

Major Rules Differences 8-29-10

(Rule numbers are NCAA)

2009-13 FINA/USAWP Rules

2010-12 NCAA Rules

2010-11 NFHS Rules

Risk Management Warnings:	2009-13 FINA/USAWP Rules	2010-12 NCAA Rules	2010-11 NFHS Rules
	None	None	Players enter feet first and referees must know directions for summoning aid
1-4 Maximum Length of Course:	30 meters men, 25 meters women	30 meters men, 25 meters women	25 meters (25 yards) boys and girls
1-6 What are colors of markings of the side lines?	Boundary line to goal line white (.3m); goal line to 2m line red, 2m line to 5m line yellow, 5m line to half-distance line green	Same as FINA except that from 5m line to half-distance line side line is green or color other than yellow or red. Also recommend that have cones or other deck markers in addition to correctly marked side lines.	Same as NCAA.
1-10 What are colors of desk flags?	Red, white, blue and yellow (for brutality)	Red, white and blue desk flags	Same as NCAA
1-11 Is there a rule prohibiting megaphone or whistling by coach	No rule, but referees do not allow it.	Yes	Same as NCAA
1-12 Is there a rule concerning videotaping of games?	Teams can video games but video is not used to detect misconduct, etc.	There is no rule against videotaping. Can't use video review during game. Can use it afterwards for detecting misconduct, fight.	Can record games but not use replay during game for coaching purposes or after to make decisions relating to game.
2-1, 23-2 Are wall goals permitted and described?	Not used; therefore, no description of them or of position of goalkeeper in penalty throw	Wall goals are described and goalkeeper must have hips on goal line in penalty throw	Same as NCAA
3-1 What color balls are allowed?	No color specified. May be different colors or striped or paneled	Balls must be predominantly yellow or gold and may have colored panels.	Same as NCAA
3-5, 8-3 How many balls must be provided for a game? Who throws in balls? Can player leave field of play to get ball?	Number not specified. Goal judges toss in balls. If player leaves field of play without referee's permission to get ball, excluded for remainder of game for misconduct.	At least 5 balls required, 2 at bench, 1 with referee; if ball goes out of bounds over end line, if no goal judges, coach must have player from bench retrieve it to bench (warning, then yellow card if coach does not do this). If player leaves field of play without referee's permission to get ball, 20 sec. exclusion.	5 game-quality balls for championship games and recommended 5 for all others. Remainder same as NCAA.
4-1, 4 What must be the color of the field players' caps?	Caps must be contrasting color (one does not have to be white),(but may not be solid red), and must contrast with ball. 1 st team listed wears white or country color; 2 nd team blue or country color (blue caps if caps are not sufficiently different from other team and ball). Each team required to have 2nd set in major tournaments. Host must also at desk.	Home team caps may be any dark color (including red) that contrasts with the color of the ball (caps may not be yellow, gold, orange, powder blue, light gray, pale green, or similar light colors); visiting team caps must be entirely white. Recommendation: team should have replacement set of caps at bench.	Same as NCAA
4-1 May the caps of field players be divided into thirds or paneled?	Not addressed. Can have various design of caps and colors for home and away.	Dark caps may be divided into thirds or alternating panels of dark colors, such as medium blue/navy blue. White caps must be solid white and can have piping	Same as NCAA
4-2 Ear guards may be what color?	Ear guards shall be the same color as the team's caps except that the goalkeeper may have red ear guards.	Ear guards must match the cap color as closely as possible (dark ear guards on dark caps, white ear guards on white caps). The ear guards on caps of the home goalkeeper may be red only if the home team caps red.	Same as NCAA

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4-3 What color must the goalkeeper caps be?	The goalkeeper must wear red caps.	Caps must be divided into thirds or alternating panels, red and white for the visiting goalkeeper and red and dark for home.	Same as NCAA
4-4 How are caps numbered?	Numbered from 1 to 13, with 13 for the sub. goalkeeper (red) or a field player (other color).	Field players' caps are numbered beginning with #2; alternate goalies use 1A, 1B, etc.	Same as NCAA
4-4 What are the colors specified for the cap numbers on the field players' caps?	Not specified but must be visibly different from background. Usually are white on the dark field players' caps, dark on white field players' caps.	Numbers on dark caps must be white or yellow/gold, those on white caps must be a contrasting dark color, (single solid color with no border).	Same as NCAA except that there can a narrow border of light color around number
4-3 and 4-4 What are the colors specified for the cap numbers on the goalkeepers caps?	Not specified but in practice the color of the numbers often match color of the numbers on field players' caps.	Numbers on the cap of the home goalkeeper shall be white or yellow; numbers on the cap of the visiting goalkeeper shall be dark.	Same as NCAA
4-5 What color is specified for swim caps?	No rule listed, but must match cap, just as in NCAA.	Must match water polo cap as closely as possible, white with white caps, dark with dark caps, red or white for visiting goalkeeper, red or dark for home goalkeeper.	Same as NCAA
4-6 What is the penalty if a team's caps do not meet the requirements?	Teams may be required to wear white or blue caps if can't easily distinguish between them or if numbers not clearly visible.	Team will be required to change caps unless there is mutual agreement of both teams that the game will be played with non-conforming caps, as long as cap numbers visible. Referee must report non-compliance to conference.	Same as NCAA except report non-compliance to state association office, AD, and assigner
5-1 What team size is specified?	13 (but is 15 in certain tournaments)	No max. no. except in certain tournaments	Same as NCAA
5-1 Do goals and fouls count if there is a player with 3 personal fouls in the pool who was not visibly red-flagged?	This would be protestable as is a misapplication of a rule (Rule 10-1).(delegate would most likely go back to time of entry of that player)	Offended team has right to choose if go back to time player with 3 fouls reentered. or can choose to keep current time and fouls, etc.	Same as NCAA
5-2 Where must substitutes be located?	On the team bench. Can't move away except between periods and during a timeout.	Same, but in inclement weather may be in the water behind goal line outside reentry area.	Same as NCAA
5-2 Can you have co-head coaches?	Not addressed	Yes, but have to designate one as head coach before each game. That is only coach who can stand, coach players during game, walk to 5m line, speak to referee.	Same as NCAA
5-2 What is the penalty if an assistant coach stands while the team is on offense?	Red card as head coach is the only person who can coach and who can receive a yellow card as a warning (other than to players for new foul of simulation)	Warning, followed by a yellow card and a red card for violation of this rule. Assistant coach can stand and coach during TO, after goal, or during a lengthy stoppage of play. Can speak to players while sitting.	Same as NCAA
5-2 Can an assistant coach stand to throw in a counter ball?	Yes, but not stated. Usually goal judge throws in counter ball.	Yes, as long as then immediately sits down and does not coach when standing	Same as NCAA
5-2 and 11-2 When do teams change ends?	At half time and at the end of the first overtime period.	Same, but if requested by one coach, teams change ends after each period and OT period.	Same as NCAA
5-2, Appendix A-2 When do referees change sides?	Referees change sides before start of any period when teams do not change ends (change at end of 1 st , 3 rd , and before 1 st OT)	Same; however, if one coach has requested that teams change ends each period, referees do not change sides during game.	Same as NCAA

