



USA LACROSSE

Instructor Notes



- Approx 60 min



Instructor Notes

RULE 6 - TECHNICAL FOULS

T.P.O.A.D.

THE
PRINCIPLE
OF
ADVANTAGE
DISADVANTAGE

In most situations, your judgement, the level of play and game situation will determine how you call technical fouls. Some fouls, you **MUST** call. These are "line calls" such as offside and crease violations.



RULE 6 – TECHNICAL FOULS - TPOAD

- Generally, about advantage with a few exceptions
- Advantage differs based on level
 - A college player can play through a "soft push" more than a 14U player
 - Sometimes, the defense can DISadvantage themselves by fouling
 - Don't bail them out with a call when the offense can benefit



Instructor Notes

RULE 6 - TECHNICAL FOULS

MOTION vs. CONTACT vs. GAME MANAGEMENT

Motion

- Offsides
- Crease Violations
- Illegal Procedures
- Illegal Screens/Warding Off

Illegal Contact

- Holding
- Interference
- Pushing

Game Management

- Conduct Fouls
- Stalling

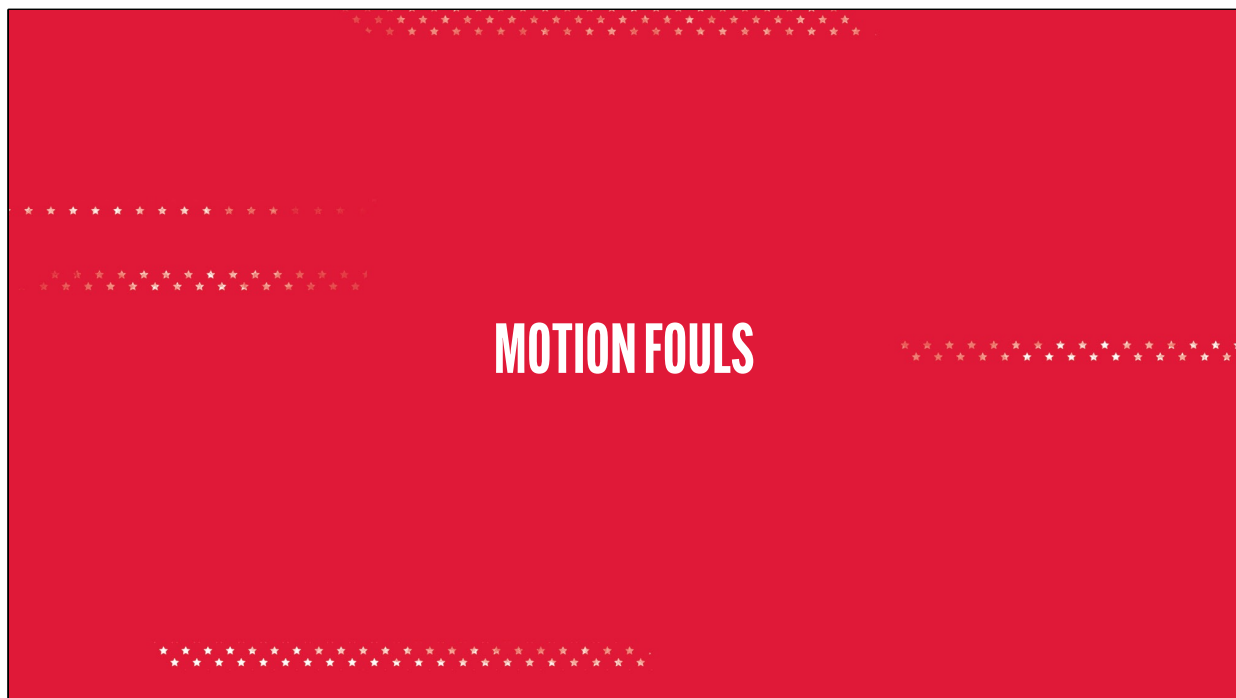


RULE 6 – TECHNICAL FOULS - TPOAD

- Motion Fouls
 - Generally, **MUST** be called regardless of perceived advantage
 - Use play-on when possible (loose-ball crease violations)
 - Moving picks/screens are a “hot button” call in today’s game
 - Warding-off is another “hot button” due to the 2-hand change
- Illegal Contact
 - Lots of judgement for these
 - Experience and skill level of players determine what should be called.
- Game Management
 - These are minor calls that are technical fouls only because of their lower level of adjudication
 - Use these to control the game speed as well as behavior



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MOTION FOULS

- Title Page



Instructor Notes

OFFSIDE

LINE CALL

Offside

- Not always an advantage
- MUST be called due to a line violation
- Must be 7 in the offensive half

How to Count Offside

- 2-man Mechanics
- Trail has responsibility
- Look for “toe-touch” in transition and then count forward to 7
- Settled – count BOTH teams after crossing midfield



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OFFSIDE

- Arguably, the one we miss the most that EVERYONE sees but us. The camera doesn't lie!
- This take practice to get it right on a consistent basis.

