



## WOMEN'S RULES CHANGE PROPOSAL for 2018 General Assembly

Rule Change Proposal #9	2018 W Field - 9		Descriptor
Update if Rule 26 becomes Appendix F	Rule 3	Update	Manufacturers Specifications

**Proposal:** To update when Rule 26 is transferred to Appendix F

### CURRENT DESCRIPTOR:

Full Crosse specifications are in Rule 26: Manufacturer's Specifications. Only those aspects of the Crosse specifications that are necessary and useful for umpires, coaches and players during a game are included below.

#### i. All Field Crosses:

The primary intent of the field crosse specifications is to ensure that the ball moves freely within all parts of the head and pocket so that the ball may be dislodged from a crosse without an excessively forceful check. A crosse that has been altered in such a way as to give an unfair advantage to a player is illegal.

1. The head of the field crosse will be constructed of wood, plastic, fiberglass, nylon, leather, rubber, gut, and/or any other synthetic material.

2. The head of a field crosse will be triangular in concept. (Rule 26, Diagrams 12 & 13)

a. The inside width between the sidewalls of the head must continually increase from the center of the bridge or ball stop to the widest point at the top of the head. At the widest point at the top of the head, the inside width between the walls of a plastic/molded head crosse will be 16cm minimum and 15cm to 16cm for a wooden crosse.

b. There may be no protrusions or outcroppings on the inside surface of the sidewalls. The sidewalls may not be lined with any additional material.

3. The shaft of the field crosse will be 'nominally' straight and may be constructed of wood, metal alloy or other composite material. The crosse will not have sharp or protruding parts or edges and will not be dangerous to players in any way.

**Guidance:** A *\*bent\** shaft may only be used with the heads that are specifically designed to accommodate them.

*\*Bent\* shafts are head and manufacture specific. 24*

a. Recessed metal screws with rounded heads will be used to attach the head of a plastic molded head crosse to the shaft.

The butt ends of all shafts will have an end cap, be taped or sanded smooth, if wood.

4. The overall length of the field crosse will be 0.9 m / 90cm minimum to 1.1 m / 110cm maximum. End caps are included when measuring the overall length of a crosse.

**Guidance:** *Junior players who are under the age of 15 may use a crosse shorter than 0.9 m to allow it to fit comfortably along the length of the player's arm.*

5. The pockets of all field crosses will be strung with 4 or 5 longitudinal leather and/or synthetic thongs and 8 to 12 knots/stitches of cross lacing. Mesh pockets are not allowed.

a. Longitudinal leather or synthetic thongs shall be 0.3 to 1.0 cm wide. Each thong must be made of one material (leather, synthetic leather or nylon cord) and run the full length of the head. A second material may be used in close proximity to the scoop and the ball stop to allow attachment of each thong to the head. Thongs must be attached to the head through holes in the scoop and at the ball stop. The thongs at the ball stop must extend 5.1 cm beyond the ball stop. Thongs must be evenly spaced along the length and across the width of the head. Loose ends of thongs may not be woven back up through the pocket of the crosse. (Rule 26, Diagram 12).

b. Cross-lacing in a traditionally strung pocket is defined as 8 to 12 knots/stitches, where two strings intertwine at a common place on a thong and evenly spaced diamonds. (A 'diamond' is the shape formed between longitudinal knots on a thong and horizontal knots.)

c. Cross-lacing in a pre-manufactured detachable pocket is defined as 8 to 12 evenly spaced pocket nylon laces that are sewn or traditionally woven between evenly spaced longitudinal thongs. Extra lengths of sidewall nylon ties must be cut to 4 cm maximum.

d. Pockets must be attached to the head of the crosse through pocket stringing holes and must be attached in one of the following ways. The pocket must be anchored along the bottom of the bottom rail of the sidewall of the head, or the pocket nylon cord must run through the stringing holes parallel to the top and bottom of the bottom rail of the sidewall, i.e. similar to sewing stitches. The distance from the bottom of the side wall to the bottom of the stringing hole must not be more than 1.0 cm.

**Guidance:** *A pocket may not be attached to the head of a crosse along the top of the bottom rail of the sidewall. Decorative holes/spaces, between the top and bottom sidewalls that give structure to the sidewalls and the head, may not be used as stringing holes.*

6. Field crosses will have no more than two separate shooting/throw strings. Shooting/throw strings will not be rolled or coiled more than twice between each thong. Flat hockey or boot laces may not be used as shooting/throw strings.

a. Both shooting/throw strings must be attached to the side wall in the upper third of the head, or the top shooting/throw string must be attached to the sidewall in the upper third of the head, and the bottom shooting/throw string may be an "inverted U" in shape and must be attached to the sidewall in the upper one-half of the head, as measured from the top, outside edge of the scoop. (Rule 26, Diagram 16)

7. The field crosse meets specifications if:

a. It complies with the criteria in this rule and the Manufacturer's Specifications for field crosses as approved by the FIL in Rule 26.A-D

b. The top of the ball, when dropped into the pocket of a horizontally held crosse, must be visible and remain above the top of the entire wooden or plastic sidewall wall after reasonable force with one hand has been applied to and released from a ball.

c. The ball must move freely within all parts of the head and pocket, both laterally and along its full length. The ball must not become wedged between the walls under the guard or the bridge of a wooden crosse, or in the ball stop, or under the walls of a plastic/molded head crosse. The ball must easily fall out of the pocket of the crosse when the crosse is turned upside down.

