



Rule Change Summary – 2018 – Women’s (New Proposals and Trial Rule Finalisation)

The following rule changes are proposed from the Rules Committee for Women’s Lacrosse

Proposal #	Rule	Rule Change Summary	Proposed Change	Justification for Change
2018 W Field-1	10B	Scorers and Timers Update with 4 quarters of 15 minutes running time with breaks between quarters, 30 seconds stopped clock Q1-3 and 2 mins Q4 definition of dead ball area	<p>B. The timer will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Confirm the time of each quarter and time between each quarter for the game. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. FIL games will comprise of four 15 minute quarters. b. There will be a two minutes break between the 1st and 2nd and the 3rd and 4th quarters c. There will be a ten minutes break between the 2nd and 3rd quarters. 2. At the start of each quarter the timer must start the clock on the umpire’s whistle for the draw. (Rule 11.D.1) 3. Stop the clock on the umpires whistle for all time outs i.e. injury, warning cards, team time outs etc. 4. During the last 30 seconds of each quarters 1 – 3 and the last 2 minutes of the final quarter, stop the clock on every stoppage of play. When play is stopped prior to the last 30 seconds (quarters 1 – 3) or 2 minutes (final quarter), the timer will stop the clock when it reaches 30 seconds (quarters 1 – 3) or 2 minutes (final quarter) if play has not resumed. The clock will restart at the umpire’s whistle. 5. Notify the umpires and coaches when there are 30 seconds (quarters 1 – 3) or 2 minutes (final quarter) remaining in each quarter. 7. The timer or table official will verbally count down the last 10 seconds of each half to the nearest umpire and sound the horn when time is expired. 	<p>Clarifying the rules to meet the requirement of 4 x 15 minute quarters and times between each quarter.</p> <p>Unifying the rules between men’s and women’s field rules.</p> <p>Support FIL’s work within the Technical sector to simplify and unify rules</p>



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			<p>Guidance: The horn will indicate the end of time in each half. When a horn is not available, the field umpire’s whistle (three short blasts) shall indicate the end of time. (Rule 11.I)</p> <p>8. Notify the umpires and coaches and sound the horn when 1 minute remains during each intermission. (Rule 20.A.20)</p> <p>9. Time the recovery time allowed for an injured player. A field player is allowed up to 2 minutes, and the goalkeeper up to 5 minutes recovery time.</p> <p>10. Time the penalty suspensions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. 2 minutes before the suspended player or a substitute may enter the game following a yellow card.b. 5 minutes before a substitute may enter the game following a yellow/red card shown together.c. 10 minutes before a substitute may enter the game following a straight red card.<ul style="list-style-type: none">1) Inform the nearest umpire if a suspended player or a substitute re-enters the game before the timed penalty suspension expires. The player or her team must reserve the penalty suspension. (Rules 22.B.2 & 22.D.2.b)2) Inform the umpires if a penalty suspension will carry over into the next quarter or overtime. <p>11. Time the 90 second team time out following a goal or when a team has possession of a ‘dead ball’ anywhere on the field outside the Advantage Flag Area. (Rule 11.H)</p>	



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			<p>12. When an umpire sounds the whistle and signals time out, stop the clock for unusual circumstances or those required by Rule 11.E. Play will resume according Rule 13.C.</p> <p>Problem(s) Posed by the Present Position:</p> <p>New Rules are being adopted inconsistently as the new rule lacks specific detail regarding timings.</p> <p>As FIL strives to attract sponsorships and media, games need to be played in less than two hours and the three main versions of lacrosse (Indoor, Men’s Field and Women’s Field) need to harmonise timings for hosts and spectators to reduce confusion between these games.</p>	
2018 W Field - 2	13.B.1	<p>Start and Restart of the Game</p> <p>Clarification of the placing of the free position following early entry on a draw / possession.</p> <p>Refer current FIL Trial Rule.</p>	<p>When a player crosses either restraining line illegally prior to the umpires indicating that possession has been gained, a minor free position will be awarded at the spot of the ball.</p>	Consistent with rules regarding at the spot of the ball
2018 W Field - 3	14.C.3	<p>Scoring of a Goal</p> <p>Change when a goal is counted from completely passing the line prior to the sounding of a horn or whistle, <u>to being propelled towards the goal</u> (player taking a shot) prior to the sounding of a horn or</p>	<p>A. The team scoring the greater number of goals wins. If the scores are equal at the end of regulation time, the result is a tie. When a winner must be determined, overtime procedures must be followed. (Rule 25.E)</p> <p>B. A goal is scored when the whole ball passes completely over the goal line, between the goal posts and under the crossbar from in front, the ball having been shot or propelled from an attack player’s legal Crosse, or from a defender’s Crosse or body.</p>	<p>The proposed change will allow for better administration of games and help provide consistency, clarification and objectivity in the game.</p> <p>It is deemed easier for the official to judge if a ball has left a stick of a shooter prior to the sounding of a horn or whistle, than judging</p>



