

To: Women's Lacrosse Community
From: US Lacrosse Rules Committee
Issue Date: April 15, 2010
Re: Pocket Stringing of Field Crosses



Below you will find a memo issued by the US Lacrosse Rules Committee dealing with the pocket stringing for field crosses. As outlined and illustrated in this memo, effective immediately, sticks strung in a particular way are being deemed as illegal and may not be used until the improper stringing is corrected. The NCAA Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee endorses and supports the actions taken by the US Lacrosse committee.

Coaches should be sure to check all players' sticks carefully for proper pocket stringing and take any necessary corrective actions to bring sticks into compliance.

If a stick is discovered to be strung illegally during play, it will be treated as an illegal stick and a minor foul will be called. The stick should be removed from the game and placed at the scorer's table.

MEMO

It has come to the attention of the Rules Committee that crosses manufactured without dedicated sidewall stringing holes (Fig. A), or crosses with sidewall stringing holes but strung either partially or completely through decorative sidewall openings (Fig. B) have the intentional effect of creating a deeper "reverse pocket" that may provide an advantage on the draw.



Fig. A



Fig. B

The existing specifications governing the location of "sidewall stringing holes" (see Rule 9, section 8, of the US Lacrosse rules or Appendix E in the NCAA rules) were drafted with the intent that no cross have a deeper "reverse pocket" than any other field

crosse. To further clarify this objective, after the 2010 spring season, the Rules Committee will be considering modifications to the specifications for field crosses, such as requiring dedicated sidewall stringing holes, reducing the distance of the bottom of the sidewall stringing holes from the current 1 cm to .5 cm or less, or limiting the size in diameter of any holes through which the pocket is strung. The Committee will also be adding additional language to specify legal stringing configurations for attaching the pocket to the sidewall. The Rules Committee will be working with the Federation of International Lacrosse, stick manufacturers, and the testing lab to revise the equipment specifications over the next few months. Revised specifications will be issued later this year.

However, with the goal of preventing any new or existing sticks being strung in a manner that provides an advantage on the draw, **effective immediately**, all crosses must be strung such that any strings used to attach the pocket to the sidewall may not be strung through any decorative sidewall opening if the stick has dedicated sidewall stringing holes, i.e. stringing as in Fig. B is not allowed.

In the case of sticks without dedicated stringing holes (the Brine Mantra is the only stick in this category), the pockets must be tightly attached to the stick along the bottom rail of the decorative sidewall openings (as shown in Fig. C below). The Brine Mantra, when strung wholly or partially along the top rail of the stick, as shown in Figs A and D, is deemed illegal for women's play at all levels. Until further notice the Brine Mantra, when strung completely along the bottom rail (Fig. C below) is legal and may be used for play at all levels.

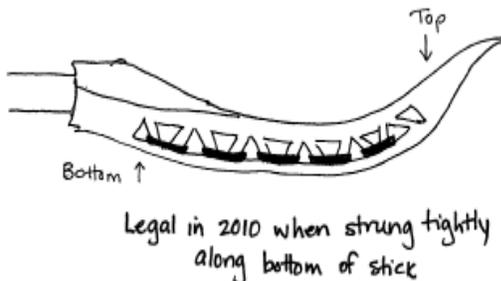


Fig. C

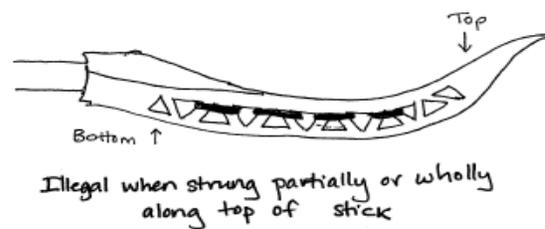


Fig. D

Anyone having questions regarding the legality of any crosse or how it is strung is urged to contact the manufacturer or supplier of the crosse.