



FIL™ Official Rule Interpretations  
Men's Field Lacrosse  
2010

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**Official Rule Interpretation  
Men's Field Lacrosse**

<b>Rule Interpretation #</b>	2010-01	<b>Effective Date</b>	March 15, 2010
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<b>Rule #</b>	16.6	<b>Rule</b>	Prohibitions Relating To The Crosse
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**Situation(s)**

Situation #1

Blue legally call for a stick check on a Red player's stick. Upon inspection by the Head Referee it is apparent that the stick mesh has two (or more) colors. No one color is predominant or substantial over the other color(s)

Situation #2

Blue legally call for a stick check on a Red player's stick. Upon inspection by the Head Referee it is apparent that the stick mesh has a solid (or multi-colored) element that is contrasted from the mesh color.

**Approved Interpretation**

Situation #1

According to Rule 16.6 the stick mesh must be substantially of one color. As the mesh was not substantially one color, the stick would be illegal.

Situation #2

According to Rule 16.8, No player shall use a crosse which is constructed or strung or tampered with so as to be designed to confuse an opponent into believing that the ball is in the stick when it is not, or that the ball is not in the stick when it is. No single or multi colored element should be added to a solid colored mesh which is acting as a background and therefore the element could be confused as a ball in a stick

**Ruling**

Under Rule 63.1 the referee shall inflict a technical penalty on that player and he shall demand that the player adjust the crosse to conform to specification, or exchange it for another. If a goal was scored with the stick and the stick check was called prior to a whistle to restart play, then the goal shall be disallowed.

<b>Approved:</b>	<b>Graham Lester Chair Men's Rules Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	—
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<b>Rule Interpretation #</b>	2010-02	<b>Effective Date</b>	July, 2010
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<b>Rule #</b>	34.2	<b>Rule</b>	Facing at the Centre
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**Situation(s)**

Situation #1

At the face-off, Blue has both hands on the shaft of his cross. His right hand is around the throat of the plastic head of the crosse.

Is this legal?

**Approved Interpretation**

Situation #1

Rule 34.2 ... Both hands and feet must be to the left of the throat of his crosse.

Concerning the hands during a face-off and the phrase, "to the left of the throat of his crosse"

**Ruling**

According to Rule 34.2 both hands must be to the left of the throat of the crosse. This shall be interpreted as "both hands must not touch the plastic head of the crosse and be to the left of the plastic".

<b>Approved:</b>	<b>Terence Harding Chair Men's Rules Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	—
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<b>Rule Interpretation #</b>	2010-03	<b>Effective Date</b>	July, 2010
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<b>Rule #</b>	63 75	<b>Rule</b>	Illegal Crosse Unsportsmanlike Conduct
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**Situation(s)**

Situation #1

At a stick-check, once the stick is found to be illegal should the referee complete the stick-check?

Situation #2

Example, a stick is found to have a deep pocket, the head is too narrow, and the overall length of the stick is too short.

If the stick is found to be illegal in multiple ways are multiple fouls applied?

**Approved Interpretation**

Situation #1

**Ruling**

At a stick-check, all the checks are to be carried out, even if the first check finds the stick to be illegal.

Situation #2

**Ruling**

If a stick is illegal in several ways, for example -

- the overall length is too short
- the head of the stick is too short
- the head is too narrow
- and the pocket is too deep,

then only a single 3-minute penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct is imposed. A single stick has been found to be illegal, therefore a single 3-minute penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct is imposed.

<b>Approved:</b>	<b>Terence Harding Chair Men's Rules Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	—
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**Official Rule Interpretation  
Men's Field Lacrosse**

<b>Rule Interpretation #</b>	2010-04	<b>Effective Date</b>	July, 2010
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<b>Rule #</b>	62	<b>Rule</b>	Stalling
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**Situation(s)**

Situation #1

Both teams at full strength. Blue, in possession, have been warned to “keep it in”. The quarter ends and the next quarter starts with a face-off. Blue gain possession at the face-off.

Is the stall warning still in effect?

Situation #2

Both teams at full strength. Blue in possession, have been warned to “keep it in”. Blue score. Blue gain possession at the subsequent face-off.

Is the stall warning still in effect?

**Approved Interpretation**

Situations #1 & 2

*AR 62.3 Red have been warned to “Get it in”, but they have not yet done so. Red immediately lose possession to Blue, but then regain the ball.*

*RULING: The stalling warning is no longer in effect, as a new clearing situation has been created.*

**Ruling**

In both situations #1 & 2 the stall warning is ended.

AR 62.3 states, “the stall warning is no longer in effect, as a new clearing situation has been created”. The concept of a new clearing situation shall be used to end a stall warning:

- when a goal is scored
- and when a period ends resulting in a face-off.

