

# NHLA Rules Changes for 2023

The votes for the rules change proposals have been tallied. The NHLA Bylaws state: "A rules change shall be adopted by the Association upon such change receiving a favorable vote on a two-thirds majority of the votes properly cast by the Active Members of the Association."

There were seven rules change proposals on the ballot, with the deadline for voting being December 1, 2021. The final count revealed the following results:

## Standard Inspection by Species & Standard Grades

Proposal #1: c. Page 24, Basswood: Remove "Note: Dormant twig buds to be considered as burls."  
– **Did NOT Pass**

Proposal #2: e. Page 66, Select Car Stock: Change split limitation from - "SPLITS: Shall not exceed 6" in length in any one end or the aggregate equivalent in one or both ends of the piece." To - "SPLITS: Shall not exceed 12" in length in either end of the piece of Standard or specified length." – **Passed**

Proposal #3: f. Page 67, Common Dimension: Change Split limitation from – "SPLITS: Shall not exceed 12" in length in any one end or the aggregate equivalent in one or both ends of the piece." To – "Splits shall not exceed in the aggregate in inches in length twice the surface measure of the piece of Standard or specified length, except when one foot or shorter" – **Passed**

Proposal #4: h. Page 14, FAS, paragraph 53., Change minimum width to 5" – **Did NOT Pass**

## Cypress Rules

Proposal #5: a. Page 48, paragraph 90, Selects & Btr. –

- Add "Pith is limited to aggregate in inches, boxed or showing, to the nominal width of the piece."
- Change from "A. Pieces 4" and 5" wide must be clear allowing slight wane on one edge. (Par. 80)" To – "A. Pieces 4" and 5" wide must be clear allowing slight wane on one edge (Par. 84), except that pieces 12' in length and over allow 1 medium knot (Par. 39)."
- Under section B: Change from "• 6" wide – 1 medium knot • 7" – 9" wide – 2 medium knots" To "Pieces 6" to 9" wide will admit 1 medium knot (Par. 39) in pieces 10' and shorter, pieces 12' and longer will admit 2 medium knots (Par. 39)." – **Did NOT Pass**

Proposal #6: b. Page 43, paragraph 15, Warp & Cup – Add "Side-bend shall not exceed to the extent that the piece will not produce the standard finished width in its full length, in all grades." – **Did NOT Pass**

Proposal #7: c. Page 50, paragraphs 98 & 99, No. 1 & No. 2 Peck – Combine paragraph 98 & 99 to create "Peck" as follows – "Each piece must contain peck, with a minimum area of 10% of the Surface Measure, well distributed on one side. Each piece must be suitable for ordinary handling and construction without breakage." - **Passed**

These Rules Changes do not become effective until January 1, 2023. NHLA will be producing a new NHLA Rules Book that will be available and distributed in December 2022. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Chief Inspector, Dana Spessert at [d.spessert@nhla.com](mailto:d.spessert@nhla.com).