



A CLARIFICATION ON CHARGING: A RESOURCE FOR PLAYERS AND REFEREES

US Quidditch would like to announce the following clarifications to the charging rules, specifically regarding picks on off-ball players. These are intended to help referees and players understand the existing rules and implement them in a manner that is consistent.

As a reminder, picks are defined in the rulebook appendix:

“A-38. Pick—A passive attempt to create a unmoving barrier with a player’s body with the intent of forcing the defending player to circumvent the block.”

A player attempting to set a pick must be set and stationary before contact with an eligible opponent is initiated. On initial contact, a player may direct an eligible opponent off course with an arm (pushing, 6.3.2.4), but not the body.

For the following examples, neither Player A nor Player B have a ball and both are players who use the same ball. (If either player has a ball a pick may be set, but the player may also legally charge.)

- Player A, in an attempt to set a pick on player B, may brace themselves in a stationary position before being contacted by player B. If player A moves their body into player B, thus initiating force on player B, player A is guilty of an illegal pick and it should be called as if it is an illegal charge.
- Player A cannot attempt to make up for a missed pick by launching or otherwise moving themselves into player B. Doing so constitutes an illegal pick and thus a charge by player A.
- Once player A has been contacted by player B, player A may use their body to “Body Block” following the rules prescribed in 6.3.2.3) and other forms of legal contact may be initiated but may not initiate the full force of their body into a charge.



- Once player A initiates a pick on player B, player A is eligible for all legal contact from player B except for charges, wraps and tackles. Please note, player B may make contact with player A, including contact that results in Player A being knocked to the ground, without the contact being considered a charge. Player B must thrust their body into Player A to be guilty of a charge.

All picks must be set within the existing guidelines for physical contact. Players attempting to set a pick cannot initiate or position for contact from behind.

Two other clarifications regarding off-ball contact:

A player who is already engaged in a block or push may continue to move with the blocked player, including if the player being blocked rolls off the arms and body to body contact is initiated.

Pushing is legal in all of the above circumstances, including while moving or during a pick, but, as with all pushing, must only be done with one arm and only within the legally defined area of the body.