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# TEN TIPS

for High School  
Field Hockey  
Umpires



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# Umpire Appearance

## PERFORMANCE APPAREL ONLY

When meeting with captains, leading the teams in a pregame parade, or any other situation where umpires are performing official duties in public display, the umpires should be dressed as they will be while officiating the contest (no jackets, no sunglasses, no mittens, etc.)



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# Meeting with Captains

## POSITIONING

Umpires should demonstrate their partnership when meeting with captains and/or coaches

**Stand Next To Each Other, Shoulder To Shoulder**

Partners!

U U  
G R  
G R  
G

Partners?

U  
G R  
G R  
U



# What to Record (every umpire's job)

- Captains' names and numbers
- Goal scorers' number, type (F-PC-PS), time
- Card type, athlete's number
- Time outs

## Good Example

W	Sam 12	28	21 10	8 C 58:00	28	1
B	Cris 2	13 F 10:00	7 S 25:00	TO		2

## Not Good Enough

/  
//



# 00:00:00

It has come to our attention that in some areas umpires tell timekeepers to stop visible clocks when there are 1 or 2 minutes to go in half/game

**Visible clocks should ALWAYS RUN TO ZERO** (if the visible clock is not accurate, it should not be used)

*NOTE: If there is an automatic horn, that's okay –*

*Players play to the whistle*



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# Rule Misapplication (“Up 10”)

It has come to our attention that in some areas umpires are regularly signaling Up 10’s **after** the ball is put into play on free hits (typically for defending a self-pass illegally)

**NEVER** give an Up 10 when the ball is in play – it’s just a free hit (and if repeated, a free hit and a card)

*NOTE: Furthermore, the “Up 10” has proven to be **completely ineffectual** at changing behavior. Don’t do what doesn’t work!*



# Umpire Misconduct (“Lectures”)

It has come to our attention that in some umpires are scolding/lecturing players during play and when carding

## Umpires Card

## Coaches Coach

Umpires give the card, record the event, and **restart game as quickly as possible**. If you think it will be helpful, indicate with an arm signal and/or a word or two what’s expected, e.g. “No pushing.” (don’t TALK about it)

Coaches can, at an appropriate time, talk to the athlete until they’re blue in the face if they want to (umpires are barred from coaching)

*NOTE: Don’t be mean; don’t be sarcastic; don’t be impolite  
Keep it fair, fun, and safe*





# Who Gets the Ball

It has come to our attention that, in some areas, players who score are told to get the ball and carry it to midfield

There is absolutely **NOTHING** in the NFHS (high school) rules nor the *Rules of Hockey* that supports this practice

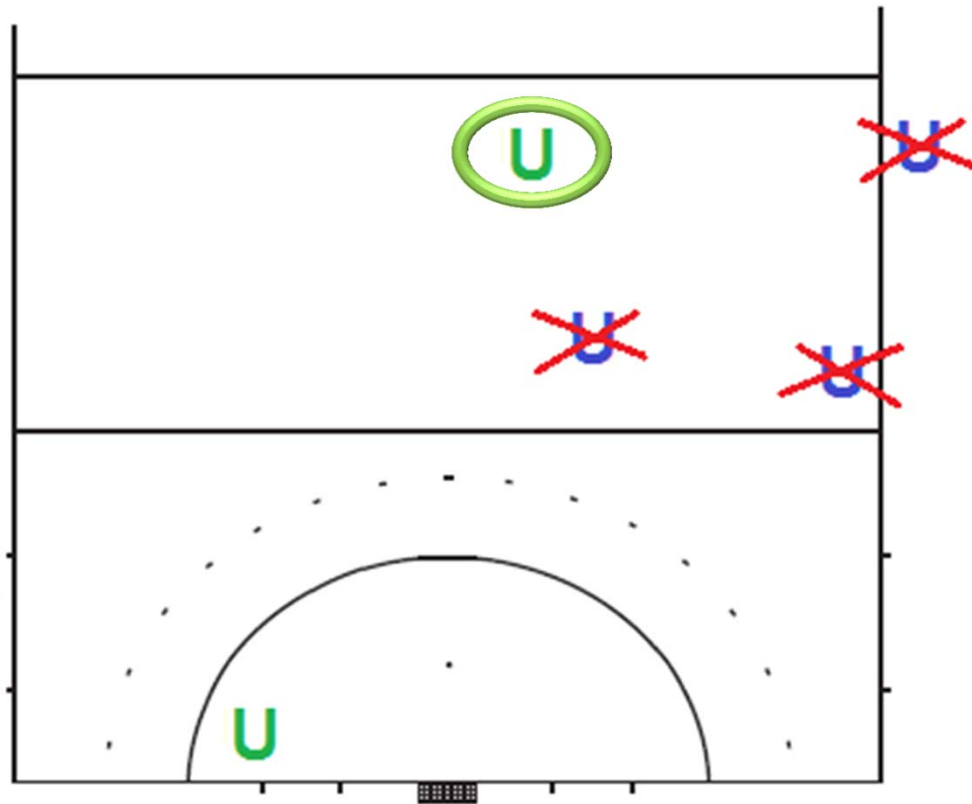
Scorers should **NOT** be told to carry the ball out to help anyone “know who scored” (not sure, ask the captain)

