



Considerations for 2020-21 NFHS Boys Lacrosse Rule Modifications

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.

The NHIAA Boys Lacrosse Committee highly recommends and encourages schools to wear face coverings (cloth is permissible if the nose and mouth are covered) during practice and competition. The NHIAA Council **recommends** that face coverings be worn while actively participating in spring tournaments and **requires** that face coverings be worn when not actively participating and appropriate distancing cannot be maintained. If a school participating in the playoffs has more restrictive playing requirements than those prescribed by the NHIAA, in the spirit of sportsmanship and by mutual agreement, the Council supports the two school playing by the more restrictive policies.

RETURN TO COMPETITION:

General Considerations:

- Have hand sanitizer and wipes available at the field.
- The NHIAA Boys Lacrosse Committee highly recommends and encourages schools to wear face coverings (cloth is permissible if the nose and mouth are covered) during practice and competition. The NHIAA Council **recommends** that face coverings be worn while actively participating in spring tournaments and **requires** that face coverings be worn when not actively participating and appropriate distancing cannot be maintained.
 - Optional Equipment, Face Shields and Masks - Clear, molded, and non-rigid face shields approved by the helmet manufacturer are allowed.
- Team bench areas should be more clearly marked to remind players of proper location.
- Extend the players' and coaches' box to end line to ensure proper social distancing.

Pregame:

- Coaches and officials are expected to maintain social distancing whenever possible during a game including stick checks, official's meetings, etc.
- Pregame equipment checks should be conducted after the players have placed their equipment on the field and left the field. Officials then may inspect the equipment and blow the whistle to alert the teams to get their equipment and find the results of the equipment check.
- No line up. Coaches to relay information to their teams. No meeting with faceoff players (if performed).
- Meeting with Captains: One captain for each team, official wears a mask, captains stay apart, official shows coin result to each captain.
- Minimize scorer 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.
- Officials should wear a face covering when instructing table personnel. Table personnel should wear mask.

Post-Game:

- No handshakes.
- Teams stay in their team areas, no running onto the field or dog piles.

Boys Lacrosse Committee Approved – 2/2/2021

Sports Medicine Committee Approved -3/1/2021

NHIAA Council – “took out cloth/mask and added face coverings (cloth is permissible if the nose and mouth are covered) and “cloth is permissible”. Approved 3.19.21

NHIAA Council Amended re: face coverings during the spring tournaments – 5.13.21