

2016-17 and 2017-18 NCAA Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Rules Changes

Proposal #	Rule	Page	Change/Rationale
1	1.9	9	<p>The preferred hash mark distance at the end-zone faceoff spots shall be <u>5'7"</u>.</p> <p>Rationale: By increasing the distance between the two wingers, the committee believes faceoffs will be cleaner and allow for more spacing. The National Hockey League has used this specification successfully. By making it the preferred standard, this continues to allow smaller specifications to be used (many institutions do not own their own facilities).</p>
2	2.1	9	<p>Goal pegs may be 8" to 10" in depth; Limited waiver process will be available.</p> <p>Rationale: In most cases, the goal pegs used range from 8 to 10 inches and adequately anchor the goal cage. Providing a waiver process for institutions that do not own their own rink or have unique facility challenges seems like a reasonable accommodation to the committee.</p>
3	9.4	19	<p>Game officials and players must wear helmets anytime they are on the ice with the exception of during playing of the national anthem and postgame celebrations.</p> <p>Rationale: Safety of participants, particularly during warm-up periods when a larger number of players, pucks, etc. are on the ice.</p>
4	9.5	20	<p><u>It is recommended</u> that all players wear an internal mouthguard.</p> <p>Rationale: After reviewing NCAA injury data and noting the limited enforcement of making mouthguards a required piece of equipment, the committee believes mouthguards should be recommended for all players to use.</p>
5	11	22	<p>The committee intends to follow, as quickly as is feasible, the proposed National Hockey League goalkeeper equipment specifications, which are likely to be implemented in the coming season in some manner. In meetings with the NHL, the league is working closely with the equipment manufacturers in addressing these issue. This puts the NCAA membership on notice that as specifications are adjusted, a move is likely with a gradual effective date, particularly for Division II/III institutions.</p> <p>Rationale: The new standards will attempt to have equipment that properly protects goalkeepers while eliminating unnecessarily large equipment that is solely for stopping pucks. This is an area that, if successful, will improve goal scoring without changing the nature of the game.</p>

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6	82.1	69	<p>Intermissions shall be 15 or 18 minutes in duration. If a team chooses to use an 18 minute format, the visiting team must be notified prior to the contest with as much notice as possible.</p> <p>Rationale: The 18-minute format was successfully used in some NCAA championships to allow for better ice conditions.</p>
7	91.1	81	<p>Item No. 5 shall be altered to read: “By conference policy of mutual consent of the participating teams, <u>if the game is tied after the five-minute overtime period, team may remove an additional skater (3-on-3) for a second five-minute overtime period. If no winner is determined after the second overtime period, the teams shall utilize a sudden-death shootout.</u>”</p> <p>Rationale: Several conferences have requested the ability to utilize this procedure to award points in conference standings. The committee has been encouraged by the results of the experiment utilized last season by the National Collegiate Hockey Conference and is allowing any conference to use this format after the 5-minute overtime period.</p>
8	93.4	83	<p>To adjust the video replay criteria to require a coach's challenge for offsides and too many men on the ice, except for the last two minutes of the game and any overtime periods. This stipulation will not apply to postseason competition.</p> <p>Rationale: The committee is concerned about the growing number of replay stoppages in the game and in some instances, goals are incorrectly being overturned through the use of replay. In the postseason, however, the committee believes game officials should have the ability to review these areas due to the heightened importance of the games.</p>
9	93.7	84	<p>For postseason competition only, the committee voted to allow, as part of the video review criteria, officials to review plays involving a penalty that would remove student-athletes from the contest (e.g., game misconduct or disqualification). Officials are able to enforce any penalty as a result of the review. Additionally, officials may review potentially undetected penalties that would result in the enforcement of a major penalty.</p> <p>Rationale: The importance of the ejection of a student-athlete, especially in postseason competition, warrants the use of replay to ensure proper enforcement. This system was used during the NCAA Division I Men's Championship and some conference postseason tournaments experimentally the past two seasons.</p>