TO: Head Women’s Lacrosse Coaches, Conference Commissioners and Officials.

FROM: Pat Dillon, secretary-rules editor
       NCAA Women’s Lacrosse Rules Committee

       Kim Basner, National Coordinator of Women’s Lacrosse Officials
       NCAA Women’s Lacrosse Committee.

SUBJECT: 2012 Tournament Reminders and Call for Proposals.

Included in this memorandum are several items that officials and coaches should pay particular attention to as the season ends and post-season tournament play gets underway.

1. **Goalkeeper Uniform Requirements.** The top of the goalkeeper’s uniform must be the same color as her team. The bottom of the goalkeeper’s uniform must be in agreement with the team’s predominant color, or be black or gray. By “predominant color”, it should be the predominant color of the uniform being worn by her team that day. If the team is wearing white shirts with white kilts, the goalkeeper must wear a white shirt and may wear white, black or gray for the bottom of her uniform. If the team is wearing white shirts with a blue kilt, the goalkeeper must wear a white shirt and may wear white, blue, black or gray for the bottom of her uniform. It will be the head official’s responsibility to ensure that each team is in compliance with the rules prior to the start of tournament games. If a violation is noted, the head official will request that a correction be made prior to the start of the game. If a correction is not possible, a minor foul will be called and the penalty enforced at the start of the game. Player positioning for the draw will apply.

2. **Offsetting Versus Subsequent Foul.** Officials should be sure to review Part Four of the Umpire’s Manual about offsetting fouls, subsequent fouls, and the penalty administration in each case. The following situation arose in a recent game: Team A fouls Team B, the free position is set up and then Team B calls a possession time out. When the teams return to the field, Team A requests a stick check and the opposing team’s stick is found to be illegal. This is an example of an offsetting foul—a foul that has been occurring or is ongoing within the same time...
frame. The stick was illegal when the initial foul was called. Play is restarted with a throw in this instance.

3. **Possession Time Out.** When a possession time out is called, the players are responsible for leaving their sticks in place on the field and returning to that same place when play resumes. Teams should not be gathering on the field in areas where players have left their sticks, but should gather in or just outside their team bench areas. This will allow the officials to monitor stick placement and ensure that no sticks are moved or stepped on accidently.

4. **Electronic Communication.** Coaches are reminded that there should be no electronic communication of any kind between anyone in the team bench area and anyone in the spectator area or press box.

5. **Playing Short/Offsides Situation.** In a number of games recently teams have chosen to remove their goalkeeper from below the restraining line when they are playing short because of a card. The goalkeeper has either been moved back across the restraining line and is one of four players back, or she has been removed from the game entirely. This allows her team to have seven defenders below the restraining line while leaving the goal circle empty. This is legal as long as the carded team has the requisite four players behind the restraining line and no more than seven players below the restraining line.

6. **Jewelry.** Players may only wear securely taped medic alert jewelry and close-fitting cloth sweatbands. Any other adornment will be considered jewelry and may not be worn. Taping earrings or bracelets is not allowed. While the opposing team may approach the officials and tell them an opponent is wearing jewelry, the officials should never ask a player to lift her shirt or remove any piece of her uniform or equipment to check for jewelry. The jewelry must be visible to the official in order for a foul to be called.

7. **Call for Proposals.** The NCAA Women’s Lacrosse Rules Committee is now accepting your rules-change proposals to be considered and discussed at its annual meeting in June. The committee is interested in your ideas and concerns relative to playing rules you think need to be changed. Since this is a non-rules change year, proposals will be voted on in June, 2013, unless the proposal impacts student-athlete safety. Please use this link to record your proposal and rationale. This form must be fully completed in order for the proposal to be accepted. **All proposals must be received by May 25, 2012.** If you have any questions about the proposal process, please contact Rachel Seewald at rseewald@ncaa.org.

Please contact Pat Dillon at pdillon656@aol.com if you have any questions regarding this communication.