



2020 and 2021 NCAA Men’s and Women’s Soccer Rules Book Corrections/Changes

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Last Updated 9/9/2021

The updated version of the 2020 and 2021 NCAA Men’s and Women’s Soccer Rules Book is available for free download at www.ncaapublications.com.

Rule	Correction/Change
1.1.2	<p>1.1.2 Indoor Facility. It is permissible to conduct collegiate soccer games in an indoor facility provided the dimensions are in compliance with Rule 1.1.1. Balls striking any part of the upper edifice shall result in one of the two following actions: 1) If the ball lands “in touch” (out of bounds), the opposing team shall be awarded a throw in from the nearest point where the ball crossed the touchline. 2) If the ball makes contact with any part of the overhead edifice, the referee’s whistle shall indicate a dead ball and the suspension of play. Play shall be restarted with a drop ball to the team that last touched the ball from where the ball was last touched. If the ball was last touched by either team inside the penalty area, play shall be restarted by dropping the ball for the goalkeeper. Note: Corner kicks and goal kicks shall be awarded accordingly.</p> <p>Rationale: Rules book correction for 2020 and 2021 rules change.</p>
4.1.5, 4.1.7, 4.1.8 and 4.1.12	<p>4.1.5 <u>As authorized by the institution or conference, it is permissible to have names/words intended to celebrate or memorialize persons, events, or other causes on the back of the jersey/uniform where the player's name is traditionally located. The names/words may vary by team members.</u></p> <p>4.1.7 <u>As authorized by the institution or conference, it is permissible to have a commemorative/memorial patch (e.g., names, mascots, nicknames, logos, and marks intended to celebrate or memorialize persons, events, or other causes) on a jersey or shirt as long as the patch does not interfere with any required markings. The patch must meet size restrictions outlined in Rule 4.1.12.</u></p> <p>4.1.8 All players of a team shall wear matching uniforms. <i>Exception: While not all team members are required to wear a commemorative/memorial patch, the patch must be identical for those who choose to wear the patch.</i></p> <p>4.1.12 ...is not visible. <u>Items listed in Rules 4.1.6 and 4.1.7, including commemorative, memorial, institutional and conference logos/patches and national flags, may not exceed 4 square inches.</u></p> <p>Rationale: Rules change for all sports in an effort to allow student-athletes the opportunity to use the uniform to voice their opinions and/or express support of racial and social justice, and to allow commemorative, memorial, institutional or conference logos/patches and national flags to be no larger than 4 square inches.</p>
9.3.2 and 9.3.2.1	<p>9.3.2 ...there shall be a dropped ball at the spot where the ball was located when last <u>touched before</u> play was suspended, provided the...</p> <p>9.3.2.1 If play was suspended with the ball in the penalty area <u>or was last touched in the penalty area</u>, it shall be dropped for the goalkeeper. If play was...it shall be dropped for one player of the team that last touched the ball at the point of the last</p>

	<p>touch location where the ball was last touched, provided it was not in the penalty area. If play was...the field of play. <u>In all cases, the ball is dropped for the defending team goalkeeper in his/her penalty area if, when play was stopped: (1) the ball was in the penalty area; or (2) the last touch of the ball was in the penalty area.</u></p> <p>Rationale: Rules book correction for 2020 and 2021 rules change.</p>
<p>A.R. 12.7.4.5.b</p>	<p>A defender takes a free kick inside the penalty area and plays the ball a second time in order to prevent an opponent from gaining possession. All four criteria for denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity are met. (1) Is this denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity? (2) What is the restart?</p> <p>RULING: (1) No, this is a technical violation and there is no offense against an opponent. <u>Yes.</u> (2) An indirect free kick to the opponent from the spot where the defender touched the ball second time, <u>unless the second touch was also handling, in which case it is a penalty kick.</u></p> <p>Rationale: Corrects a situation where the goalkeeper would be ejected for this violation but other players would not be. All players are treated equally for this offense.</p>
<p>12.7.4.2 and 12.7.4.8.2</p>	<p>12.7.4.2 Spitting at, <u>coughing on</u> or biting an opponent or any other person (<u>This offense has been enhanced to a violent behavior II red card for the 2021 fall season due to COVID-19. All ejection and suspension rules related to violent behavior II will apply.</u>);</p> <p>12.7.4.8.2 Violent behavior II is...hair pulling. <u>Spitting at, coughing on or biting an opponent or any other person will also result in a violent behavior II red card (2021 rules change due to COVID-19).</u></p> <p>Rationale: Rules change for the 2021 fall season due to COVID-19.</p>
<p>A.R. 12.8.g</p>	<p>RULING: The player's team forfeits all games in which he/she competed as an illegal player. In addition to the forfeit: (1) The original...</p> <p>Rationale: Rules book correction for 2019 rules change.</p>
<p>14.2.5, 14.3.3 and 14.3.4</p>	<p>14.2.5 ...put into play properly, the kick shall be retaken <u>an indirect free kick shall be awarded.</u></p> <p>14.3.3 ...the player shall be <u>warned or cautioned</u> or ejected as appropriate...</p> <p>14.3.4 ...the kicker is <u>warned or cautioned</u> and play...</p> <p>Rationale: Rules book correction for 2020 and 2021 rules change.</p>