



USATM
LACROSSE



OFFICIALS
EDUCATION

RULE 4-PART 3: THE GOAL AREA

MENS OFFICIALS DEVELOPMENT | 2026 SEASON

RULE 4 - THE GOAL AREA

WHERE THE ACTION OCCURS!

- Most important area of the field
- It is always the primary responsibility of at least one official
- How we handle calls in this area will set the “temperature” of the game



THE GOAL CREASE

KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT



Officials
Responsibilities
Settled
Situations



The Goalie



Play around the
Crease



Teams Change
Goals at the
end of each
Quarter!



AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

TRUST YOUR PARTNER TO COVER HIS AREA

Lead

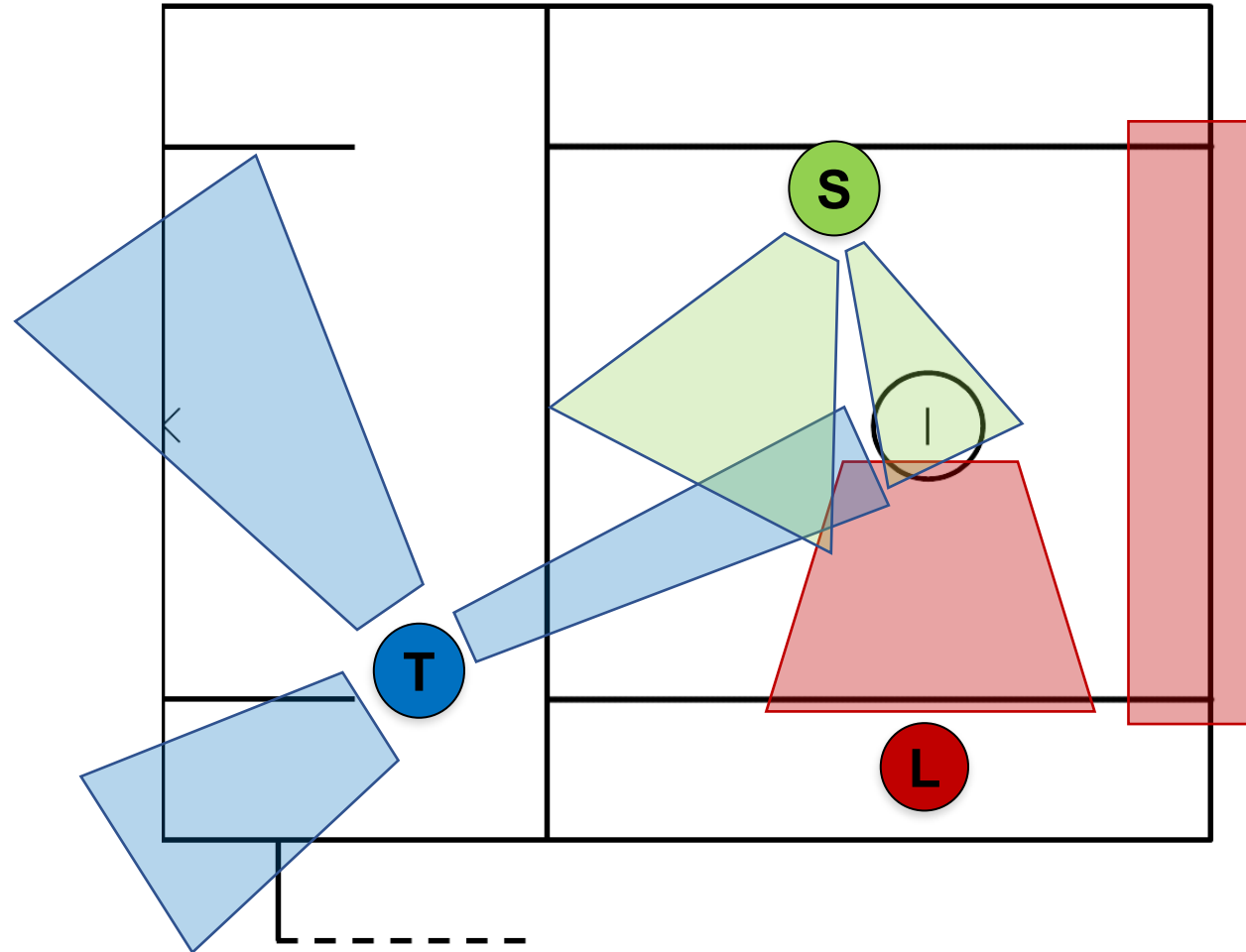
- Goal
- End Line

Single

- Shooter
- Goal

Trail

- Substitutions
- Over and Back
- Shooter



GOAL CREASE PRIVILEGES

KNOW THE RULES – MAKE THE CALLS

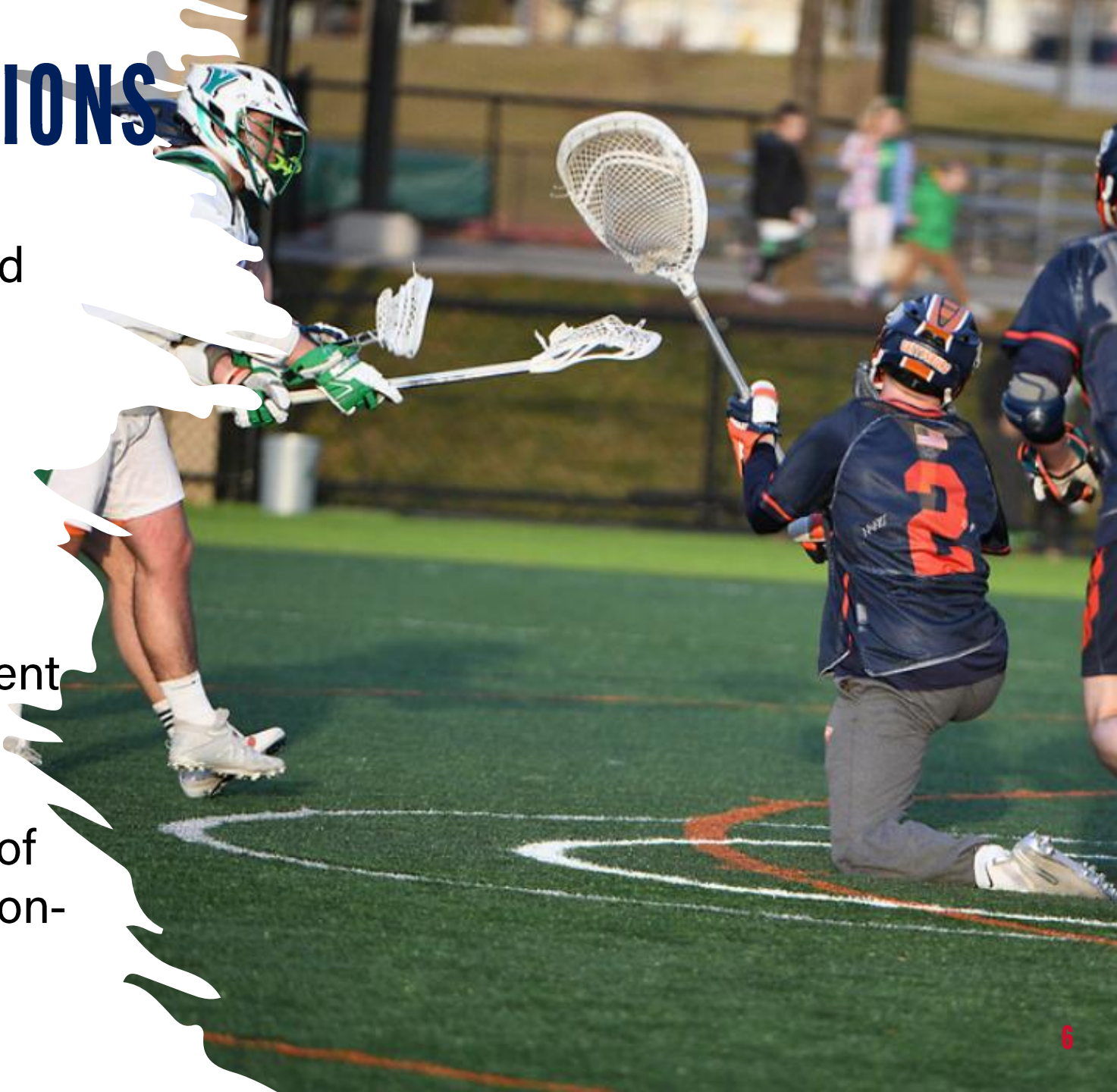
- Goalkeeper has privileges and protections within the goal-crease IF...
- He maintains continuous contact using at least one foot with the interior of the goal crease.
- Non-goalkeepers DO NOT have goal-crease privileges



