

Interpreter's Corner #2

May 27, 2021 Donna Arcudi –EMWLUA

Rules Interpreter

I hope your season is going well! As we head into the last couple of weeks of the season and into tournament play, I wanted to publish some questions I have received and the answers.

Please read this document in its entirety!

Question #1-A major foul committed in the pie area. On page 67 in the manual, the explanation says to clear the penalty zone, but the diagram shows clearing penalty lane only. Answer #1-This is an error in the Manual. The wording is correct, but the illustration is incorrect. Please refer to Rule 10-1 Penalties 4 a –f, pg. 58. For a major foul by a defense player which occurs within 8-meters of the goal circle and above the goal line extended: a) The player who was fouled will move to a hash mark nearest the spot of the foul on the 8-meter arc. The Player with the ball may have her cross in the arc but must have her feet behind the arc. b) The player who fouled moves to the 12-meter fan directly behind the player taking the free position. c) All players and crosses must be out of the penalty zone. d) The goalkeeper may clear back into the goal circle if she did not foul. e) Defending players are entitled to the adjacent hash marks. f) If the foul occurs within the “pie shape area” between the 8-meter arc and the goal line extended, the penalty will be administered on the hanging hash mark

Question #2-What is the penalty if a player who is fouled attempts to self-start but the player has not moved behind or is not attempting to move behind? Answer #2-Please refer to Rule 5-4-3 on pg. 39, If the player who is awarded the free position attempts to self-start from a position farther from a playing distance from the spot of the foul or before she is settled, the official shall blow the whistle, set the free position up at the spot of the foul, and play may commence with self-start. Repeated attempts to self-start from a position farther than a playing distance from the spot of the foul, when self-start is not allowed, or without settling may result in a delay-of-game card. Repeated failure to move away from the free position, move behind the ball carrier, or self-start from beyond the playing distance may result in the official stopping play, warning the offenders and restarting play on the whistle. This may result in a delay of game penalty.

Question #3-Can a player self-start on a 3 second call and the administration is outside the Critical Scoring Area (CSA)? Answer #3-No. The player MAY NOT self-start on ANY 3 second violation. This is a major foul that occurred inside the 8-meter arc. There are no self-starts on major fouls that occur inside the 8-meter arc even though the penalty administration is outside the CSA

Question #4-Can a player self-start on a false start that occurred outside the Critical Scoring Area? Answer #4-No. The official must use his/her whistle to start play. The official can use preventative umpiring by saying, "ON MY WHISTLE" in a clear, loud voice!

#5 A team starts with only 2 players between the restraining lines to begin the draw. The official's hand is on the stick when the team realizes that they have only 2 players between the restraining lines, can

a player below the restraining line enter to be the 3rd player between the restraining lines? Answer—Yes. Please refer to Rule 5-2-5-a, pg. 37, A maximum of three players from each team may be between lines during a draw until the restraining line is released. All other players must be below either restraining line. Please refer to Rule 5-2-5-d, pg. 38, Players must not step on or over the restraining lines if doing so exceeds the permitted number of players between the restraining lines on the draw. This also means that the players can exchange positions. A player may exit from between the restraining lines to below the restraining line while her teammate may enter from below the restraining line to between the restraining lines. They may also exit and enter from opposite restraining lines. Please be sure the player exits from between the restraining lines before the player enters from below the restraining line to between the restraining lines

Question #6—Can the ball be returned to the goalkeeper in the goal circle if she was in the goal circle and passed the ball to a teammate? Can the goalkeeper and her teammate play catch with the ball while the goalkeeper is in the goal circle? Answer —Yes. The ball can be passed back to the goalkeeper if she passed the ball to a teammate while she was within the goal circle. Please refer to Rule 7-1-3, pg. 46, ...Once a team gains possession of the ball in the goal circle and the ball is cleared, the team must not intentionally return the ball to its goal circle until the ball has been played by another player. (Rule 13 Definitions for “clear” and “played”) Clarification: Two actions must take place for the ball to be returned to the goal circle. The ball MUST be CLEARED and PLAYED! Please refer to pg. 72, Definition of “Clear” is any action taken by a player within the goal circle to pass or carry the ball with her crosse out of the goal circle. On Pg. 75, Definition of “Played” refers to an action whereby the ball leaves the player’s crosse and is touched by another player, or her crosse is checked crosse to crosse by an opponent, or play is stopped due to a foul by her opponent. The ball does not have to be successfully dislodged from the crosse. If the

goalkeeper steps out of the goal circle with the ball in her crosse, ONLY 1 ACTION has taken place. She has only CLEARED the ball. The SECOND ACTION MUST TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE BALL CAN BE RETURNED TO THE GOAL CIRCLE! The ball must be PLAYED. See definition above. If the goalkeeper passes the ball to a teammate while she is in the goal circle, she has completed BOTH ACTIONS! The ball has been CLEARED and PLAYED! Therefore, the ball may be returned to the goalkeeper who is within the goal circle. Yes, the goalkeeper and her teammate may pass the ball between each other while the goalkeeper is within the goal circle.

Question #7—What is the penalty administration for a Dangerous Shot at the goalkeeper? Answer —The penalty administration is a free position on the 8-meter arc by the closest defender to the shooter. The shooter goes 4-meters behind the player taking the free position. The umpire will blow the whistle to start the play.

Question #8—Can you explain the difference between a minor foul committed by the goalkeeper while she is outside the goal circle versus committing a minor foul while she is inside the goal circle? Answer — Once the goalkeeper leaves her goal circle, she is considered a field player and is penalized accordingly. Please refer to Rule 9 Penalties: #3a-c, pg. 53, For a minor foul by a defense player (including the goalkeeper who is wholly outside the goal circle) occurring in the 12-meter fan and the slow whistle rule is not in effect, the player fouled will move to the nearest spot on the 12-meter fan. a) The fouling player shall move 4 meters from the player taking the free position, relative to their position at the time of the foul. b) This is an indirect free position and no shot may be made by the player taking this free position until the ball has been played by another player. c) If the goalkeeper is partially or completely inside the goal circle, she may remain in the goal circle for the free position. No other player is required to move within 4-meters of the free position.

Question #9—With the MIAA Covid-19 Modifications, can there be more than one player on each hash mark. Answer –Yes. The defense is entitled to the adjacent hash marks. This is the rule in the NFHS rulebook and that has not changed. The MIAA Covid-19 Modifications do not allow for teams to “cluster.” Do not allow a teammate of the defensive player occupying the adjacent hashmark(s) to place her stick on that player’s back to thrust her into the 8-meter arc. Other players can be on and between all other hash marks, but they cannot be “clustering.” If the umpire notices that players are “clustering”, the umpires should request that the players “give some space.” A minimum/maximum space requirement is not specified in the MIAA Covid-19 Modifications

.If you have any questions regarding the MIAA Covid-19 Modifications, please feel free to contact me.-----

-Please be sure to refer to your rule book frequently for clarifications or questions that may occur during a game. Do not just simply talk it over with other umpire friends as they may not be giving you correct information! Find your answer in the rulebook or ask me!

Email me at: interpreter@emwlua.org. Typically, I will give you information as to where you can find the information in the rulebook or the manual.

We all make mistakes but learning from our errors is the key to good umpiring!