

2018 INTERNATIONAL RULE CHANGES

9. BALL OUT OF PLAY OF SIDELINES

c.) After the ball is hit across the side boards or side line and no foul is awarded:

i.) If the ball is hit across the side boards or side line either directly or off the hitter's horse or a teammate or teammate's horse, or after glancing off the side boards, a free hit will be awarded to the team that did not hit the ball out.

ii.) If the ball is hit across the side boards or side line after glancing off a member of the opposing team or his horse, a free hit will be awarded to the team that last hit the ball.

iii.) If the ball goes out of play between the two 60-yard lines, the free hit will be taken from where the ball went out of play.

iv.) If the ball goes out of play on or inside the 60-yard line and the free hit is awarded to the defending team, the free hit will be taken where the ball went out of play.

v.) If the ball goes out of play on or inside the 60-yard line and the free hit is awarded to the attacking team, the free hit will be taken from the 60-yard line.

iv.) In each of the situations described in (i) through (iv) above, the Umpire shall count 8 seconds and drop a ball 5 yards inside the side boards or side line, and a member of the team awarded possession shall have 5 seconds to play the ball, either by tapping or hitting away. The same is true in the situation described in (v) above, except that a member of the team awarded possession must play the ball by hitting to goal or to a teammate, but not by tapping. In all of the above situations, the same procedures concerning player positioning and delays shall apply as those that apply to a Penalty 5.a.

10. THROW-IN RESUMPTION OF PLAY WHEN THE BALL HAS NOT LEFT THE FIELD

d.) If a player is on the wrong side of the line-up when the ball is thrown in, he may not make a play until he is behind a member of his own team. Should he make or attempt a play prior to being passed by a member of his own team, a **penalty shall be awarded.**

e.) During the throw-in, the right of way will be established when the ball leaves the line-up. Until such time, players may play the ball from any direction or angle providing they do so without creating danger or a risk of danger to themselves, other players or horses.

18. DANGEROUS RIDING

Note: The "Improper Blocking" provision of Rule 18 set forth below will take effect on January 1, 2019. The provision is available through the variance process to member clubs and Host Tournament Committees who wish to use it in 2018 events provided that they use USPA Professional Umpires and provide feedback to the Rules Committee. Improper Blocking: During the execution of a knock-in, Penalty 5.a or 5.b, or a free hit resulting from a ball hit out of bounds, an offensive player may not deliberately block a defensive player from marking the offensive player's teammate who has a play on the ball (i.e., deliberately

set a pick on a defending player). When an offensive player improperly blocks a defensive player, the Umpires shall call a foul and award an appropriate penalty. Improper Blocking may or may not constitute Dangerous Riding, and result in a yellow or red flag under Section 5, depending on the degree of danger as determined in the discretion of the Umpire.

28. 30 YARD HIT (PENALTY 2) a.) A penalty hit 30 yards from the back line of the fouling team **opposite the middle of the goal** or, if preferred, the spot from where the foul occurred (the choice to rest with the team fouled). For a penalty hit opposite the middle of the goal, all of the fouling team shall be positioned behind their back line, outside of the goal, until the ball is hit, or hit at, and once the ball is put into play, **no player of the fouling team may enter the field**. All players of the team fouled not hitting must be behind the 30 yard line. The team fouled may hit or hit at the ball only once and may not make another play on or affect the course of the ball

b.) If, in the opinion of the Umpire, when taking the Penalty 2 (30 yards), the penalty hit would have resulted in a goal, but is prevented by the fouling team, **having improperly entered the field or passed the back line before the ball is hit**, the hit shall be considered a goal for the team fouled.

c.) If, in the opinion of the Umpire, when taking the Penalty 2 (30 yards), if the penalty hit were deflected by the fouling team or was hit wide by the hitter, and a defending player had **improperly entered the field** or had passed the back line before the ball is hit, the hit shall be taken again.

36. PROCEDURAL VIOLATIONS (PENALTY 8)

a.) OFF SIDES:

i.) **PENALTY HITS:** If a player of the fouling team is off the field at the time the umpire calls play, he may enter the field opposite the side his team is defending but may not make a play until he passes a player of his own team who was **properly positioned** at the time of the penalty hit. A violation of this procedure will result in an increased penalty against the fouling team.

ii.) **THROW-IN:** If a player is on the wrong side of the line-up when the ball is thrown in, he may not make a play until he is behind a member of his own team who was **properly positioned**. Should he make or attempt a play prior to being passed by a member of his own team, a **penalty shall be awarded**.

iii.) **KNOCK-IN:** If a player from the attacking team (defending the knock-In) is off the field when the ball is hit or hit at, he may enter the field behind the hitter but may not make a play until he passes a player of his own team who was **properly positioned** at the time the ball was hit or hit at. A violation of this procedure will result in a Penalty against the attacking team.

iv.) If all four players on the same team are off sides at the time play commences with a **Throw-In, Knock-In or Penalty Shot**, **no player on that team may make a play until play is interrupted and resumed**. If any such player makes a play, a **Penalty 2 shall be awarded to the other team**.