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		whistle and completely passes the line of the goal	<p>The shot or propelling of the ball must have been occurred before time expires. The shot or propelled action is deemed complete when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the ball enters the goal; b. any player gains possession of the shot or propelled ball; c. the shot or propelled ball goes out of bounds; d. the ball comes to rest on the field of play; e. the ball touches the ground below the goal line extended. <p>N.B. A shot or propelled ball that does not enter the goal, but comes to rest within the goal circle is considered to be the possession of the goalkeeper.</p> <p>A player who scores a goal must immediately drop her Crosse, or hand her Crosse to the nearest umpire to allow the umpire to confirm it is legal. A player must not adjust the thongs of her Crosse after an umpire requests to inspect her Crosse.</p> <p>Guidance: <i>If a player is discovered wearing jewelry or not wearing a mouth guard immediately after a goal is scored, the goal counts. To resume play, a minor foul free position is taken at the center line (Rule 20.A.12.c)</i></p> <p>C. A goal is NOT scored when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ball is put in the goal by a non-player, including an umpire. (Rule 16.B.1) 2. The ball comes off the person/body of an attack player. 	<p>whether the ball completely breaks the plane of the goal prior to the sounding of the horn or whistle.</p> <p>Helps to create a thrilling climax to a close game. This aligns with current practice in NCAA lacrosse.</p>



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			<p>3. The ball enters the goal after a whistle is blown or the horn has sounded.</p> <p>4. The attack shooter ...</p>	
2018 W Field - 4	20.A.13	Illegal Equipment –Free Position	<p>Illegal Equipment: play with illegal equipment. An umpire may take time out at any time during the game to re-inspect the pocket of a Crosse or other equipment. Any player on the field may request an umpire to check the pocket of an opponent’s Crosse.</p> <p>The player requesting the Crosse check must provide the umpire with the shirt number of the opponent whose Crosse will be checked. (Rule 20.A.15)</p> <p><i>Guidance: Umpires must be alert to sagging pockets and crosses that hold the ball after successive hard checks.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If the equipment is legal, the game will be restarted by awarding the ball to the player who was in possession of it when time out was called. If neither team had possession of the ball, a throw will be awarded to the two opponents who are nearest the spot of the ball. b. If the equipment is illegal, it will be placed at the scorer’s table for the remainder of the period. The opponent nearest the spot of the ball will be awarded a free position. The player may continue to play with equipment that is legal. c. If a goal is scored with an illegal Crosse, and the illegal Crosse is discovered before the game is 	The same penalty for an illegal Crosse - a goal scored with an illegal Crosse, or any player with an illegal Crosse after a goal is scored, the free position for the opponents at the center line.



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			<p>restarted with a draw, the goal will not count. The game will resume with a free position for the opponents at the center line. Player positioning for the draw will apply, players must stand.</p> <p>d. If any player other than the shooter is found to have an illegal Crosse after a goal is scored and before the game is restarted with a draw, the goal will count. The game will resume with a free position for the opponents at the center line. Player positioning for the draw will apply, players must stand.</p>	
2018 W Field - 5	24	Advantage Flag Area	<p>Advantage Flag Area</p> <p>The advantage flag area includes the 15 m fan and the playing area behind the goal that runs 12 m deep and 15 m to each side of the center of the goal line.</p>	To support consistent application within the rules.
2018 W Field - 6	25.F	Overtime Procedures	<p>F. Overtime Procedures – Playing off a tie game when required.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> When the score is tied at the end of regulation playing time, both teams will have 2 minutes rest and toss the coin for choice of ends. The lower seeded team or the team dressed in the dark shirts will call the coin toss for choice of end to defend. Each team may request one 90 seconds time out during overtime (see Rule 11.H). 8 minutes (two 4 minute halves) of stop clock “sudden victory” overtime will be played. At the end of the first 4 minute period, the teams will change ends with no delay for coaching, and the game will be restarted with a center draw. The team scoring the first goal wins. If the teams are still tied after the first 8 minutes of overtime (two 4 minute halves), play will continue with “sudden victory” 	<p>Helps to keep games within 2 hours and helps with scheduling. Is compatible with the current Trial Rule of a running clock. Helps with reducing injuries to players and officials during a tournament. Helps to create a thrilling climax to a close game. Aligns with a rules proposal for men’s lacrosse to also move to sudden victory overtime</p>



