

Post Date & Time	District(s)1,	Posted By	Memo Recipient(s)	Subject
3/3/2014 7:22:59 PM	All District(s)	Admin User	All Users	Faceoff clarifications & Accepted Rulings

Memo

March 3, 2013

There has been some recent discussion & confusion regarding 2 phases of the Faceoff. The **1st** is a ruling from the NCAA Committee regarding the following:

The following AR was written to clarify what a faceoff player is allowed (or not allowed) to do on a faceoff.

AR: Faceoff player A1 has met all requirements of the faceoff prior to the whistle starting play. As the whistle sounds to start play, A1's initial move is to place his right elbow (or other body part) directly on the ground behind his own crosse. While doing this, player A1 has made no contact with his crosse or the crosse of his opponent with any body parts. A1's elbow is stationary & has not moved. During the battle for the ball, player B1 forces his crosse against A1's crosse & A1's crosse comes into contact with his

elbow.

RULING: Since A1's elbow (or other body part) went straight to the ground and did not contact any part of his crosse or the crosse of his opponent, this is a **LEGAL play**, as long as A1 does not move his elbow once establishing it on the ground, to "push or kick though".

Rational: The wording on page 27 of the Rulebook is: "It is illegal to kick, step on, or intentionally place any other body part on his crosse or the crosse of his opponent. It is illegal for a faceoff player to use his crosse to hold or pin down the crosse of the opponent".

The placing of a "foot" behind the crosse has been historically allowed as a "tactic" of the faceoff. With the evolution of the faceoff & the use Motorcycle Grip, the elbow (& other body parts) are to be viewed the same as the "foot" was in previous years.

The **2ND** ruling is to clarify any confusion with regards to the faceoff mechanic issued a few weeks ago when a violation takes place. The previous Memo has added confusion in restart mechanics. **The mechanic is to be as follows:**

If a faceoff violation occurs, the official conducting the faceoff should point the direction of play & the restart should take place as quickly as possible. This allows the offended team the opportunity to gain the advantage, should they desire to do so. (Same as last year's mechanic)

If time allows – the official conducting the faceoff can signal the Bench & Table areas that a faceoff violation has taken place, by using the faceoff signal (page 73 in the Rulebook) followed by a 1 or 2 fingers in the air, to signal the number of violations on that team.

If time does NOT allow for him to signal the Bench & Table areas (as in – he must hustle to get to his lead position), he is to quickly get to his position & officiate the game. In this case, the Trail official will communicate to the Bench & Table areas as he comes up the field.

Officials are NOT to be so concerned with this mechanic as to forget what they need to do first, which is to afford the offended team the chance to gain the advantage, and get to the proper position to officiate the game. The important thing to remember is that officials must

communicate with each other, PRIOR to any faceoff, the number of violations that have taken place in that half. The 3rd violation is MOST important to communicate to the Bench & Table area – and have the Inhome serve the foul.

Tom Abbott, Officials Rep to the NCAA

Warren Kimber, NCAA National Coordinator of Officials