PETITION

I am contacting you because I understand that each state association can modify the National Federation of State High School Associations' (NFHS) rules for field hockey if the modification makes the game safer than the national rules.

Games being played by high school athletes under the 2009 Rules of Hockey are much safer than NFHS rules due to the "self pass" option on free hits, long hits, side-ins, 16-yard hits, and the center pass.

The number of times a hit rises dangerously has been reduced to near zero with the availability of the self pass option. Safety is also increased when the attack is required to enter the circle indirectly – with a pass or by trying to dribble into the circle – whenever the attack gets a free hit, long hit or side-in when within the attacking 25-yard area of the field.

Please help make field hockey safer by adopting the following modification to the NFHS field hockey rules for the 2009-10 field hockey season:

> *"The self pass shall be an option on all free hits, long hits, side-ins, 16-yard hits, and center passes. As is the case now, on 16-yard hits and center passes, and on free hits and side-ins that are awarded outside the attacking 25-yard area, opponents of the team restarting play must be 7 yards away. However, on long hits, free hits and side-ins that are awarded to the attack within the attacking 25-yard area, opponents <u>and</u> teammates of the team restarting play must be 7 yards away. In addition, the team restarting play may not play the ball into the circle unless they have amassed a dribbling total of 5 yards from the starting point of the restart or the ball has been touched by either a teammate or an opponent prior to entering the circle."*

Thank you,

_____ _____

Position (Coach, Umpire, Player, Parent, Director of Athletics) Date

_____ _____

Name (optional) Contact number or e-mail (optional)

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State Association Fax Numbers: California (510) 521-4449; Colorado (303) 367-4101; Connecticut (203) 250-1345; Delaware (302) 739-1775; Illinois (309) 663-7479; Kentucky (859) 293-5999; Maine (207) 622-1513; Maryland (410) 333-2379; Massachusetts (508) 541-9888; Michigan (517) 332-4071; Missouri (573) 875-1450; New Hampshire (602) 225-7978; New Jersey (609) 259-3047; New York (518) 690-0775; North Carolina (919) 926-1686; Ohio (614) 267-1677; Pennsylvania (717) 697-7721; Rhode Island (401) 272-9838; Texas (512) 471-5908; Vermont (802) 229-4801; Virginia (434) 977-5943