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			stop -clock overtime periods of 8 minutes in length. Teams will continue to change ends after each 4 minutes of play. Teams will have 2 minutes of rest between every 8 minutes period until a winning goal is scored.	
2018 W Field - 7	Rule 25.F	Overtime Procedures	Remove 25.F and add to Rule 11 Duration of Play	Correct placement for the rule within the rules book Consistent with Men’s Field Rules Book
2018 W Field - 8	Rule 25	Tournament Rules	Remove Rule 25 and Create Appendix B (new)	Correct placement for the rule within the rules book Supports the Competitions Committee’s work with world events Consistent with Men’s Field Rules Book
2018 W Field - 9	3	Edit manufacturers Specifications Delete Rule and add in appendix	Remove Rule 26 and create Appendix F	Rule 3 deals with information that umpires, players and coaches need to know about field and goalkeeper crosses. FIL and their laboratory currently need member permission to change technical data regarding a Crosse. When it comes to technical specifications this should be entrusted to the Laboratory and the FIL Rules Committee. Support FIL’s work with their



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				<p>laboratory on keeping the game safe for all participants.</p> <p>Reduce the size of rules section.</p> <p>Simplify process for all participants with regards the rules book and crosses</p>
<p>2018 W Field - 10</p>	<p>13.A 20.A.20 23.C.</p>	<p>Start and restart the game</p> <p>Minor foul rules & penalties</p> <p>Delay of Game & other Persistent Minor Fouls</p> <p>Problem(s) Posed by the Present Position:</p> <p>There is no definition of how “promptly” a team is expected to be ready to re-start play after a goal has been scored, leading to potential inconsistent application of the rule.</p>	<p>Start and restart the game</p> <p>13.A Each half of the game and overtime period, and after each goal, the game is started with a Draw except when a free position or throw is awarded at the center line. Players must be ready to start the game Thirty (30) seconds after a goal has been scored.</p> <p>During the draw, five players maximum from each team may be between the restraining lines, the centers and four other players from each team. All other players must be below either restraining line. Players must not step on or over the center circle line or the restraining lines until the whistle sounds to start play. Both goalkeepers must remain below/goal side of their team’s defensive restraining line for the draw. (Rule 20.A.10)</p> <p><i>The rest of the rule is unchanged.</i></p> <p>Minor foul rules & penalties</p>	<p>Defining the maximum permitted period of time between a goal being scored and teams being ready to re-start play at the center.</p> <p>Unifying the rules between men’s and women’s field rules.</p> <p>Support FIL’s work within the Technical sector to simplify and unify rule</p> <p>Speeds up the game</p>



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			<p>20.A.20. Restart Play: promptly return to the field for the center draw, following half time, team time outs and goals (Rule 13.A). <i>Cross Reference added</i></p> <p>a. The free position will be awarded at the center line. Both teams will take their legal positions for a draw before the umpire awards the ball to the team that was ready to play.</p> <p>Delay of Game and other Persistent Minor Fouls</p> <p>23.C</p> <p>1. Delay of game fouls include:</p> <p>a. Failure to ‘stand’ when the whistle is blown to stop play; creeping,</p> <p>b. Failure to move 4 m away for a free position,</p> <p>c. Failure to follow an umpire’s directions,</p> <p>d. Any other type of behavior which, in the umpire’s opinion, amounts to delay.</p> <p>2. Persistent minor fouls include:</p> <p>a. Repeated false start violations (Rule 20.A.19) <i>Cross Reference Correction only</i></p> <p>b. Repeated restraining line violations (Rule 19)</p>	