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5-3 What are duties of captain?	Responsible for conduct & discipline of team.	Responsible for good conduct of team	Same as NCAA
5-4 What are requirements for the women's suit?	Suits must look alike and be non-transparent. NCAA suit is same as suit required in FINA championships (broad straps, solid high back). No description or penalty for exposure in rules. No standard method of handling exposure.	One piece, non-transparent. Solid high back with broad straps for female field players. Goalkeeper can be different as long it is competitive style, straps 1". Rule for exposure. No rule requiring wearing same color suit.	Same as NCAA
5-4 Commemorative patch	Not discussed	Size not to exceed 2¼ square inches	Size not to exceed 4 square inches
5-4 What articles are listed as likely to cause injury?	Not listed, but rules prohibit any article which can cause injury. No release form.	Including but not limited to jewelry, watches, swim goggles, protective helmets, sharp fingernails or toenails. List modified to remove goggles and nose guards if prescription and designed to reduce injury. Need release form for ones listed in rules. Can not use plaster of paris cast or a splint.	Same as NCAA except added medical and religious medals to list of articles that can not be used. Must have release form from state association for ones listed in rules. Can not use plaster of paris splint.
5.4 Is the handling of zippers described?	No. Would be handled same as missing or torn cap (without taking away advantage).	Zipper should be zipped up at next appropriate stoppage. If broken, if suit available on bench, throw it in; otherwise remove player. Player can return after problem corrected.	Same as NCAA
5-5 What is the penalty if grease or oil or nails are discovered on the body after the game has started?	If found after game started, player out for rest of game with immediate substitution from reentry area. Player can not return later to game. Not considered misconduct.	If found after game started, referee removes player, substitute enters, original player can return to play later after offense corrected. If sun screen needed it should be a product that is not oily or greasy in final form.	Same as NCAA.
5-5 Is there a rule about substance on hands to improve grip on ball?	Is a violation of Rule 5-5 (substance on body) If discovered after start of game, player removed for remainder of game with immediate sub.	Yes – for first offense out until corrected, then can return. Next offender out for remainder of game	Same as NCAA
5-5 Is there a pre-game meeting?	No such meeting specified; referees not required to check nails although they often do once in a tournament.	Meeting specified with captains to discuss ground rules; inspect all players for articles possibly causing injury, sharp nails, oil or grease and proper suits & swim caps	Same as NCAA
5-6 What is the penalty if a direct substitution is not done properly? a. If player enters before player leaving exits at reentry area? b. If player exiting pool leaves under side or end line, and player in reentry area does not enter c. If player leaving pool leaves under side or end line and player entering enters at that time	a. are 8 players in field so player entering out for rest of game, player in reentry area, penalty throw; sub enters after 20 sec or goal. b. player leaving under side line or end line excluded for remainder of game for misconduct Sub in reentry area for 20 seconds, etc. c. Player leaving under side or end line out for game for misconduct. The one entering could be treated as illegal entry .	a. same as FINA b. player leaving excluded for 20 seconds, must swim to reentry area, original player or excluded player or sub enters after 20 seconds c. player leaving field of play excluded for 20 seconds; player who entered at reentry area removed with no penalty. Either could enter after 20 seconds, making 7 players in pool	Same as NCAA