8. At any time during play, an umpire may take time out to inspect the pocket of a field crosse, or any player on the field may request an umpire to inspect the pocket of an opponent's crosse. If, at any time during play, the ball becomes lodged in a field player's crosse, the crosse no longer meets specifications. The umpire will take time out to remove the illegal crosse to the scorer's table.

To resume play, the opponent nearest to the ball will be awarded a free position for a minor foul. (Rules 20.A.13, 14 & 15).

#### B. Goalkeeper's Crosse

1. The crosse will be constructed of wood, plastic, fiberglass, nylon, leather, rubber, gut, and/or any other synthetic material.

2. The shaft of the crosse will be straight and may be constructed of wood, metal alloy or other composite material. Recessed metal screws with rounded heads must be used to attach the head to the shaft. The butt end of the shaft will have an end cap, be taped or sanded smooth, if wood.

3. The crosse must not have sharp or protruding parts or edges, must not be dangerous to players in any way.

4. The overall length of the crosse will be 0.9 m/90 cm minimum to 1.35 m/135 cm maximum.

5. The entire head of the crosse will be triangular in concept. The inside width between the sidewalls of the head must continually increase as measured from the center of the bridge or the ball stop to the widest point at the top of the head.

6. The pocket of the crosse may be strung traditionally with 6 or 7 longitudinal leather or synthetic thongs and 8 to 12 knots/stitches of cross-lacing, or the pocket may be mesh.

7. The goalkeeper's crosse may have more than two shooting/throw strings and flat hockey/boot laces may be used as shooting/throw strings. There are no restrictions regarding the design or placement of shooting/throw strings in the pocket of the crosse.

8. The goalkeeper's crosse meets specifications when:

- a. It complies with the criteria in this rule and in the Manufacturer's Specifications for goalkeeper crosses as approved by the FIL in Rule 26.E.
- b. The ball moves freely within all parts of the head/pocket, both laterally and along its full length.
- c. The crosse with the ball in it is held at eye level with the long axis of the stick vertical to the ground, and more than one half of the ball is visible above the ball stop.

**PROPOSED NEW DESCRIPTOR:**

Full Crosse specifications are in **Appendix F**: Manufacturer's Specifications. Only those aspects of the Crosse specifications that are necessary and useful for umpires, coaches and players during a game are included below.

i. All Field Crosses:

The primary intent of the field Crosse specifications is to ensure that the ball moves freely within all parts of the head and pocket so that the ball may be dislodged from a Crosse without an excessively forceful check. A Crosse that has been altered in such a way as to give an unfair advantage to a player is illegal.

**Head of the Field Crosse**

1. Will be constructed of wood, plastic, fiberglass, nylon, leather, rubber, gut, and/or any other synthetic material.
2. Will be triangular in concept. (**Appendix F**, Diagrams 12 & 13)
3. The inside width between the sidewalls of the head must continually increase from the center of the bridge or ball stop to the widest point at the top of the head. At the widest point at the top of the head, the inside width between the walls of a plastic/molded head crosse will be 16cm minimum and 15cm to 16cm for a wooden crosse.
4. There may be no protrusions or outcroppings on the inside surface of the sidewalls. The sidewalls may not be lined with any additional material.

**Shaft of the Field Crosse**

1. Will be 'nominally' straight and may be constructed of wood, metal alloy or other composite material.
2. Will not have sharp or protruding parts or edges and will not be dangerous to players in any way.

**Guidance:** A *\*bent\** shaft may only be used with the heads that are specifically designed to accommodate them. *\*Bent\** shafts are head and manufacture specific.

a. Recessed metal screws with rounded heads will be used to attach the head of a plastic molded head crosse to the shaft.

The butt ends of all shafts will have an end cap, be taped or sanded smooth, if wood.

4. The overall length of the field crosse will be 0.9 m / 90cm minimum to 1.1 m / 110cm maximum. End caps are included when measuring the overall length of a crosse.

**Guidance:** Junior players who are under the age of 15 may use a crosse shorter than 0.9 m to allow it to fit comfortably along the length of the player's arm.

**Pockets of all field crosses**

1. Mesh pockets are not allowed.
2. Will be strung with 4 or 5 longitudinal leather and/or synthetic thongs and 8 to 12 knots/stitches of cross lacing.
  - a. Longitudinal leather or synthetic thongs shall be 0.3 to 1.0 cm wide. Each thong must be made of one material (leather, synthetic leather or nylon cord) and run the full length of the head. A second material may be used in close proximity to the scoop and the ball stop to allow attachment of each thong to the head. Thongs must be attached to the head through holes in the scoop and at the ball stop. Thongs must be evenly spaced along the length and across the width of the head. Loose ends of thongs may not be woven back up through the pocket of the Crosse. (Rule 26, Diagram 12).
  - b. Cross-lacing in a traditionally strung pocket is defined as 8 to 12 knots/stitches, where two strings intertwine at a common place on a thong.
  - c. Cross-lacing in a pre-manufactured detachable pocket is defined as 8 to 12 evenly spaced pocket nylon laces that are sewn or traditionally woven between evenly spaced longitudinal thongs.

