



2018 and 2019 Major Rules Changes for Men's and Women's Soccer

The following rules changes were approved by the NCAA Men's and Women's Soccer Rules Committee and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel. They will be incorporated into the rules book for the 2018 and 2019 seasons.

**Note – rule references are associated with the new rules book.*

<u>Rule</u>	<u>Rule Change and Rationale</u>
Rules 1.3.5 and 1.3.6	<p>Permit the following as approved markings on the field provided they do not obscure any of the required field markings and are not in the penalty area:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NCAA, team or conference logos, names or abbreviations. 2. Two commercial logos (one in each half of the field), not larger than 15' by 15' square. 3. Noncommercial, commemorative logos (e.g., players' names or numbers for senior day). <p>Rationale: To provide recognition opportunities for the institutions, as well as advertising and commercial funding opportunities.</p>
Rule 1.12.2	<p>Expand the coaching area to within 5 feet from the touch line.</p> <p>Rationale: To allow coaches better access to observe the game.</p>
Rule 2.1.3	<p>The pressure of the ball must be within 8.5 to 15.6 psi.</p> <p>Rationale: To align with FIFA's ball pressure requirements.</p>
Rule 2.3 Exception 2	<p>Permit a retake of a penalty kick in the event the ball becomes defective.</p> <p>Rationale: To align with FIFA Laws of the Game and correct an unfair rule which may cause a team to lose possession due to a defective ball.</p>
Rule 4.1.6	<p>Permit an institutional and conference logo/patch and the national flag of the institution on the front or sleeve of the jersey. The logo/patch/flag may not exceed 2¼ square inches.</p> <p>Rationale: To provide recognition opportunities for the institution and conference and align with other NCAA sports.</p>
Rule 4.1.9	<p>Goalkeepers must wear stockings which distinguish them only from opponent's field players.</p> <p>Rationale: Changes the rule which required goalkeepers to wear stockings which were different than the opposing goalkeeper.</p>

<p>Rules 5.5.1.10 and 5.7.1</p>	<p>Add to the referee’s pregame duties: Confirming with host game management if video review equipment is available. If available, video review will be used.</p> <p>Rationale: Requiring mutual agreement of the head coaches occasionally created issues and conflict, which resulted in video review not being used. If the equipment is available, it must be used and coaches no longer must mutually agree.</p>
<p>Rules 5.6.9.1 and 5.6.9.2</p>	<p>Permit bands to play and the use of musical instruments/artificial noisemakers at anytime during the game.</p> <p>Rationale: To promote game atmosphere.</p>
<p>Rule 5.7.3.4</p>	<p>Add “violent behavior” to situations which can be considered for video review.</p> <p>Rationale: “Violent behavior” may be against anyone not competing for the ball and may be on or off the field of play. Additionally, the ball may be in or out of play. This behavior is frequently not readily seen by the officials and video review will help identify when this type of misconduct has occurred.</p>
<p>Rule 8.2.3</p>	<p>Stipulate that an “own” goal cannot be scored directly from a kickoff.</p> <p>Rationale: To align with FIFA Laws of the Game and the recent rule change permitting the kickoff to go in any direction.</p>
<p>Rule 12.7 PENALTY</p>	<p>Require an ejected player, coach or other bench personnel to leave the venue and be out of sight and sound. Exception: The athletic trainer is permitted to be in a designated spectator area if he/she is ejected.</p> <p>Rationale: Currently, ejected personnel are permitted to be in the designated spectator area. Altering this rule reduces potential situations which can exacerbate issues involving misconduct.</p>
<p>Rule 12.8.1 PENALTY 1</p>	<p>Double the period of suspension for the head coach when a player, assistant coach or other bench personnel participates in a game while suspended.</p> <p>Example: A player receives a red card (1 game suspension) and illegally participates in the next regularly scheduled game. Penalty: The term of suspension for the player shall be doubled resulting in the player being suspended for the next two (2) games. Additionally, the head coach shall be suspended for double the enhanced suspension imposed on the player resulting in the head coach being suspended for the next four (4) games.</p>

	<p>Rationale: Extends the period of suspension for a head coach when an illegal (card-suspended) player, assistant coach or bench personnel participates in a game to serve as a deterrent for illegally using suspended personnel.</p>
<p>Rule 12.8.1 PENALTY 2</p>	<p>Extend the period of suspension to four (4) games for the head coach when he/she participates in a game while suspended.</p> <p>Example: A head coach receives a red card (1 game suspension) and illegally participates in the next regularly scheduled game. Penalty: The head coach will be suspended for the next four (4) games.</p> <p>Rationale: Extends the period of suspension for a head coach when he/she illegally participates in a game to serve as a deterrent for participating while suspended.</p>
<p>Rule 12.8.2</p>	<p>Permit a player serving a game suspension to be in the team area, provided he/she is not in uniform.</p> <p>Rationale: This rule allows the coaching staff to adequately supervise a suspended player.</p>
<p>Rule 12.8.3</p>	<p>Prohibit a coach serving a game suspension from appearing in the venue from 60 minutes before the scheduled start of the game until 30 minutes after the game ends. The coach shall remain in an area out of sight and sound.</p> <p>Rationale: To provide an additional deterrent to illegal actions and reduce the potential for further misconduct.</p>
<p>A.R. 13.1.3.d</p>	<p>Require an indirect free kick to be retaken if the referee fails to signal that the kick is indirect and the ball is kicked directly into the goal.</p> <p>Rationale: Clarification to be consistent with the FIFA Laws of the Game.</p>