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5-6 May players be substituted during a temporary stoppage of play, such as retrieving cap, resetting clock, checking on injury?	Yes, as no rule against it. Can be substituted from reentry area during temporary stoppage, but referees usually do not allow it.	No. cannot be substituted from side of pool or from reentry area during a temporary stoppage of play	Same as NCAA
6-1 May there be observers from visiting team at desk?	No	Yes – minimum of one observer and up to two additional.	Same as NCAA
6-2, 9-1-e Who times the timeouts?	Timeout person at bench presses button to award timeout, (timeout timing, warning signal and end of timeout automatic on clock). If no signal at bench, timeout secretary awards timeout when coach signals and times it	Referee awards TO. Game timer times timeouts and give warning signals, provided that equipment available. Otherwise referee.	Same as NCAA
6-2 Who times 30-second TO?	There are no 30-second timeouts	Referee in most cases unless is a timeout timer at desk	Same as NCAA
6-3, 7-10 Who comprises the tournament committee and what is its function?	No tournament committee. Delegate from TWPC makes decisions in a tournament.	Usually composed of evaluators, commissioner, head of referees, etc. Usually rules on protests during or after game; commission can make final decision if appeal.	If one exists, usually composed of coaches and/or the referees to make decisions not covered by rules. Committee can rule on protests, otherwise to state association
7-1 Do referees have to pass a rules test?	FINA referees must go to referee school every 2 years	Must pass referee test each year	No national requirement; local associations may have requirement for passing test
7-1 At what time is the referee expected to arrive before the game?	One hour before game, must be on deck 30 minutes before game	30 minutes (same time as when jurisdiction begins)	15 minutes before game (same time as when jurisdiction begins)
7-1 During what time does the referee authority extend?	Authority during whole time referees and players are within pool. Referee stays for 30 minutes after game (until end of protest time).	Same, but extends to five minutes after the conclusion of the game or until any protest procedure has been completed.	Same as NCAA
7-1 Over whom does referee have authority?	Same list as NCAA, but not specified (player, coaches, team officials, goal judges)	Player, coaches, team officials, goal judges, desk officials	Same as NCAA
7-1 Is referee uniform described	No but is same as NCAA: white shirt, trousers, shoes.(never shorts)	White shirt, trousers, and shoes specified. Tournament director or commissioner may make exceptions for weather conditions. Both referees must dress alike.	Same as NCAA. State association may make exceptions for shorts for weather conditions Both referees must dress alike.
7-1 May referees wear earplugs?	Not mentioned but can	Yes	Same as NCAA
7-3 , If red card issued during game, must the referee stop play and call the ball out to award the card?	Referee may give card on the fly, without taking ball out. But usually referee stops play without taking away advantage.	Yes, considering the advantage rule as to when stop play and call ball out.	Same as NCAA
7-4 Is written description of use of cards included in rules?	No. They are described in FINA Water Polo Guide and new rules on use of yellow and red cards are in Appendix A and B.	Yes	Same as NCAA

7-4 Is institutional representative required on bench?	One member of staff (In Appendix C, Regulations for Disciplinary Actions, Article 7.7)	Yes. If head coach received red card and no other IR on bench, have 2 minutes to get one there; qualifications stated.	Same as NCAA; must meet state association standards. Have 2 minutes to get one there before forfeit.
7-4 Who may address the referee during the game?	No one may address referee during game	After pregame meeting, captain and head coach are only ones authorized to address the referees and only between periods, during TO or with permission of referee or, in case of head coach, when filing protest. Head coach and captain may discuss rule clarifications & misapplication of rules but not judgment call.	Same as NCAA
7-4 If the coach is issued a red card, may the assistant coach then walk up to the 5m line on offense?	No, except when making substitutions or during a timeout. Assistant coach must remain seated.	Yes. – assistant coach takes over all duties and privileges of head coach so can coach, walk up to 5m line, etc.	Same as NCAA
7-4 Can a referee give a red card before or after the game?	Not specified, but not done. If a coach argues with a referee after a game, the delegate may suspend the coach for the next game.	Yes, for disruptive behavior of coach or player, from 30 minutes before the game to 5 after or until protest procedure is completed.	No specific time stated. Rules do not preclude giving one after game.
7-4, 21-10, App. B-F,G May a referee issue a red card to a player in the water?	Yes. Simultaneous with game exclusion for misconduct or flagrant misconduct. Not specifically stated, but if the player is no longer entitled to participate in the game (such as if he has three fouls and refuses to leave or committed misconduct after the third), then he may be given a red card if he refuses to leave the water.	Yes, if a player refuses to leave the water when so ordered for misconduct. Also, if player commits misconduct on way out from 3 rd foul, penalty shot awarded, but if action continues, then red card. Referee does not issue red card for typical misconduct or flagrant misconduct (and is no foul of simulating a foul)	Same as NCAA
7-4 Can a referee give more than one warning to a team?	Yes, but warnings are not described.	Yes. They are not recorded but are described.	Same as NCAA.
7-4, App.A-7 Can a referee give more than one yellow card to a team?	Can give yellow card to head coach or bench. Plus yellow card if player simulates foul	Yes; a yellow card may be given to the bench, head coach, and assistant coach but only one per person; not to players.	Same as NCAA
7-4, App. A-7 Can referee give yellow card for simulating a foul (playing incorrectly)?	Yellow card for simulating a foul is a warning to that player's entire team and is recorded: Time Team YC Sim If action continues, issue next player <u>on same team</u> red card as it is considered to be misconduct	No foul of simulating a foul.	Same as NCAA
Rule 7-4, App.B-Fig.F, G Is red card always awarded for misconduct and flagrant misconduct?	Yes. However the recipient is penalized with the misconduct or the flagrant misconduct penalty, not the red card penalty. The fouls of misconduct and brutality are recorded on scoresheet, not the red card	No. Red card not issued for misconduct or flagrant misconduct; can issue red card if player refuses to leave water or if misconduct continues after player already awarded a penalty shot for misconduct on the way out	Same as NCAA

