



RETURN TO PLAY

US LACROSSE RETURN TO PLAY RECOMMENDED GAME MODIFICATIONS FOR MENS' GAME

JUNE 15, 2020

These suggestions are intended to serve as COVID-19 mitigation-based modifications for play as part of the US Lacrosse Return to Play Recommendations <https://www.uslacrosse.org/return-to-play> and aim to assist the lacrosse community in limiting closeness and contact on the field within a lacrosse game or practice, that can contribute to minimize transmission-risk. **These modifications ARE NOT rule changes or mandates from US Lacrosse.**

I. Alternate Faceoff Procedures (Option A)

1.1 - Coin Toss - Before the start of play, the official will call one player from each team and conduct a coin toss. The winner of the coin toss will start the competition with possession of the ball at the center spot and select which goal they would like to defend initially. The loser of the coin toss will have the first Alternating Possession (AP).

1.2 - Positioning of Players and (Re)Starting Play – After a goal or starting a new quarter, the team entitled to AP will begin with the ball in their offensive half of the field near the center spot with a free clear. All other players shall be at least five yards from the player with the ball.

I. Alternate Faceoff Procedures (Option B)

1.1 - Coin Toss - Before the start of play, the official will call one player from each team and conduct a coin toss. The winner of the coin toss will start the competition with possession of the ball at the center spot and select which goal they would like to defend initially. The loser of the coin toss will have the first Alternating Possession.

1.2 - Positioning of Players and Starting Play - The team that won the coin toss shall start with the ball in their offensive half of the field near the center spot with a free clear. All other players shall be at least five yards from the player with the ball.

1.3 - Post-Goal - The goalkeeper will remove the ball from the goal, and the team that was scored on will start with possession in the crease or along the goal line extended. No restart shall take place with any player within 5 yards of the ball carrier. When an official blows the whistle, play will resume.

1.4 - Starting a New Quarter/Half: The team that lost the coin toss at the start of the game will have possession to start the second half. No players shall be within 5 yards of the ball carrier.

II. Loose Ball Play

1.1 When a loose ball is on the ground and cannot be quickly picked up because a group of players are tied up in a scrum, the official can end play early at their discretion (typically four or more seconds) and award the ball via alternate possession rule.

