a **Pregame equipment checks WILL OCCUR ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF FIELD FROM BENCH/TABLE AREA.** Each team will have a designated official on their sideline opposite the bench/table area. Official will stand on the sideline, player will social distance 6ft and hand the Official his crosse. If multiple players from the same team are having crosses measured, players will stand socially distanced across the restraining line on their side of the field waiting their turn.
 *Note: Officials are required to wear masks pregame, halftime and postgame duties.

a. Pregame

- i. Equipment inspections prior to the game – Stick checks
- ii. Masks for coaches and officials during coach meetings/certification.
- iii. No line up. Coaches to relay information to their teams.
- iv. Meeting with One faceoff player for each team at the centerline, Official wears mask, Players wear mask stand 6ft apart.
- v. Meeting with Captains: One captain for each team at the centerline, Official wears a mask, Captains wear mask stay 6 ft apart, official shows coin result to each captain.
- vi. Officials must wear a mask when instructing table personnel. Table personnel must wear a mask.
- vii. Minimize table personnel – official scorer and timekeeper, visiting team personnel should be at their team bench and not at the table. Extend the table if needed.
- viii. Team bench areas should be more clearly marked to remind players of proper location.

b. Postgame

- i. No handshakes.
- ii. Teams stay in their team areas, no running onto the field for pile-on celebrations.