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7-4 What is punishment for receipt of a red card?	Person must leave precincts of pool for remainder of game but may sit in spectator stands but not communicate with team. If this occurs in a tournament the player or coach is suspended for the next game. Penalty also carries over to next tournament of same type but usually not to ordinary game.	Coach, team official or player receiving a red card must leave the pool, but may sit in spectator stands but not communicate with team. The person is also suspended from next game from time starting 30 minutes before game to 5 minutes after (or 15 minutes after if protest is being filed).	Coach or team official must leave pool facility; player must go to bleachers. During subsequent game may be in stands, although association may have different rules. May not communicate with team during entire time of jurisdiction of the referee.
7-4 How is secretary notified of issuance of card?	No procedure described.	Referee has to notify referee on scoring table side who then notifies secretary.	Same as NCAA
7-5 What is punishment if a referee removes a player, substitute, spectator, coach or other official whose behavior prevents the referees from carrying out duties?	With exception of spectator, all receive a red card (not specifically stated) and removed for remainder of the game. This is not applied to players <u>in</u> the water	With exception of spectator, all receive a red card and removed for remainder of game. Host institution should take appropriate action with disruptive spectator.	Same as NCAA
7-7 Does the referee report issues with field of play, caps, red cards, abandonment and forfeit of games?	Not stated. However, delegate includes items such as these in his report to FINA.	Yes, to conference office(s) and assigning authority. Report any issues which require a game suspension plus others listed.	Yes, to state association and local when applicable. Report issues which require a game suspension plus others listed.
7-8 Is referee recommended to check score after each period?	No. Delegate may.	Yes – score and timeouts	Same as NCAA
7-8 Is referee required to make sure coach knows of misconduct, FM, fighting and red cards issued?	These fouls are recorded on scoresheet. Referee not required to make sure coach knows of these, but coach receives letter for all except misconduct.	Yes. They must be on score sheet and coach must be informed.	Same as NCAA
7-9 What type of errors must referee correct for fairness?	Not listed in one place but procedure would be same for many of these	Rule contains non-inclusive list of errors which must be corrected for fairness.	Same as NCAA
7-9 Is situation described when player removed for 3 personal fouls but discovered later has really 2?	Not described.	Yes – offended team can decide if go back and remove fouls and goals or if stay at same time.	Same as NCAA
7-10 By what time must a coach inform the referee that he/she is filing a protest? When must the protest procedure be completed by?	The protest must be filed in writing by 30 minutes after the end of the game. Cost 100 Swiss francs or equivalent. Can not protest during game. Can before game if game conditions not correct.	Coach must inform referee at time of incident or within 5 minutes after the conclusion of game; written protest filing procedure must be completed within 15 minutes after game.	Same as NCAA
7-10 What can be protested?	Game conditions, misapplication of rules (mistakes in applying rules	Misapplication of rules, equipment malfunction, errors in recording information, other desk errors; not judgment calls.	Same as NCAA
7-10 How much of game is replayed if protest upheld?	Can be entire game or just portion of game, depending on protest	From point of event protested, usually not entire game.	Same as NCAA
7-11 How long must team wait for late team before forfeit declared?	No rule – up to delegate	30 minutes unless by mutual consent they agreed to wait additional time	Same as NCAA
7-11 Can the guilty team advance by means of a forfeit?	Not specified. Up to delegate	No	Same as NCAA

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8-2 Does the goal judge signal an improper reentry?	Yes.	No (only exclusion secretary or referee signals improper entry)	Same as NCAA
9-2 When is the possession clock turned off?	When less than 30 seconds remain in a period and a new 30-second period of possession is awarded.	When less than 35 seconds remain in a period and a new 35-second period of possession is awarded	Same as FINA
10-1 Does referee record reason for game exclusion for flagrant misconduct or red card?	Referees notes on scoresheet if brutality or red card awarded or directs secretary to. May write note on scoresheet. Also delegate writes official report after game of incident.	Secretary must record E-game misconduct, E-game FM, or E=game RC. Use merely E-game for other game exclusions. Referee must check that these are recorded properly and report after game to commissioner, etc.	Same as NCAA
10-2 Does exclusion secretary use both red flag and whistle for improper entry of player or sub?	Yes – use red flag and whistle improper entry of an excluded player or substitute; use red flag if 3 rd is an exclusion foul; red flag and whistle if 3 rd if penalty foul	No. Just whistle for improper entry. Use red flag if 3 rd is an exclusion foul red flag and whistle if the 3 rd personal foul is a penalty foul, before the penalty shot is taken; .	Same as NCAA
11-1 How long are periods of play?	8 minutes	Same as FINA	7 minutes
11-2 Can the 5-minute interval at half-time be shortened or lengthened?	No	Shortened with agreement of both coaches; only lengthened for TV or promotion with agreement of both coaches.	Can be shortened like NCAA but not lengthened.
11-3 Can game end in a tie?	Yes	No	Same as NCAA
11-3 How is winner of the game decided if score still tied after the two three-minute overtime periods?	A penalty shoot out is conducted with five shooters	Successive 3 minute sudden-death overtime periods until goal is scored, with 2 minutes after each overtime period for change of ends	Same as NCAA except called sudden-victory overtime. Can have different rules for tournament.
11-3 Is there a coin toss for ends before sudden death overtime or for deciding ends for the penalty shots?	No sudden death overtime. There is a coin toss to determine which team shoots penalty shots first but not for ends. If conditions disadvantage a team at one end for penalty shoot out, all shots taken from same end	Yes, is a coin toss for ends before 1st sudden death overtime period – then teams alternate ends after each sudden death OT period	Same as NCAA
11-3 After the completion of two overtime periods and the score is still tied, what length of time must elapse before the penalty throws or the start of sudden-death OT?	If the tie is between the two teams who just completed the game, the penalty shootout starts immediately. Otherwise it is 30 minutes after the completion of the final game of that round or at the first practical opportunity.	Two minutes before start of sudden-death overtime and two minutes between each additional sudden-death overtime period until one team scores.	Same as NCAA
11.5, 5-1 If game or part of game must be replayed, which events must be removed from score sheet and which must remain?	Removed from record of the part of game to be replayed: goals, fouls, and timeouts; not removed: brutality, misconduct, and red card exclusions. YC for simulation also retained. Players or coaches who received these may not participate in any part of game to be replayed. (except YC, which is not charged to a player)	Removed (lined through on score sheet) from part to be replayed: goals, fouls, MAM, and timeouts; not removed: fighting, flagrant misconduct, misconduct, red cards, yellow cards. Player who received these (except YC) may not participate in any part of game to be replayed.	Same as NCAA.
11-5 Are there tournament variations?	Usually not except in World League	No	Yes, if on entry blank

