



## 2019 Major Rules Changes for Men's and Women's Soccer

*\*Note – These rules changes will not be reflected in the hardcopy rules book until the 2020/2021 version.*

<u>Rule</u>	<u>Rules Change and Rationale</u>
5.6.1	<p><u>When the WetBulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) is equal to or greater than 86 degrees Fahrenheit, hydration breaks of no less than two minutes around the 25-30-minute marks during the first half, and 70-75-minute marks during the second half are required. The WBGT measurements should be taken by appropriate host personnel before the game and again throughout the game. Appropriate host personnel will instruct the officials if the threshold for mandatory hydration breaks is met. The referee is responsible for informing the head coaches and implementing the hydration breaks. Additional hydration breaks are permissible at the discretion of the referee.</u></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> This recommendation was made by the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (CSMAS) to closely align with FIFA and U.S. Soccer. If an institution does not already have a device to measure the WBGT, the institution is required to purchase a device. The cost is minimal.</p>
12.8.1 PENALTIES 1 and 2 and 7.4.3	<p>Eliminate the forfeit penalty for participation by an ejected or suspended player, coach or other bench personnel. The additional suspension penalties will still apply.</p> <p>Rule 12.8.1 PENALTY 1–If an ejected or suspended player, assistant coach or other bench personnel illegally participates in any game, <del>the game shall be forfeited to the opposing team. In addition to the forfeit:</del> (1) the original term of suspension for the player, assistant coach or other bench personnel shall be doubled, and (2) the head coach shall be suspended for doubled the term of the enhanced suspension...</p> <p>Rule 12.8.1 PENALTY 2–If an ejected or suspended head coach illegally participates in any game, <del>the game shall be forfeited to the opposing team. In addition to the forfeit,</del> the head coach shall be suspended for four (4) games.</p> <p>Delete all of Rule 7.4.3 since the rule is no longer applicable.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> Although the Men's and Women's Soccer Rules Committee recommended enforcing the forfeit if it is determined after the game that the winning team allowed a player or coach to participate who was ejected or suspended because of a red card or accumulation of yellow cards, the Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP) denied the request. The recommendation to enforce a postgame forfeit (i.e., changing the winner and loser) was denied by PROP for the following reasons:</p>

- No other area of the NCAA imposes a postgame forfeit as a penalty for illegal participation by a player or coach. Instead, fines and additional suspensions are imposed for violations such as academic ineligibility, extra benefits, failed drug tests, etc.;
- A postgame forfeit is not imposed for illegal participation by the playing rules in other NCAA team sports;
- A postgame forfeit is too severe of a penalty to be applied equally to every situation and only penalizes a team if the team won the game; and
- A postgame forfeit could have an impact on the selection process (e.g., rankings and seedings) of not only the involved teams, but teams not involved in that particular game.

The forfeit rule will be eliminated beginning with the 2019 season and removed from the rules book in the next printed edition (2020/2021).