GOAL CREASE PROHIBITIONS

KNOW THE RULES – MAKE THE CALLS

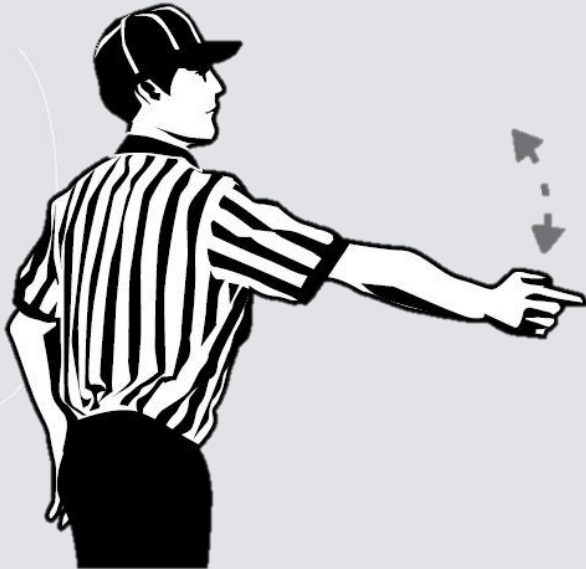
- The movement of players into and out of the goal-crease area is restricted
- Offensive players have certain restrictions on play around the crease
- Only a properly-equipped goalkeeper may play with the intent to stop a shot within the crease
- If a defensive player enters the crease with the perceived intent of stopping a shot it is a 1 minute Non-Releasable for Illegal Equipment



CREASE VIOLATIONS

BIG CALLS THAT SHOULD BE MADE BIG

- Confidence is the key to making a crease violation call
- Don't hesitate and make a strong, decisive call that everyone can hear
- Know the dive rules



GOALKEEPER INTERFERENCE

GIVE THE GOALIE A CHANCE TO DO HIS JOB

- Possession interference is rare in today's game
- Most goalie interference calls occur during loose ball situations
- Know the rules about the goalie's stick being in or out of the crease when the ball is loose.



Class
Discussion
Questions



SCORING

KNOW THE RULES

A goal is scored when:

- Loose ball passes from the front entirely over the goal line.
- A goal will be allowed if the shot was released before the end of the period.
- Goalie with possession loses possession behind goal line

Class
Discussion
Questions



GOAL NOT SCORED

END OF PERIOD

A goal is NOT scored when:

- The horn has sounded to end the period before a shot has been released
- The horn has sounded after the shot has been taken but the ball is touched by an offensive player after the horn has sounded



GOAL NOT SCORED

FOULS



Attacking team foul



Scorer's crosse is found illegal prior to the following faceoff



Contact is made with the goalie, goalpost or goal net

GOAL NOT SCORED

DIVE PLAYS

- Diving is NOT the same at all levels.
- Under NFHS rules, a player may NOT, under any circumstances land in the crease after leaving their feet prior to or during the shot.
- If a player is contacted illegally, a goal cannot count, and the penalty shall be assessed.
- If a player is contacted legally, it shall be a turnover

Class
Discussion
Questions



THANK YOU TO THE MEMBERS OF THE
2025 MENS OFFICIAL'S EDUCATION
DEVELOPMENT TEAM

TAKE CARE OF YOUR CREW



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