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12-1 How many regular timeouts are permitted per game?	2 timeouts per game (carry over to overtime any not used) plus one for overtime	3 during regular play, 1 in overtime (TO not used in 1 st 4 periods not carried over to OT); 30 second TO carries over to overtime	Same as NCAA; special tournament rules for 30 second TO
12-1 Is display of TO remaining required?	Not in rule but is required	Is required (exclusion board is not required)	No
12-1 What is duration of a timeout?	One minute. Can not be shortened.	Two minutes (but can be shortened)	Same as NCAA
12-1 Who can call a timeout?	Coach	Coach or any player in the water	Same as NCAA
12-2 When is warning signal given for end of timeout?	At :45	At 1:45 or if team shortens timeout before that time, at the time of the notification.	Same as NCAA
12-2 Can the timeout be shorter than the designated time	No	Yes. Team that called the TO may inform referee when team is ready to resume play, then start 15 seconds later.	Same as NCAA
12-1, 12-5 When can the team on defense call a regular timeout?	Team on defense can't call a timeout. If the coach on defense does call a timeout, the referee (or desk timer) blows whistle for the timeout and awards a penalty throw to the opposing team and this is charged as a timeout to the defensive team (if team requests a timeout, it is charged a timeout).	Defensive team can call TO after offensive team has called TO but before the ball has been put into play; either team may call a TO after goal. Only coach on offense can call TO before penalty shot. If coach on defense calls for TO at time not allowed, referee awards a penalty throw. Doesn't charge timeout.	Same as NCAA
12-3 How is ball put in play after timeouts?	Desk blows whistle when 15 seconds remain of the timeout and when time is up. Referee blows whistle and starts play immediately when TO period is ended at or behind the half distance line; players can take any position in field of play subject to rules on penalty throws and corner throws. Referee not obligated to wait before putting ball into play but usually does.	Referee or timekeeper blows whistle when 15 seconds remain and for end of TO. If the team calling TO does not come out from TO after the referee blows whistle, referee shall throw ball to offensive player closest to and behind the half-distance line and start play	Same as NCAA
12-4 Is TO charged if team calls an improper timeout?	Yes	No, just the penalty for that TO	Same as NCAA
12-6 What occurs if a timeout is called by a team when neither team has possession of the ball?	Penalty throw awarded; and counts as a timeout for team which called the timeout.	Referee awards the ball to the team which did not call timeout. Does not count as a timeout.	Same as NCAA
12-7 Are there 30-second timeouts?	No	Yes – one per game, only called by offense. Can be shortened like regular TO	Only as option in tournaments and usually replaces a regular TO. Can be shortened.
12-8 Are TV timeouts described?	No	Yes	No
13-1 When is the coin toss performed before the game?	No coin toss. First team listed wears white caps (or color of country); starts to left of official table.	Although ends may be preassigned, one coach may request coin toss before game, the winning captain to have the choice of ends.	Same as NCAA.
13-1 and 5-2 Can team change ends after each period?	No, just at half and between 2 OT periods	Yes, if requested by one coach before game	Same as NCAA

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13-2 Where do players line up for start of period?	On goal line. If center sprint, player swimming for ball can not have feet on goal. No player may pull lane line forward.	Heads on goal line; if both can push off from end, start by grasping end no higher than water level; if both can't grasp ends, both start with heads on goal lines or 2-meter line.	Same as NCAA but add that no player may pull end line forward or, if center sprint is used, the sprinter must not push off goal.
13-3, App.A-3 How do referees start each period?	Referees position themselves on respective 5m line; whistle for start given by referee on table side; ref on table side then walks back to center and throws in ball or use center sprint device.	2 referees both at center, starting referee waits with 1 arm raised; 2nd referee raises 1 arm when both teams lined up correctly, starting ref then blows whistle & lowers arm. Start same as FINA if use center sprint	Same as NCAA
14-3 A goal may not be scored on a direct shot on goal outside 5 meters directly from the restart following TO, goal, injury, cap replacement, referee calling for ball, ball leaving side of field of play. Others?	May not always pull ball out for issuance of yellow or red card but usually do when at a time when there is no advantage. Are the same as NCAA. "Sweeping" usually allowed but not described.	Additional examples added when goal may not be scored: during the issuance of a yellow or red card, and when correcting a clock error. Definition of sweeping added.	Same as NCAA except that can score a goal on a direct shot after ball removed outside 5-meter line to correct clock error
16-2 Is there an explanation of when goalie takes goal throw and when field player does?	No, but would be the same as NCAA	If ball goes out of field of play behind goal line, goalie takes goal throw; if ball behind goal line but in field of play closest player puts ball inplay	Same as NCAA
20-4 How is pushing off at start defined?	Ordinary foul to hold or push off from goal posts, to hold or push off from the sides or ends of pool during actual play or at start of a period.	Not worded as clearly but intent same.	Same as FINA
20-5 How is using the bottom called?	Ordinary foul to use the bottom.	In all-deep pool is ordinary foul. In shallow bottom pool is exclusion foul to use bottom.	Same as NCAA
20-6 Is there a definition of tackling and challenged?	No, but is called the same way.	Definitions of tackling and challenged added to the rules.	Same as NCAA
20-15 Is it an ordinary foul to last touch the ball that goes out of side of field of play?	Yes, except if defensive field player blocks shot over side of field of play, in which case a free throw is given to the defensive team.	Same rule and give many examples	Same as NCAA
20-16 What is the length of possession time?	30 seconds	35 seconds	Same as FINA
20-16 If team relinquishes possession of ball, can team now in possession immediately call a TO?	Yes, same as NCAA	Yes, immediately after referee blows whistle and turns ball over	Same as NCAA
20-19 Is it an ordinary foul to fail to be ready at the beginning of the period?	Not stated but would be the treated as ordinary foul and ball is awarded to the opposing team at the half-distance line.	Yes. Ball is awarded to the opposing team at the half-distance line.	Same as NCAA
21-2 What is punishment if excluded player walks on deck?	The excluded player is removed for remainder of game for misconduct.	Player excluded for remainder of game but is not considered to be misconduct.	Same as NCAA.
21-2 What happens if no player or an incorrect player leaves the field of play after an exclusion foul is called?	If two players leave, the wrong one can enter at any time from reentry area. If correct one did not leave, referee could call penalty foul for interference with play or could just straighten out the error and reset clocks.	Referee should stop play quickly, allow incorrect player(s) to reenter, exclude correct, instruct both timers to reset both clocks and commence play. Incorrect player does not have to reenter from reentry area.	Same as NCAA

