

Competitions & Events By-Laws

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Competitions & Events By-Laws: Intents & Purposes

A Authority

These Competitions & Events By-Laws are made under clause 23 of the Constitution – 'By Laws of the Association'.

These By-Laws should be read in conjunction with all specific League and Championship Rules and FIH Rules of Hockey.

The FIH Rules of Hockey are an important source of information regarding how matches should be conducted. However, where the Competitions & Events By-Laws differ from the FIH Rules of Hockey, then the Competitions & Events By-Laws will apply.

To the extent of any inconsistency with any other By-Law of Hockey WA, these By-Laws prevail with regard to Competitions and Events.

B Purpose

The Competitions & Events By-Laws are intended to:

- (a) encourage the largest amount of participation at all levels of our sport;
- (b) create an atmosphere of sportsmanship, equality and fair play; and
- (c) penalise Clubs who seek to gain an unfair advantage.

C Penalty Provision

Where there is a prescribed financial penalty for a breach of any rule in these By-Laws, the rule will be designated in these By-Laws as a Penalty Provision. The amount of the penalty is set out in the Hockey WA Penalty Provisions By-Laws.

D Definitions

The defined terms used in these By-Laws are set out in **Appendix A**.

Where these By-Laws incorporate any rule taken from the FIH Rules of Hockey, Hockey WA Competition By-Laws, Hockey Australia Australian Championship Operations Manual, Hockey Australia Tournament Regulations, Hockey WA Codes of Behaviour or Hockey WA Affiliation Rules or By Laws and Policy Framework, these By-Laws_ are taken to incorporate any updates or changes.

E Review

The Competition Rules Committee is responsible for determining the process by which these By-Laws and any Competition By-Laws are reviewed on a periodic basis.

Hockey WA will seek and consider the Competition Rules Committee's decisions when determining the application of the By-Laws.

1. Competition structure

- (a) Hockey WA Competitions include the following Leagues:

Senior Turf League
Metropolitan League
Masters League
Junior League
Senior Indoor League
Junior Indoor League

- (b) Hockey WA Events include Men's & Women's Country Championships and any special championships or events run by Hockey WA for Hockey WA or Hockey Australia purposes, including respective High-Performance Units.
- (c) Hockey WA may create additional Leagues or Events as required.

2. Conduct of matches

2.1 Club uniforms

- (a) To register a new Club's playing uniform, or change the playing uniform of an existing Club, written approval from Hockey WA must be obtained prior to order. To ensure that uniform orders can be placed with a suitable time for manufacture, this approval should be obtained no later than 14 February in the year the 'new' uniform is to be implemented.
- (b) Club requests should be submitted with a coloured photograph/illustration, swatch of the material and relevant PMS numbers relating to the 'new' design for Hockey WA approval.
- (c) Subject to the special rules for Premier Division One, Two and Three set out in **Appendix B** of the Senior Turf League By-Laws, the Club uniforms rules are as follows:

Where both Teams have similar playing uniforms	If the playing uniforms of both Teams in a match are so similar that it may lead to a possible confusion, the second named Team must wear an alternate contrasting uniform (shirt and socks). <i>This is a Penalty Provision.</i>
Skins, undergarments, and additional items of clothing	Must be neutral coloured or one of the colours of the Team uniform. Individuals may wear attire according to their religious beliefs providing it falls within FIH Guidelines and Health and Safety regulations.
Goalkeepers	Goalkeepers that decide to wear an over-shirt must ensure that this over-shirt is of a contrasting colour to the shirt colour of both teams.
Uniform provision	Individuals may wear the club uniform of their choosing as it aligns with their gender identity, so long as it abides by wider Hockey attire rules. Individuals requiring uniforms (e.g. athletes, officials and coaches) are to be provided with an appropriate range of uniform styles and sizes to select from. If gendered uniforms are necessary, the individual may choose which uniform they would prefer to wear.
Recording a breach of these rules	Technical Officers (or opposition Team managers where there is no Technical Officer) must record on the match report sheet, all Players not in registered uniform or not in an alternate contrasting uniform. Any special exception to rule 2.1 will be at the discretion of the Technical Officer (or umpires where there is no Technical Officer). <i>This is a Penalty Provision.</i>
Behaviour of Players when in uniform	When in uniform, a Player must not behave on any occasion in a manner which reflects discredit to Hockey WA. A breach of this rule may result in expulsion of the Player(s) or Club concerned from Hockey WA.

2.2 Venues

Venues seeking to comply with Hockey Australia guidelines for the inclusion of transgender and gender diverse people in community hockey should read through [this linked document](#). Hockey WA encourage all venues managers to do so.

