

# Substantive Changes in the 2024 Observer Manual

- Timing before pull updated to match 2024-25 rules
- Cap rules updated for halftime to match 2024-25 rules
- Updated section on travels to follow Rules Working Group (RWG) guidance under 2024-25 rules:
  - “The 2024-25 Official Rules of Ultimate added guidance for players on how and when to call travels (see the annotation on 17.K). That guidance is for players, not observers. For the purposes of ruling on travel calls, observers will uphold a travel call if the thrower did travel, even if that travel is less than 2”.
- Updated section on dangerous play to follow RWG guidance:
  - “By the wording of the dangerous play rule (17.I.1) , it is possible to commit a dangerous play against a teammate, though the rules only permit a player to call this dangerous play against an opponent. However, even though the dangerous play cannot be called in this situation, when a player commits a clear and obvious dangerous play against a teammate, you should issue a Personal Misconduct Foul.”
- Consistent stoppages for misconduct:
  - Technical Fouls and TMFs should be assessed at the next stoppage of play after the infraction. This includes cases for a third or subsequent Technical Foul or TMF. Remember a turnover is not a stoppage of play.
  - Straight ejections (i.e. not a second PMF) should always result in an immediate stoppage of play and assessment of misconduct.
  - For clear and obvious PMFs committed by the offense, you should stop play immediately and assess the misconduct.
  - For clear and obvious PMFs committed by the defense, you should wait until the next stoppage of play or turnover and assess the misconduct. In this scenario, you should stop play at the next turnover. The result of that turnover stands (e.g. a Callahan would still count).
  - If a Technical Foul, TMF, PMF, or ejection is not clear and obvious while the disc is live or in play, you should confer with your partner during the next stoppage and assess the misconduct if you decide it is warranted.
- Observers should identify the spirit captains for each team during the pre-game meeting and make sure they talk to each other before the game, during halftime, and after the game.
- A receiver landing on another player who is out of bounds should be treated as a force-out foul if it affects the out-of-bounds status of the receiver.
- Flagrant marking violations (e.g. intentional blind side double team) should be a TMF, but observers cannot award possession in this case. Teams can agree to an outcome not in the rules using 2.C.1.
- On a contested call where players cannot come to an agreement after ~20 seconds of discussion and neither player asks for an observer ruling, observers should now send the disc back to the thrower instead of issuing a ruling. This does not change the requirement that only one player needs to request observer intervention.