



April 22, 2026

NFHS Boys Lacrosse Weekly Rule Interpretations

Simultaneous Fouls

Simultaneous fouls are fouls called on players of opposing teams during a live ball or during a dead ball when sequencing cannot be determined. Most live-ball simultaneous fouls do not occur at the **exact** same time. Officials must be able to adjudicate these situations appropriately.

Rule 7-6 Simultaneous Fouls did not change in 2026, but the rules language was restructured for clarity.

NOTE: When simultaneous fouls result in penalty time for both teams, Rule 7-2d which calls for the common penalty time to be non-releasable and restarts are covered in Rule 7-3.

SITUATION 1: A1 and B1 commit simultaneous fouls while a flag down is in effect. A1 gets 30 seconds and B1 gets one minute. Twenty seconds after play is resumed, B2 scores a goal. Is A1 released from penalty area? **RULING:** No. **COMMENT:** On simultaneous fouls, any goal scored during the shorter penalty time has no bearing in releasing players from penalty area. Under rule 7-2d, the common time for all fouls committed from the flag down until the whistle resuming play is non-releasable. This includes simultaneous fouls. (7-2d, 7-6-3)

SITUATION 2: During a loose ball, B1 pushes A1 from behind and a play-on is called. While the ball is live, A1 turns and slashes B1. **RULING:** These are simultaneous fouls. **COMMENT:** Since Team A was entitled to possession and A1 committed a personal foul, both players serve penalty time. B1 serves 30 seconds (non-releasable) and A1 serves one minute, with the first 30 seconds being non-releasable. Award the ball to Team B as Team B has less penalty time. (7-6-3c, 7-6-4a)

SITUATION 3: A1 has possession of the ball. B1 slashes A1. During the flag down, A2 interferes with B2. The official blows the play dead and assesses a personal foul to B1. **RULING:** These are simultaneous fouls. **COMMENT:** B1 serves a one-minute personal foul; A2 serves no penalty since Team A was in possession and A2 did not commit a personal foul. Team A retains possession of the ball. (7-6-3c)

SITUATION 4: While A1 is about to scoop the ball, B1 goes offside. At the same time, A2 pushes B2. **RULING:** Simultaneous fouls. **COMMENT:** Whistle is blown immediately, fouls cancel and, since neither team has possession, the ball is awarded according to the alternate-possession rule. [7-6-4b(2)]