

LAYLL Box Lacrosse Officials Reference

Fall 2026 condensed working guide based on the supplied LAYLL Fall 2026 Box Rules workbook

This is a condensed officials reference. The controlling source is the LAYLL 2026 rulebook or Fall 2026 Box Rules workbook, as applicable. If a conflict arises, the LAYLL source controls.

All divisions

Topic	Working rule
Rule hierarchy	NFHS and the applicable USA Lacrosse Youth Rulebook apply unless the LAYLL Box Rules state otherwise. Coaches and officials may modify rules by agreement when reasonable for safety and development.
Rink and equipment	Rink doors remain closed except during active substitutions. Jewelry is not allowed; taped jewelry is not permitted. Mouthguards are required. Boys use approved helmets and short sticks only; girls use required eye protection or certified helmet.
Team size	Up to five field players and one goalkeeper. Teams may play short or without a goalie to get a game played. Goalkeepers may be shared across teams.
Game clock	Three periods. K-2: 9-minute periods. Other divisions: 14-minute periods. Running time, 3-minute breaks, sides change each period, and all games end at 55 minutes after scheduled start.
Score	No score is kept in K-2. In older divisions, score may be kept locally but is not reported or tracked by the League.
Substitution	On the fly. An entering player may leave the box when the exiting player is within two yards of the door; the exiting player may not play the ball after the entering player steps out.
Out of bounds	Last team to touch loses possession. On a shot that ricochets off pipe or goalie, offense retains possession. Ball stuck in the fence is out of bounds.

Girls Box rules

Area	Girls officials reference
Defense	K-2: no checking; apply 3-second good defense loosely. 3/4: no checking; enforce it strictly. 5/6: modified checking. 7/8: transitional checking. No boarding: do not squeeze or run a player into the boards.
Restarts	Each period begins with a draw, unless a player-up period ends with possession; then restart in the same relative location. No self-starts. Use a whistle. Keep players three meters from the ball; on major fouls put offender three meters behind.
Goalkeeper and crease	Goalies are encouraged, not required. A shot blocker may be used. Crease is the black line around the goal. A goalkeeper may not cross the center line; award possession to the opponent at center in its defensive end.
Pass rule	K-2: one attempted pass anywhere. 3/4: one completed or two attempted passes, with at least one pass wholly in the offensive end. 5/6 and 7/8: coaches decide a passing rule when no goalie plays.
Cards and time	NFHS/USA Lacrosse card definitions apply. Cardable penalties are non-releasable one minute, with up to two minutes for egregious or repeated fouls. Penalty time begins on the restart whistle.
Shot clock	K-2: none. 3/4: one minute. 5/6 and 7/8: 45 seconds. Ten seconds to advance over midfield only when no shot clock is used. Reset after qualifying goalie/pipe shot, major foul or card, or possession change.

Boys Box rules

Area	Boys officials reference
Board play	No boarding. A defender may squeeze a ball carrier along the boards when both move parallel to the boards, but may not hold the player there. Treat continued holding as a hold.
Cross-checking	Cross-checking is allowed. Do not permit more than three steps to deliver a cross-check. No take-out checks.
Screens and picks	No off-ball moving screens. Minor on-ball movement is permitted. Do not permit forceful picks or screens.
Penalties	Technical penalties that serve time generally run 45 seconds. Personal fouls generally run 1 minute 30 seconds and are releasable. Officials may lengthen, lock in, foul out, or eject for dangerous, intentional, egregious, or repeated conduct. Release only one releasable penalty after an opponent goal.
Penalty shot	For a foul that deters an obvious scoring opportunity, conduct an untimed penalty shot with only shooter and opposing goalie. Shooter moves continuously toward goal. Faceoff follows regardless of outcome, and penalty time is also served.
Starts and restarts	Faceoff opens each period unless a player-up period ends with possession; restart at the same relative place. Other players line up below blue lines. No clamping on faceoffs. Whistle starts and stops play. Put restarts in the middle third away from both goals; keep all players five yards away.
Goalkeeper and crease	Goalies are encouraged, not required. Crease is the black line. A crease dive is permitted only if the ball enters the goal before the player touches the crease. Players may run through the crease if they do not first touch the ball or interfere with an opponent.
Pass and offside	Pass rule mirrors girls: K-2 one attempted pass; 3/4 one completed or two attempts, including one wholly in offensive end; 5/6 and 7/8 by coach agreement if no goalie. Field players move freely; goalie stays in defensive end.

Items that require LAYLL confirmation

The source workbook leaves several operational details unclear. This guide does not invent a rule. Before distribution as a final league rulebook, confirm: (1) whether boys may use a box or hockey helmet; (2) the intended boys 3/4 shot-clock value - the workbook reads "45 min," which is not an operational clock instruction; (3) the exact overtime and final-two-minute timing procedures; and (4) responsibility for table timing when no League staff is assigned.

Source: LAYLL - Fall 2026 - Box Rules workbook, supplied by Robert Crowder. Prepared September 2026 as a condensed officials reference. The source workbook controls until LAYLL approves a final clean rulebook.