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			<p>c. Teams that repeatedly waste time returning to center draw following a goal (Rule 20.A.20) Cross Reference Correction only</p> <p>d. Any other minor fouls that in an umpire’s opinion occur repeatedly due to lack of skill or to gain an unfair advantage.</p> <p>Problem(s) Posed by the Present Position:</p> <p>There is no definition of how “promptly” a team is expected to be ready to re-start play after a goal has been scored, leading to potential inconsistent application of the rule.</p>	
Trial Rules Previously Passed at 2017 General Assembly				
2018 W Field - T1	5	Number of Players on the field	Any number of players up to ten (10) are permitted on the field at the same time. One of the 10 players on each team may be a goalkeeper.	<p>At The World Games 2017, the six teams representing FIL played with 10 on the field and had a squad of 15 players. If this number proves to be more effective in maximizing participation, FIL will look to move to 10 on the field; however will keep the roster size for world events at 18 players.</p> <p>NB: If this rule is approved, other rules including the Restraining line</p>



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				will need to be reviewed which may include removing one attack and one defence from below the Restraining Line (refer Trial Rule 18.A.1&2).
2018 W Field – T2		Duration of Game	<p>The duration of the game will be 80 minutes maximum, two 40 minute periods OR four 20 minute periods.</p> <p>OR The duration of the game will be 60 minutes maximum, two 30 minute periods OR four 15 minute periods.</p>	<p><u>Rationale:</u> Currently the length of a game can make it challenging for event/tournament organisers including potential media, because there is no finite end time for a game. The International Olympic Committee is looking for games/sports that can be played in less than 2 hours and currently FIL women’s games can exceed 2 hours.</p> <p>Any potential to accurately predict the duration of a women’s game will help to make it more attractive to both, FIL world event hosts and the IOC/IWGA, as well as becoming more compatible with men’s field rules.</p>
2018 W Field – T3	11.D	Duration of Play	The clock is stopped on the umpire’s whistle within the last 30 seconds of each period . When play is stopped prior to the last 30 seconds , the timer will stop the clock when it reaches 30 seconds if play has not resumed.	If this rule is adopted, it will remove the need for a yellow flag and a red flag during stopped clock play.



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			Remove D.1 Exception	30 seconds is preferred so that vital play including last second goals, or free positions, will stop the clock
2018 W Field – T4	13A	Start & Restart of the Game	<p>A maximum of three (3) players from each team may be between the restraining lines during the centre draw until the umpire’s whistle is blown. All other players, including each team’s goalkeeper, must be below either restraining line. Players must not enter the centre circle until the whistle is blown.</p> <p>During the draw, players positioned below/goal side of the restraining lines must not cross the restraining line until possession has been determined and indicated by the umpire’s direction signal and verbal ‘possession’.</p> <p>Players below/goal side of the restraining line may reach over the line with their crosses to play the ball as long as no part of the player’s foot is on or over the line. (Rule 19.A.4)</p>	In many instances, there is a lack of clear possession from the centre draw, often involving the ball on the ground, or fouls. This change will help to a clear possession around the centre draw and will also encourage skilled centre players to gain clear possession from the centre draw.
2018 W Field – T5	Rule 18.A.1 & 2	Restraining Line Rules & Penalties (refer Trial Rule 5, Teams 10 on the field)	<p>A team must not:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have more than six (6) attack players below/goal side of the restraining line in their offensive/attacking end of the field. <p>Have more than seven (7) defence players below/goal side of the restraining line in the defensive end of the field. One of these 7 players is usually, but not necessarily the goalkeeper.</p>	<p>To adjust in line with Trial Rule 5 and to keep transitional play exciting.</p> <p>By removing one attack and one defence player, play will open up in front of goal and reduce possible stalled plays.</p>
2018 W Field – T6	Rule 19.A.6,	Violation of Restraining Line Rules	Violation of the restraining line is a major foul.	The FIL have used the restraining line as a minor foul since it was introduced in 2002.