(Both of these situations end a stall warning in new Rule 62.7 which was passed by the FIL in Manchester)

AR 62.3 shall also be used to allow a goalkeeper to throw the ball into his own crease twice without the opposition having had possession provided the two occurrences are separated by the end of a period.

<b>Approved:</b>	<b>Terence Harding Chair Men's Rules Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	—
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**Official Rule Interpretation  
Men's Field Lacrosse**

<b>Rule Interpretation #</b>	2010-05	<b>Effective Date</b>	July, 2010
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<b>Rule #</b>	62	<b>Rule</b>	Stalling
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**Situation(s)**  
 Situation #1  
 Red are attacking and have been warned to “keep it in.”  
 A Red shot goes wide and the ball is awarded to Blue.  
 BEFORE play restarts, Blue delay the game, technical foul, no time served, possession back to Red.  
 Is the stall warning still in effect?

**Approved Interpretation**

Situation #1  
**Ruling:**  
 Blue are deemed to have had possession, and the stalling warning is no longer in effect.

<b>Approved:</b>	<b>Terence Harding Chair Men's Rules Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	—
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<b>Rule Interpretation #</b>	2010-06	<b>Effective Date</b>	July, 2010
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<b>Rule #</b>	34.1 i)	<b>Rule</b>	Facing At The Centre
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**Situation(s)**

Situation #1

Red are attacking and Blue have a player in the penalty box.  
A Red player rolls a pass to a team-mate.  
The period ends.

Does the period end with Red in possession?

Does the next period start with Red in possession or with a centre face-off?

**Approved Interpretation**

Situation #1

Rule 39.2      A team shall be considered in possession of the ball when a player on that team has possession of the ball, or when the ball is in flight from a player to a team-mate.

Rule 82.4      A pass is a movement of the ball caused by a player in control throwing or bouncing or rolling the ball to a team-mate.

**Ruling:**

Red are in team possession as the period ends. (Rules 39.2 & 82.4)

As the period ends Blue have a player in the penalty box, therefore Red is awarded possession of the ball to start the next period regardless of the type of pass.  
(Rule 34.1 i)

Red will start in the same relative position on the field as where the ball was when the period ended.

<b>Approved:</b>	<b>Terence Harding Chair Men's Rules Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	—
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<b>Official Rule Interpretation Men's Field Lacrosse</b>
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<b>Rule Interpretation #</b>	2010-7	<b>Effective Date</b>	July, 2010
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<b>Rule #</b>	49.5	<b>Rule</b>	Prohibitions Related to the Goal Crease
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**Situation(s)**  
 Situation #1

Red goalkeeper, with the ball, being pressured by Blue, tosses the ball into his crease. During the same possession, a Red defender, with the ball, being pressured by Blue tosses the ball into the Red crease. The Red goalkeeper then goes into the crease and picks up the ball.

Is this illegal procedure?

**Approved Interpretation**

Situation #1

Rule 49.5      If a goalkeeper, who is outside his crease and who has the ball in his possession, throws or directs the ball into his crease, steps into the crease and picks the ball up, then this shall be a legal play and the count shall begin.  
 If the goalkeeper, having carried out the procedure outlined above, repeats the procedure before his opponents have had possession of the ball, then a technical foul has been committed by the goalkeeper.

**Ruling**

Rule 49.5 refers specifically to "a goalkeeper".  
 If a defender, not the goalkeeper, puts the ball into his own crease, then this shall have NO bearing on anything done by the goalkeeper.  
 Of course, the defender's team could be asked to "Get it in".

<b>Approved:</b>	<b>Terence Harding Chair Men's Rules Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	—
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<b>Rule Interpretation #</b>	2010-9	<b>Effective Date</b>	July, 2010
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<b>Rule #</b>	63.3 59.2	<b>Rule</b>	Illegal Crosse Illegal Actions With the Crosse
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**Situation(s)**

Situation #1

While involved in the play, Blue player's head comes off his crosse. According to Rule 63.3 this is a technical foul.

What if the head came off the crosse because the head broke?

**Approved Interpretation**

Situation #1

Rule 59.2 ... No player may play with a broken crosse.

No player may be involved in the play with a broken crosse but he can hold a broken crosse so long as he is not in the play or have an impact on the play.

**Ruling**

If the head of a player's stick comes off, then a technical foul has been committed, as per rule 63.3, unless the player indicates that the head broke causing the head to come off and the referee can verify this to be true.

In such a case, the usual rules concerning a broken stick shall apply.

<b>Approved:</b>	<b>Terence Harding Chair Men's Rules Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	—
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