



Statistics – Definitions

The Blackhawks use definitions designed to promote player development. The definitions below do not necessarily match the official lacrosse definitions.

Goal: A shot on goal that crosses the goal line. This includes a kicked ball and a deflected ball as well as a pass that ends up in the goal without touching another offensive player. In cases where the defense scores an “own goal,” the goal will be credited to the offensive player closest to the ball as it crosses the goal line.

Assist: An assist is an intentional pass giving a teammate a positional advantage which contributes directly to a goal. An assist may also be credited in cases of an outstanding offensive screen that leads directly to a goal. In rare cases, more than one assist (“hockey assist”) may be credited, such as a quick two passes (“tic tac toe” passes), particularly in transition, that lead directly to a goal.

Ground Ball. A ground ball is credited when a player picks up a contested loose ball in live play. One-handed ground balls are not credited. A ground ball may occur on an intercepted pass (the ball does not have to hit the ground) or from a ball checked loose onto the ground. Further, the ball must be obtained under pressure (another opposing player must be within 5 yards of the loose ball). To be credited with a ground ball, the player gaining the ground ball must be able to perform immediately the normal functions of possession (shoot, pass, and cradle). A player cannot drop the ball of his own volition, pick it up again, and be credited with a ground ball. Ground balls can and should be awarded as part of the face off play. Goalies can be credited with ground balls just as any other player.

Defensive Stop: A defensive stop is any defensive play that disrupts an offensive scoring opportunity, including stopping an offensive transition, sliding to turn back an offensive challenge, and creating at least a 50/50 ground ball opportunity by dislodging the ball from an offensive player. An intercepted pass is a ground ball and not a defensive stop. If a defensive player dislodges a ball and then picks up the loose ball, he is credited with both a defensive stop and a ground ball. Defensive stops should only be credited when the defensive play is proper and under control and will not be credited in cases of reckless defensive play. Goalie saves are in a separate statistical category and are not considered defensive stops.

Goalie Save. Any shot that, but for the goalie’s intervention, would have gone into the goal, regardless of whether the ball is caught or deflected. Therefore, shots that hit the pipe are not saves. A shot caught by the goalie that would not have gone into the goal (e.g., shot is high or to the side of the goal) is considered a ground ball and not a save.