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	19.B.2.a & b		<p>19.B.2.a ... The nearest player on the team that was offside will stand 4m directly behind the player who is awarded the ball.</p> <p>19.B.2.b ...The closest player on the offside team will stand 4m directly behind the player who is awarded the ball.</p>	<p>The impact of a minor foul has lessened over time and teams abuse this rule.</p> <p>Having an extra player within 25m of goal is a huge advantage for both the defense and offense teams.</p>
2018 W Field – T7	Rule 20.A.8.d.2	Minor Foul Rule & Penalties	<p>If both players draw illegally, or it cannot be determined why the draw was illegal, or the umpire determines the draw was unsuccessful because it was not set correctly, the umpire will reset the draw.</p> <p>Remove Exception</p>	<p>This will only change if a running clock is introduced, refer Trial Rule 10.A.</p>
2018 W Field – T8	20.B	Minor Foul Free Positions	<p>B.1 ... The player who fouled will stand 4m away to the side from the opponent awarded the ball.</p> <p>B.2 ... The defender who fouled will stand 4m away to the side from the opponent awarded the ball.</p> <p>B.2.b ...she will be penalized as a field player and must move 4m away to the side of the player taking the free position.</p> <p>B.3 ... The attack player who fouled will stand 4m away to the side from the opponent awarded the ball.</p>	<p>There is a loss of playing time when umpires have to reposition players correctly for a minor foul. This rule has been inconsistently applied and players often cheat to gain an unfair advantage for what is a minor foul.</p> <p>Moving players to the side is considered a cleaner process and will be clearer for players, coaches, umpires and spectators.</p> <p>A definition of to the side will be added.</p>



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				This change would also complement the proposed New Rule Self-Start.
2018 W Field – T9	Rule 23	Penalties for Delay of Game & Other Persistent Minor Fouls	D.2 For the second delay of game or persistent foul penalty, the umpire shall award the appropriate major foul .	<p>The yellow card penalty is too severe for a second delay of game offense and may result in a player receiving a second yellow card and being suspended from the game.</p> <p>A Major foul penalty for repeated minor fouls that disrupt play, or for teams that are creeping, is more appropriate.</p>
2018 W Field – T10	New Rule Number to be determined	Self Start	<p>If passed Rules 16.B.4, 14.D.3 and 10.C wording would be affected.</p> <p>Following a whistle for a major or minor foul outside the 15m advantage flag area, the player who is awarded the free position may continue to play when both her feet are stationary on the ground and the ball is in her Crosse, without waiting for an additional whistle.</p> <p>The offending player must immediately move 4m behind for the major foul or 4m away to the side for the minor foul to the player taking the free position indicated by the umpire. Any other player/s within 4 m must move 4 m away from the foul indicated by the umpire. All other players must stand.</p>	<p>It is believed that playing time is used in penalty administration, especially outside the 15m advantage flag area. Umpires spend time trying to make sure players are 4m distance and direction from the spot of the penalty. Often this time works against the team who was fouled as it allows the defence time to reset themselves. If the team who was fouled is allowed to continue their movement, it decreases the advantage gained by the team who fouled and allows for a more</p>



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			<p>The player who has been awarded the free position may self-start following the umpire’s signal of the foul and the umpire awarding the free position.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The option of self-starting is administered at the spot of the foul. However, if the ball is within playing distance (a stick and a half length away approx. 2.5m) from the player who is awarded the free position she may pick up the ball and self-start. • If the ball is outside the playing distance of the foul, the player who has been awarded the free position and the ball must return to the spot of the foul for the self-start. If the spot of the foul cannot be determined, the umpire shall indicate the location for the free position. If the umpire has to reset the free position, the umpire’s whistle will restart play. • If the player who has been awarded the free position chooses to self-start, then defensive players may play her immediately following the self-start. If any player moves prior to the player who has been awarded the free position self-start, this is a false start and shall be penalized at the spot of the ball. Repeated false starts, delays in moving 4m by the defense, or self-starts by the attack beyond the playing distance of the foul will result in a delay of game penalty. <p>Self-start is not an option when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a. the game clock is stopped; 	<p>free-flowing game through the midfield.</p>



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• b. the ball is out of bounds, including the side line and end line;• c. there is a restraining line violation;• d. there is an illegal draw;• e. major or minor fouls occurring in the 15m advantage flag area including offensive and goal circle fouls.	