



Recommended Shoot-out Procedure

While there is no procedure for shoot-outs in the NFHS rules, some tournaments/events may call for a shoot-out to determine a winner. In the event of a shoot-out, the following procedures are recommended for efficient administration. For the purposes of this document, the terms “Shooter Side” will define the referee to the right of the goal, and “Goal Line” will define the referee to the left of the goal. When a left handed shooter is involved, the referees will switch roles. For clarity’s sake, the pronoun “he” will be used throughout when refereeing to referees and “she” when referring to players.

1. Referees should meet briefly to discuss who will be the Shooter Side and Goal Line referees and at which end the penalty throws will be taken.
 - a. When in an all deep pool, shoot-outs should take place at the end where the right-handed shooters will be looking at the official whistling the shot to be taken.
 - b. Other factors to consider are the location of the penalty throws respective to the goalie looking into the sun, distance for referees from the field of play, and depth of the shallow-deep pool.
2. Shooter Side Referee will call captains, flip for order (winning team may choose to shoot 1st or 2nd), and briefly explain procedure. Each team will send five (5) players to participate as shooters and one (1) goalie. If the goalie is excluded for any reason, a shooter may take her place but does not have the same privileges (i.e. use of two hands).
3. Goal Line Referee will call goalies to brief meeting to explain positional expectations: *(22-2 With floating goals, the defending goalkeeper shall be positioned between the goal posts with no part of the goalkeeper’s body beyond the goal line at the water level. With wall goals, the defending goal keeper must assume a position with hips on the goal line).*
4. All shooters will be on the wall opposite the team benches. Both referees should monitor both benches’ behavior and the behavior of the shooters in the water. Both goalies go to the opposite corner of the bench at the end in which the shoot-out is being conducted (this arrangement best attempts to assure no coaching advantage is gained from one team being located at the shooting end).
5. No declaration of shooting order required. The desk must record the shooting order on the score sheet for use if it goes to second round. Each goal is recorded as 0.1 (e.g. 5.1 then 5.2 and so on).
6. Shots are taken alternately.
7. After the first round, the Blue and White pairs will continue shooting in order until one team scores and the other does not.
8. Shooting Procedures / Referee Team Work
 - a. Goal Line referee has no whistle in his mouth.
 - b. Shooter Side referee raises hand when shooter is prepared.
 - c. Goal Line referee then follows when goalie is ready by raising his hand.
 - d. Shooter Side referee immediately lowers hand and whistles simultaneously.
 - e. Goal Line referee signals all goals.