- d. Pockets **must** be attached to the head of the Crosse through pocket stringing holes and must be attached in one of the following ways.
  - i. The pocket must be anchored along the bottom of the bottom rail of the sidewall of the head, or
  - ii. The pocket nylon cord must run through the stringing holes parallel to the top and bottom of the bottom rail of the sidewall, i.e. similar to sewing stitches. The distance from the bottom of the side wall to the bottom of the stringing hole must not be more than 1.0 cm.

**Guidance:** *A pocket may not be attached to the head of a Crosse along the top of the bottom rail of the sidewall. Decorative holes/spaces, between the top and bottom sidewalls that give structure to the sidewalls and the head, may not be used as stringing holes.*

3. Field crosses will have no more than two separate shooting/throw strings.
4. Shooting/throw strings will not be rolled or coiled more than twice between each thong.
5. Flat hockey or boot laces may not be used as shooting/throw strings.
6. Both shooting/throw strings must be attached to the side wall in the upper third of the head, or the top shooting/throw string must be attached to the sidewall in the upper third of the head, and the bottom shooting/throw string may be an “inverted U” in shape and must be attached to the sidewall in the upper one-half of the head, as measured from the top, outside edge of the scoop. (Appendix F, Diagram 16)

The field Crosse meets specifications if:

- a. It complies with the criteria in this rule
- b. It meets the Manufacturer’s Specifications as approved by the FIL and listed in **Appendix F**.
- c. The top of the ball remains visible above the top of both sidewalls after the ball has been dropped into the front and back of the pocket of a horizontally held stick and been rolled from the scoop to the ball stop and across the widest part of the head.
- d. The ball must move freely within all parts of the head and pocket, both laterally and along its full length. The ball must not become wedged between the walls under the guard or the bridge of a wooden crosse, or in the ball stop, or under the walls of a plastic/molded head crosse. The ball must easily fall out of the pocket of the crosse when the crosse is turned upside down.

7. At any time during play, an umpire may take time out to inspect the pocket of a field crosse, or any player on the field may request an umpire to inspect the pocket of an opponent’s crosse. If, at any time during play, the ball becomes lodged in a field player’s crosse, the crosse no longer meets specifications. The umpire will take time out to remove the illegal crosse to the scorer’s table.

To resume play, the opponent nearest to the ball will be awarded a free position for a minor foul. (Rules 20.A.13, 14 & 15).

## B. Goalkeeper’s Crosse

1. The crosse will be constructed of wood, plastic, fiberglass, nylon, leather, rubber, gut, and/or any other synthetic material.
2. The shaft of the crosse will be straight and may be constructed of wood, metal alloy or other composite material. Recessed metal screws with rounded heads must be used to attach the head to the shaft. The butt end of the shaft will have an end cap, be taped or sanded smooth, if wood.
3. The crosse must not have sharp or protruding parts or edges, must not be dangerous to players in any way.
4. The overall length of the crosse will be 0.9 m/90 cm minimum to 1.35 m/135 cm maximum.
5. The entire head of the crosse will be triangular in concept. The inside width between the sidewalls of the head must continually increase as measured from the center of the bridge or the ball stop to the widest point at the top of the head.
6. The pocket of the crosse may be strung traditionally with 6 or 7 longitudinal leather or synthetic thongs and 8 to 12 knots/stitches of cross-lacing, or the pocket may be mesh.
7. The goalkeeper’s crosse may have more than two shooting/throw strings and flat hockey/boot laces may be used as shooting/throw strings. There are no restrictions regarding the design or placement of shooting/throw strings in the pocket of the crosse.

8. The goalkeeper's crosse meets specifications when:

a. It complies with the criteria in this rule and in the Manufacturer's Specifications for goalkeeper crosses as approved by the FIL in Appendix F.

b. The ball moves freely within all parts of the head/pocket, both laterally and along its full length.

c. The crosse with the ball in it is held at eye level with the long axis of the stick vertical to the ground, and more than one half of the ball is visible above the ball stop.

**Problem(s) Posed by the Present Position:**

Unnecessary and confusing language within the rules book.

Rule 3 deals with information that umpires, players and coaches need to know about field and goalkeeper crosses.

FIL and their laboratory need member permission to change technical data regarding a crosse when this is not necessary.

**Rationale:**

Rule 3 Deal with information that players, coaches and umpires need to know about crosses. FIL and their laboratory currently need permission to change technical data regarding a crosse. Technical specifications should be entrusted to the laboratory and the FIL Rules Committee

Support FIL's work with their laboratory in keeping the game safe for all participants.

Reduce size of rules book.

Simplify process for all participants with regard to the rules book and crosses.