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21.3 A player is excluded and ball turns over before player reaches reentry area. What is penalty if player turns and swims down the field of play?	Referee blows whistle, ball turns over and same player excluded again for 20 seconds Apply Rule 21-13	Same as FINA	Same as NCAA
21-4, 19-1- Should goalkeeper or field player retrieve ball that went over the goal line or side line?	No– player should not leave the field of play without permission. If does, out for remainder of game for misconduct.	No. Player should retrieve ball only if immediately outside the field of play (boundary line or side line) when does not have to leave field of play. Otherwise need permission or excluded for 20 seconds.	Same as NCAA
21-10 Is obscene language defined as misconduct?	Rule uses term unacceptable language, but really the same.	Yes	Same as NCAA
21-10 How is interval time defined?	Time during timeout, between periods, after a goal, during injury timeout, during time between calling penalty foul and taking throw.	Same except during injury timeout (there is no injury timeout).	Same as NCAA
21-10 Must a player who committed misconduct leave team bench for the bleachers?	Yes, player must leave, just as for brutality and receipt of a red card.	No. The player must remain on the bench with the cap on for misconduct.	Same as NCAA
21-10 What is penalty if a player commits misconduct after a third personal foul that was an exclusion foul?	Not specified. Referee could ignore it, warn player, award a penalty throw (for interference) or a red card.	Live time penalty throw with sub in reentry area. If continues to be disrespectful to referee, then award red card.	Same as NCAA
21-10 What is penalty for a player committing misconduct after a third personal foul that was penalty foul?	Team takes the penalty throw earned. Subsequent penalty for player committing foul not specified (could be a red card).	Substitute enters immediately. First penalty throw dead-time, second is a live-time. If continues to be disrespectful to referee, then RC	Same as NCAA
21-10 What is the penalty if player on way out of pool for misconduct commits another act of misconduct?	Player is already removed for remainder of game for first misconduct, so could give red card for next misconduct or referee could award penalty shot for interference or could ignore it.	Exclusion for remainder of game for misconduct; penalty throw for additional misconduct with sub in reentry area. If still disrespectful also a red card.	Same as NCAA
21-10 What is the punishment for a minor act of misconduct?	There is no foul described as a minor act of misconduct. Referee must decide if foul is misconduct or not.	20-second period of exclusion awarded for minor acts of misconduct as defined that are not sufficient to warrant exclusion for the remainder of the game. In interval time, handled same way as misconduct, after a warning after 1 st minor act of misconduct during interval time.	Same as NCAA
21-11 What is definition of flagrant misconduct (brutality)?	To commit an act of brutality or play in a violent manner (including kicking, striking or attempting to kick, strike with malicious intent) opponent or official during actual play or stoppage of play.	To commit FM (including fighting, biting, striking or attempting to kick or strike with malicious intent) during play or interval time against opponent or official; fighting or instigates a fight by unsportsmanlike act towards opponent that causes opponent to retaliate by fighting; or leaves bench during a fight	Same as NCAA