*NOTE: Umpires should avoid touching the ball at almost all costs (don't get a ball from out-of-bounds, don't set a ball for a penalty stroke, don't even get the ball at half-time, etc.)*



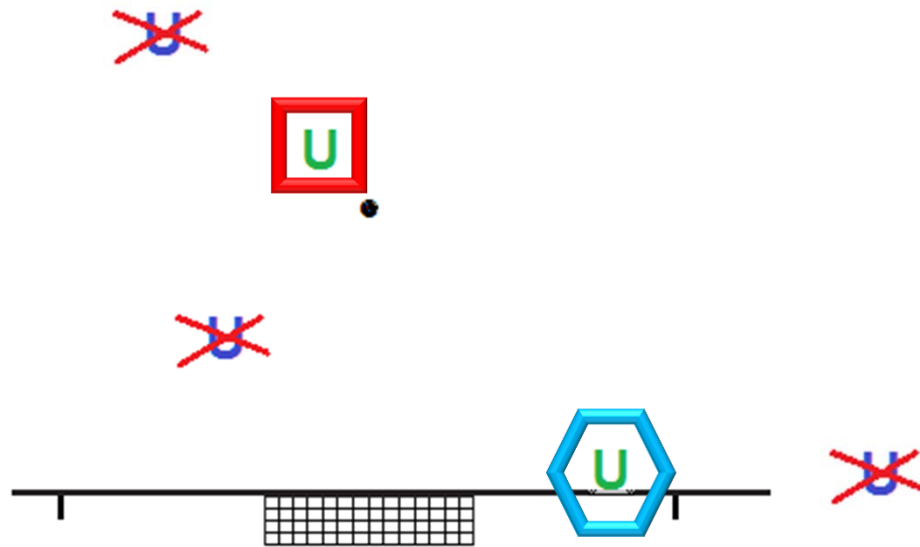
# Trail Position on Penalty Corners

1. Behind first shot
2. Far from partner's circle



# Position on Penalty Strokes

1. Lead umpire (managing umpire)  
(within playing distance + a step or two away behind)
2. Trail umpire (support umpire)  
(3 to 4 yards from post, i.e. close to goal-line)



# Trail Umpire Interference

The trail umpire does NOTHING, **absolutely NOTHING** regarding play in their partner's circle

On penalty corners the trail umpire ensures that defenders are behind the center-line at the time of insertion and watches for deflections of the shot (the trail does NOT judge if the ball leaves the circle, does not confirm goals, does not have a “secret signal” if they “have something” for their partner)

If the lead umpire has a question, he or she will ask and **THAT** is when the trail umpire reacts – not before

*You don't answer your phone before it rings, do you?*



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