



April 8, 2026

## NFHS Girls Lacrosse Weekly Rule Interpretations

### Draw Administration

Administering the draw correctly ensures fairness, prevents delays, and maintains game flow.

Efficient draw administration requires:

- **Players** limit post goal huddles and celebrations and promptly move to draw positioning.
- **Coaches** substitute players efficiently. Players subbing into the game after a goal may enter the playing field prior to their teammate leaving the field.
- **Teams** quickly exchange sticks before the draw when they choose to do so to avoid delaying the draw when the officials and opponents are ready.
- **Officials** gather the ball after goals and immediately move to the center. Players should never be waiting for the official to get to the draw.
- **Officials** set the draw properly without delay. Players that are uncooperative or continue to move after the sticks are set should be penalized for a delay of game.



**SITUATION 1:** Team A has 11 players on the field to start the game. While the official has a hand on the sticks, the 12th player runs onto the field. The official will call a time-out, remove the player and assess a minor foul for an illegal substitute on the draw. **RULING:** Correct procedure. **COMMENT:** A player may not enter while the official's hand is on the stick for the draw even if the team has fewer than 12 players on the field. (5-2-2)

**SITUATION 2:** Team A has 12 players on the field and two players between the restraining line when the official is ready to start the draw. The official places a hand on the sticks of both centers. A player from Team A crosses the restraining line and takes a position just outside the center circle. **RULING:** Illegal. Early entry on the draw violation. **COMMENT:** Players may not cross the restraining line during the draw once the official's hand is on the sticks even if a team has fewer than three players between the restraining lines. (5-2-5d)

**SITUATION 3:** Team A center moves after the official says "ready" and before the official's whistle. **RULING:** Illegal. The official blows the whistle to indicate an illegal draw and awards a free position for Team B at the spot of the ball. Player positioning for the draw shall not apply. No player or crosse is permitted within 4 meters of the player taking the free position. Play will commence on the official's whistle since the game clock is stopped. (5-2 PENALTIES 1)

**SITUATION 4:** Centers from both teams are set for the draw. Team A Center continues to move their stick after the official sets and resets the draw. The official issues a delay of game on Team A. **RULING:** Correct procedure. **COMMENT:** Any type of behavior which in the official's opinion amounts to delay should be penalized. If this is the first offense a green card is issued to Team A. A second offense will be penalized with a green/yellow card against the offending player which results in a two-minute penalty and any subsequent offense will result in a yellow card for misconduct. (9-1c, 9-1c PENALTIES)