USAH-NFHS-NCAA_Rules_Comparison_2026-27.docx (1) PDF
File Edit View Help
Share to... Log in Sign up
Page 1 of 12 Edit Mark up Sign a copy 171%

USA Hockey Playing Rules Committee
NFHS Playing Rules Committee

2026-27 Edition

(updated 9/30/2026 with 2025-29 USA Hockey, 2026-27 NFHS and 2026-28 NCAA Rules)

Rule (Situation)	Dif	USA Hockey (HS & Below)	N F H S	N C A A
SECTION 1 - RINK				
Goalkeeper Privileged Area	N	Yes	Yes	Not used
Goalkeeper Trapezoid marking	N	Not used	Not used	Yes
Goalkeeper warm-up area defined	U	Expanded Privileged Area	No rule	No rule
Maximum non-players on team bench	X	Four (4)	Five (5)	Eight (8) [Bench Minor after warning]
Goal Crease shape	U	6 ft. semi-circle	Truncated semi-circle	Truncated semi-circle
Face-Off Circle Hash Mark Distance	N	4 Feet	4 Feet	Recommended 5'-7"
Goal Peg Requirement	N	Recommended to be anchored	Recommended to be anchored	8-10" in Depth (limited waiver)