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2010-11 NFHS Rules	2010-12 NCAA Rules	2009-13 FINA/USAWP Rules	(Rule numbers are NCAA)
Same as NCAA	Is now included in the definition of FM	Not specifically mentioned. Ref has to see it.	21-11 Is biting an act of brutality?
Same as NCAA except that if coach or other team personnel commits flagrant misconduct must leave premises of the pool.	Player excluded for remainder of game. Must leave pool for bleachers. A dead-time penalty throw awarded, opposing team gets ball back at half if made or missed, start as after a timeout, and substitute still out for 20 seconds or until earliest occurrence of Rule 21-3 after the penalty shot.	Exclusion for remainder of game, must leave competition area, live-time penalty shot awarded, substitute can not enter for 4 minutes actual play, even if penalty shot or other goal scored, (doesn't have to stay in corner entire time). If penalty shot scores, start play as after a goal. If penalty shot missed, play continues as after a missed penalty shot. Exclusion secretary waves player in with yellow flag and flag corresponding to cap color after 4 minutes.	21-11 What is the penalty for flagrant misconduct (brutality) committed during play during the game in which it occurred?
Same as NCAA	Same as above – no difference if committed during play or interval time	Player excluded for remainder of game, must leave competition area; no penalty throw awarded; substitute for player after 4 minutes of actual play elapsed. Play restarted by referee blowing whistle to start play in normal manner as after a timeout or goal.	21-11 What is punishment for flagrant misconduct (brutality) that occurs during TO, after a goal or other stoppage, in the game in which it occurred?
Same as NCAA	Same as above – no difference if during play or interval time	Offending player excluded for remainder of game with substitution after 4 minutes. No penalty throw awarded. Play restarted by referee blowing whistle to start play with a sprint.	21-11 What is penalty if flagrant misconduct (brutality) committed between periods?
Same as NCAA	Players suspended from next game but no penalty shots	Same as NCAA but there may be additional penalties (see below)	21-11 What is procedure if flagrant misconduct (brutality) occurs after game completed?
Removal for remainder of that game and next game; state association may add additional penalties for 1 st incident or more. Must sit in bleachers, if player there.	Suspension for one game for 1 st incident of flagrant misconduct [†] , 2 games for 2 nd , 3 games for third with conference review. Must sit in bleachers if player there.	Excluded from next game in same tournament sponsored by same organizing committee but not necessarily in a friendly game between 2 countries. FINA regulations, App C: suspension minimum of one game up to one year. If 3 or more from same team participate, team suspended for 1 match at minimum up to 1 year.	21-11 What are the penalties during subsequent games after the one in which brutality (flagrant misconduct) occurred?
Same as NCAA	Both players excluded for remainder of game First dead-time penalty throw taken by team last in possession of the ball. After the 2 nd penalty throw has been taken, the game restarted with free throw on or behind half by team which last had possession of the ball as after a timeout. Both substitutes out until earliest occurrence of Rule 21-3	Both players excluded for remainder of game with substitution after 4 minutes. The first dead-time penalty throw shall be taken by the team possession of the ball. After the second penalty throw has been taken, the game shall be restarted with a free throw on or behind half by the team which last had possession of the ball, free throw on or behind half-distance line	21-11 What is the penalty if simultaneous flagrant misconduct (brutality) occurs during play?

<p>21-11 What is penalty if simultaneous flagrant misconduct (brutality) is committed in the interval between periods?</p>	<p>Both players out with substitution after 4 minutes. No penalty throws awarded. Start with sprint. Remainder like NCAA.</p>	<p>Both players out with substitution after 20 seconds. Start with sprint. Once one team gains possession, game stopped. Take dead-time penalty shots. First shot taken by team which gained possession. Play stopped and 2nd penalty shot taken by other team. Then team which won the sprint is given a free throw at half, start as after timeout, with the substitutes out for 20 seconds or until earliest occurrence of Rule 21-3.</p>	<p>Same as NCAA</p>
<p>21-11 What is penalty if simultaneous flagrant misconduct (brutality) is committed during a timeout or after a goal?</p>	<p>Both players out with substitution after 4 minutes. No penalty throws awarded. The referee starts play by player from team which would have possession after the timeout or after the goal putting the ball in play in usual way.</p>	<p>Same as above. Both players out with substitution after 20 seconds. Dead-time penalty shots, with first taken by the team in possession of ball. If the penalty shots are made or missed, both subs still out until earliest occurrence of event in 21-3; referee awards free throw on half to team that would normally have possession after the timeout or goal as after a timeout.</p>	<p>Same as NCAA</p>
<p>21-11 What is penalty if flagrant misconduct (brutality) is committed by a substitute not in water?</p>	<p>Not described in current FINA rule book.</p>	<p>Substitute out for game, one player removed from water by captain, dead-time penalty throw, team retains possession of ball if made or missed, player removed or that player's sub out for 20 sec or earliest occurrence of event in 21-3</p>	<p>Same as NCAA</p>
<p>21-11 Is there a fighting penalty?</p>	<p>No – fighting is an example of brutality so probably would use procedure for double brutalities with a penalty throw awarded one to each team. There may be additional tournament penalties as well. No procedures described for multiple penalty shots if fight but usually only 1 per team.</p>	<p>Yes - alternate penalty shots taken for each participant involved, starting with team last in possession of the ball. Substitutes out for 20 seconds, suspension from the remainder of the game and the next 2 games. If any penalty throw scored, substitutes still out until change of possession; play restarts by team which last had possession as after a timeout. .</p>	<p>Not described</p>
<p>21-11 What is penalty if player leaves the bench during a fight?</p>	<p>Up to referee to report fighting and leaving bench during fight to the committee for punishment. Fighting not specifically mentioned in this rule.</p>	<p>Assessed fighting foul – same penalty if participated in fight or not.</p>	<p>Removal for remainder of that game and next game; state association may add additional penalties for 1st incident or more. Must sit in bleachers, if player there.</p>
<p>21-11 What is subsequent punishment for fighting?</p>	<p>Varies – would be suspension for one game or for up to year</p>	<p>Automatic suspension from next 2 games, for 1st offense, for 3 games for 2nd offense with conference review, suspension for remainder of season for 3rd occurrence with conference review</p>	<p>Removal for remainder of that game and next game; state association may add additional penalties for 1st incident or more. Must sit in bleachers, if player there.</p>