How to Count Offside (2-man trail, 3-man single and/or trail)

- Basic coaching rule of clearing is that the far-side player has to stay back, so offsidess happens most when that player forgets his responsibility.
- You know the near side player is over, so start counting with him as #1.
- Next, start counting the field and work from MIDFIELD down and see if you get to 7
- Tough to do quickly if it's a contested clear, so make sure you have an idea of where everyone is prior to restart
 - Count Attack and D at the side of field where the play is heading
 - Do you have 3A and 3D/G deep and can “forget” about them for a minute?
- Rides are transactional – keep a running tally of how many are in the offensive end
- Use video to practice on your own. Watch games and replay offside calls!

Word Choice Matters!

- “<Far-side> or <The other middie> was the seventh, Coach”
- “We count forward”



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OFFSIDE

VIDEO EXAMPLE - OFFENSE



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OFFSIDE – Video Example

- Whose call is this?
 - Settled offense most likely will fall on the Trail
 - The single should be watching the goal and scrimmage area at this point



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OFFSIDE

VIDEO EXAMPLE - DEFENSE



Class
Discussion
Questions

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OFFSIDE – Video Example

- Whose call is this?
 - Transition most likely will fall on the Single (3-man) or Trail (2-man)
 - The Lead has all of the scrimmage area at this point
 - The Trail should be watching for this as well and can call if missed by Single

CLASS DISCUSSION

- What is the call if #10 goes over and participates in the play after the flag?
 - He is already offside and can only be offside once
- What is the call if #44 goes over and participates in the play and #10 stays back onside?
 - Second flag for offside in #44



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CREASE VIOLATIONS

LINE CALL

Crease Violations

- Not always an advantage
- MUST be called due to a line violation
- Can use Play-On if no goal is scored



Class
Discussion
Questions

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CREASE VIOLATIONS

- Two Different Occurrences
 - Shots/Dodges by Offense
 - Should be called IMMEDIATELY
 - Solves problems and ends potentially dangerous follow-up fouls
 - This call must be BIG and animated!!
 - Loose balls
 - Give the goalie a reasonable chance to get the ball and play the advantage
 - Talk the offender through it
 - “Goalie’s got it, get out”
 - Say “play-on, play-on, play-on” so EVERYONE knows you see it

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ILLEGAL PROCEDURE

THE CATCH-ALL CALL

It's a Category, Not a Call!

- Always explain what actually happened
- Get play started and offer additional explanation if needed
- Delay of Game
 - You will be tested for tolerance level
 - Keep the game going
 - Call it early if you have issues to set tone
- Mouthpiece
 - Discuss as a crew and be consistent
 - Game Management



ILLEGAL PROCEDURE

Equipment

- Mouthpiece – Warn>Take Ball Away>Flag

Lines

- Improperly Marked Field – Midline, Endline
- Restraining – leaving early before possession on a faceoff
- Substitution – leaving early before a penalty is finished
- Boundary – playing the ball, which is inbounds, while your feet are out-of-bounds

Numbers

- Long Poles – more than 4
- Too Many Men

Delay of Game

- Subs during faceoff setup (can't call violation, must be DoG)
- Failure to give 5yds to offense on a restart before engaging
- Not immediately dropping ball on quick turnover

Word Choice Matters!

“Coach, your player took away their advantage”

“Quick AND clean restart, Coach”

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ILLEGAL SCREENS

MOVING OR NOT?

- Usually called “moving pick”
- No more than shoulder-width
- Hands/arms/stick inside body frame
- Common Issues
 - Leaning
 - Not being set BEFORE contact
 - Wide stance



Class
Discussion
Questions



ILLEGAL SCREENS

- Very common now due to the influence of the 2-man game and box
- This is an ABSOLUTE call. It cannot be “waived-off” due to lack of advantage
- Can happen ON or OFF ball
- Use “interference” if you can’t sell an off-ball pick

CLASS DISCUSSION

- Does a player have to face the person he is screening?
 - NO...he can face any direction (back-screen is legal although rare in field lacrosse)



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ILLEGAL SCREEN

VIDEO EXAMPLE



Class
Discussion
Questions

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OFFSIDE – Video Example

- What is the problem with this pick?
 - Last-second lean

CLASS DISCUSSION

- Would you have called a Delay on the restart had the white player not been able to pick up the ball immediately?



