



Memorandum

To: NFHS Member State Associations

From: B. Elliot Hopkins, CAA, Field Hockey Rules Editor

Subject: Extension of NFHS Field Hockey Rule 1-6-4

Date: September 2, 2009

Greetings,

As we begin the start of the field hockey season, we have been made aware that students from our member state association high schools are experiencing challenges in meeting the rule requirement of having the bow measurement permanently labeled on their field hockey sticks. To provide some brief history of the rule, the requirement to limit the stick's bow dimension was first discussed and inserted into the 2005 NFHS Field Hockey Rules book to be effective in 2007. During a meeting with the major field hockey stick manufacturers, they requested that the implementation date be adjusted to accommodate them providing labeling for old products that met the 25 mm rule and properly prepare for future stick productions. The NFHS Field Hockey Rules committee extended the date to January 1, 2009.

The challenges to obtain proper labeling from field hockey stick manufacturers has been brought to our attention by our membership. In an effort not to create a disadvantage to our member state associations or undue hardship to their member schools, we are extending the implementation of NFHS Rule 1-6-4 until January 1, 2010. The members of the NFHS Field Hockey Rules committee and the NFHS staff are in agreement that there will not be another extension granted after the January 1, 2010 deadline.

Please note: The intent of this rule does not include the goalkeeper's stick. The rule is for the field player's stick only.

BEH/lbt