<p>22-3 What is penalty for kicking or striking or for brutality committed within the 5-meter area?</p>	<p><u>Kicking or striking within 5-meter area:</u> penalty throw. <u>Brutality or fighting:</u> Player excluded for remainder of game, substitute can not enter for 4 minutes, and live-time penalty shot awarded (if during play). Even if this scored, substitute still out for 4 minutes actual time.</p>	<p><u>Kicking or striking within 5-meter area:</u> penalty throw <u>Flagrant misconduct or fighting:</u> Player excluded for remainder of game, dead-time penalty shot awarded, offended team gets ball back at half as after a TO, whether made or missed; substitute still out for 20 seconds or earliest occurrence of event in Rule 21-3. Subsequent penalties differ.</p>	<p>Same as NCAA except subsequent penalties differ.</p>
<p>22-6 What is penalty for 8th player in the water?</p>	<p>Same as NCAA</p>	<p>Remove 8th player for remainder of game; player in reentry area; penalty throw</p>	
<p>22-7 Is penalty shot awarded if the coach of the team not in possession of the ball requests a timeout or if a team official takes any action to prevent a probable goal?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Yes if team on defense calls for timeout more than permitted or when timeout not permitted. Start at half as after TO, new shot clock. No if TO is called if neither team has possession of the ball (just turned over). Yes if team official takes any action to prevent a probable goal.</p>	<p>Same as NCAA</p>
<p>22-8 When may coach select option of electing to maintain possession of ball instead of penalty throw?</p>	<p>Last minute of game or last minute of second overtime period</p>	<p>Same as FINA but also at any time during sudden-death overtime periods</p>	<p>Same as NCAA</p>
<p>23-3 Does the second referee line up the goalkeeper during a penalty shot? Where does the front-court referee, who is lining up the shooter, stand?</p>	<p>No duties are specified for the second referee (who watches backcourt). Although rule does not specify, the front court referee stays on the 5m line</p>	<p>No duties are specified for 2nd referee (who watches backcourt). The referee controlling the throw stays either at 5m line or at the position that referee determines most advantageous to watch shooter, defense and the goalkeeper.</p>	<p>Same as NCAA</p>
<p>23-4 When can the shooter move inside the 5-meter line? When can the defenders move inside the 5-meter line?</p>	<p>Same as NCAA, although not stated.</p>	<p>Shooter not until ball leaves the shooter's hand. After whistle, defenders can move forward at an angle towards the goal as long as player does not interfere with penalty shot. After ball is released, defensive players may move towards shooter.</p>	<p>Same as NCAA</p>
<p>25-2 Is bleeding player able to return later to game?</p>	<p>Yes, removed immediately and after bleeding stopped, player can return</p>	<p>Same as FINA</p>	<p>Same but must have cleaned suit/body or suit changed</p>
<p>25-3 Is there an injury timeout and can the injured player return later to the game?</p>	<p>If player injured other than for bleeding, play suspended for not more than 3 minutes; if player is removed, the player can not return later to game if a substitute has entered.</p>	<p>No injury timeout. Injured player is replaced immediately, just as with bleeding, and can return later to game as a substitute</p>	<p>Same as NCAA</p>
<p>25-4 Is there a rule which deals with concussions?</p>	<p>No such rule</p>	<p>If a player leaves the game for being rendered unconscious or for displaying concussion-like symptoms, the player must be cleared by team physician or designee. If diagnosed with concussion, shall not return to activity or play the same day.</p>	<p>Any player who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion etc.) shall be immediately removed from the game; shall not return to play until cleared by health-care prof</p>

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	2009-13 FINA/USAWP Rules	2010-12 NCAA Rules	2010-11 NFHS Rules
App. A-2 Are there directions for use of 2 referees (where they stand and direction they move)?	Not in appendix but are the same.	If no significant obstruction, referee to right. If there is obstruction, referee to left.	Same as NCAA
App. A-3 Is location specified where referees position themselves for the start of the game and period?	Yes. Referees position themselves on the respective 5-meter line.	Both are opposite each other on the half-distance line, unless center-sprint is used (then on 5m line)	Same as NCAA
FINA App.A,#7 What card does referee issue if player persists in playing in an unsporting manner or engages in simulation?	Yellow card issued to the team of offending player. If action continues, referee issues the player (same or different) on that team a red card as this is misconduct. Referee whistles first misconduct, then issues red card. Record the misconduct, not the red card.	No such rule in NCAA.	Same as NCAA
App. A #13 How are simultaneous penalty throws conducted?	First throw taken by the team last in possession of the ball. After the second penalty throw taken, game restarted with the team which had possession of the ball receiving a free throw on or behind the half distance line.	Same as FINA except that the game is restarted with the team which had possession of the ball receiving a free throw on or behind the half-distance line as after a timeout.	Same as NCAA
App. A, #19 Which referee has responsibility for determining if a 5-meter direct shot is taken properly?	Not stated but same as NCAA	The referee who calls the foul should determine if that foul is outside 5-meter line. The back court referee has the primary responsibility to determine if shot is taken correctly (without delay and behind 5m).	Same as NCAA
App. B, Fig. D-I Does referee call out cap numbers?	No – just uses hand signals visible to both player and table.	Uses hand signals visible to player and table. After ball put into play, the referee calls out color and number to the table.	Same as NCAA
App. B, Fig. F What signal is used for exclusion from remainder of game for misconduct?	Referee signals exclusion of player for misconduct, rotating hands round one another, and issues a red card. The foul of misconduct is recorded; the red card is not recorded.	Rotates hands round one another to indicate player is removed for remainder of game for any reason with substitution. Must inform secretary of the reason as some behavior is regarded as misconduct, others not.	Same as NCAA
App. B, Fig. G What is the signal for exclusion for brutality (FM)?	Crosses arms down across abdomen and gives a red card	Same signal but no red card.	Same as NCAA
App. B-Fig. AA How do you signal cap numbers above ten?	Clenched fist with one hand; with other hand showing additional fingers to make up the sum of the player's number (up through 15)	Same but signals added for cap numbers 16-19	Same as NCAA
App.B, Fig BB How do you signal cap numbers above 20?	No such signal as no cap numbers this high.	Use 2 clenched fists for cap number 20, then fingers on one hand for 21-25; then also use other hand if 26-29	Same as NCAA