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ILLEGAL CONTACT



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HOLDING

POSSESSION vs. NO POSSESSION

- Possession
 - Simple advantage/disadvantage
 - Sometimes a "no-call" is OK to keep the FLOW going
- Loose Ball
 - Get the ball off the ground
 - Control Call
- Level of Play Matters
 - Can the player being held play through with no advantage lost
- Context Matters
 - A1's body/stick contacting B1's body/stick
 - Contact and Pressure



HOLDING

- Context Matters
 - A1's body/stick contacting B1's body/stick? – stick on stick contact is LEGAL.
 - Officials should look for:
 - A1 using his stick to "hold BACK" B1 (failed OTH check that results in dragging a player down, hooking a player impeding his progress to a loose ball, etc)
 - A1 using his arm to "chicken wing" B1's crosse
- Contact & Pressure – A1 applying equal pressure to



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B1 is LEGAL

- Officials should look for:
 - UNEQUAL PRESSURE – A1's stick dragging down B1's arm, A1's stick holding down B1's shoulder



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HOLDING

VIDEO EXAMPLE



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HOLDING

- Several of the more obvious examples that **MUST** be called
- Make sure to be clear that this is a **HOLD** and not Check to Head/Neck



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PUSHING

POSSESSION vs. NO POSSESSION

- Possession
 - Simple advantage/disadvantage
 - Sometimes a “no-call” is OK to keep the FLOW going
- Loose Ball
 - Get the ball off the ground
 - Control Call
- Level of Play Matters
 - Can the player being held play through with no advantage lost
- Context Matters
 - Front or side is LEGAL
 - Within 5y on a loose ball is LEGAL



Context Matters

Contact from the front or side is LEGAL

Officials should look for:

UNEQUAL PRESSURE from behind

Extension of arms from defender into the back of A1

B1 trails A1 and feet get tangled up causing A1 to fall – PUSH

Was it Violent Contact? – If so, then it shouldn't be a push. It should be Cross-check or Unnecessary Roughness

Word Choice Matters! – only use “push” to describe ILLEGAL contact. Use “contacted from the front/side” to describe LEGAL contact. Avoid “hit” to describe a LEGAL play.



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PUSHING

VIDEO EXAMPLE



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PUSHING

- Great example of a push near the sideline
- What call would you make?
 - Was ball loose?
 - Does this deserve a flag?
 - Did push occur before ball going out of bounds?



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INTERFERENCE

NON-GOALKEEPER

- Catch-all Rule
 - Can't Interfere w/Free Movement
 - Usually Occurs Off-Ball
 - Off-Ball = More than 5-yards
- Loose Ball = Possession
 - More than 5y away bodycheck/push
- Offense = Turnover
 - Off-Ball Screens
- Defense = Flag Down
 - Off-Ball Pushes
 - Off-Ball Stick-Checks
 - Off-Ball Pushes into Crease



INTERFERENCE

- Can't interfere more than 5y from ball
- Off-ball stick checks usually mean stick must be dislodged
- Defense illegally pushes offense into crease



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INTERFERENCE

VIDEO EXAMPLE



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INTERFERENCE

- Great example of a stick checked out of the hands of a player off-ball
- Must be called!!



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INTERFERENCE

VIDEO EXAMPLE



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INTERFERENCE

- Off-ball Push into Crease
- Go over procedure
- NOT a play-on due to crease violation
- Immediate Whistle
- Adjudicate Foul



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GAME MANAGEMENT FOULS



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CONDUCT FOUL

CONTROL CALL

- Use to get coaches and players under control
- Can be called on coach, player or any non-playing personnel
- CANNOT be called on fans!
- Generally used as a first-level before going to Unsportsmanlike Conduct
- Be consistent with both teams



CONDUCT FOUL

- Use it to keep from losing control
- Make the call and restart play
- Give an explanation when you can



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STALLING

DISCUSS IN PREGAME

- Required to Call
 - NFHS – Last 2m of Game
 - 4 goals or less
- Subjective Call
 - When team in possession is NOT attacking goal
 - Consider the following:
 - Score differential
 - Zone vs. Man-to-Man



STALLING

- When the offensive team stops attacking the goal!
- Discuss in pregame
 - Crew Chief must provide direction
 - Consider 60, 90, 120 seconds after possession
 - Be consistent with both teams



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THANK YOU TO THE MEMBERS OF THE
2025 MENS OFFICIAL'S EDUCATION
DEVELOPMENT TEAM

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