- (a) All Hockey WA competitions must be played on an artificial surface or grass venue that has been approved by Hockey WA.
- (b) Venues must meet the minimum criteria set out in **Appendix B** in order to host Hockey WA matches.
- (c) A club may request to change its home ground venue in writing to Hockey WA but may do so only with prior venue agreement.
- (d) Hockey WA reserves the right to require that for broadcast matches, that Hockey WA's sponsors' signage is prominently displayed at all matches.
- (e) Hockey WA reserves the right to alter published fixtures if deemed necessary in the event that matches are affected by changes to venue availability or venues that do not meet the criteria as specified by Hockey WA.
- (f) It is the right of individuals to use changing and bathroom facilities which best reflect their gender identity. The individual also has the right for privacy within those facilities.
- (g) Each venue is encouraged to supply a match day official for all fixtures at their venue. Match day officials may be any person associated with a team or venue capable of performing the responsibilities outlined in **Appendix C**. For junior fixtures, a match day official is mandatory.

2.3 Ground conditions

- (a) If the weather or ground conditions are unsatisfactory, or there are any other extraordinary circumstances, a match may be postponed if both umpires agree.
- (b) Where a match is postponed the following conditions apply:

Situation prior to postponement	Outcome
The match had not started or was abandoned before quarter time	Match will be replayed in full
The match was abandoned at any point between quarter time and three-quarter time	The remaining time will be completed at a postponed time and place
The match was abandoned after three-quarter time	The match will be considered complete, no postponement or replay

- (c) Any match needing to be replayed or completed will be carried out at a time and venue determined by Hockey WA.
- (d) A postponed or replayed match will be deemed to have been played on the date originally fixtured.
- (e) If during the course of a match a Team declines to continue the match or to take it up where it left off, or if at any time during a match the number of its Players on the field is fewer than seven (7), this Team will be deemed to have lost the match. The opposing Team will be deemed to have won with the score standing at the time or by a score of five (5) goals to nil (0), whichever is the greater.

2.4 Blood rule

- (a) If a Player is bleeding, they must immediately leave the field to receive treatment (substitution may be made).
- (b) If the bleeding Player does not leave the field voluntarily or when asked, the umpire may suspend them for misconduct.
- (c) The Player may return to the field once the bleeding has been controlled, the wound covered, and any blood contaminated clothing changed. Managers need to have spare shirts available for Players.

3. Forfeits and withdrawals

3.1 Forfeits

Subject to any special rules for Premier Division One, Two and Three set out in **Appendix B** of the Senior Turf League By-Laws, the forfeit rules are as follows:

- (a) If a Team does not have at least seven (7) Players on the field at any time then it forfeits the match.
- (b) If a Team does not take the field within ten (10) minutes of the nominated starting time, it forfeits the game. *This is a Penalty Provision.*
- (c) If a Team forfeits a match, this will be recorded as having lost the game nil (0) goals to five (5), and the opposing Team is credited with three (3) premiership points.
- (d) A Team must not forfeit three (3) or more matches in a season. *This is a Penalty Provision.*
- (e) A Team intending to forfeit without attending the venue must notify the Hockey WA office, the venue, the umpires or Club responsible for umpiring and phone contacts of the opposing Club, by midday on the last business day prior to the fixture. *This is a Penalty Provision.*
 - (i) To forfeit a match without attending the venue, the Team must have fewer than seven (7) Players available. Teams that attend a venue with more than seven (7) Players in attendance may still forfeit a match, but this decision must be made at the venue.
 - (ii) Should a Team forfeit a match, without complying with this sub-rule (d), it will be responsible for all associated costs including administrative, ground hire and umpiring charges. *This is a Penalty Provision.*
 - (iii) The penalty for failure to comply with this sub-rule (d) will not apply if a Team attempts to field a side but finds, on arrival at the ground, that they do not have the required minimum number of Players present.
- (f) When a Team forfeits or abandons a match after the match has started, it will be deemed to have lost the game. If the Team was losing at the time of the forfeit, goals scored for and against each Team will stand, or a five (5) goals to nil (0) result will be awarded to the opposing Team, whichever results in a greater goal difference in favour of the non-forfeiting Team.
- (g) If the forfeiting Team was winning or scores were level at the time of the forfeit, a five (5) goals to nil (0) result will be awarded to the non-forfeiting Team.

3.2 Withdrawals

- (a) When a Team withdraws after the commencement of the Winter Season all points and goals scored in matches involving that Team prior to its withdrawal are cancelled.
- (b) When a Club has more than one Team in a League and wishes to withdraw a Team from a grade, it must withdraw the lowest grade in which it is represented in that League.

4. Officiating

4.1 Provision of officials

- (a) Clubs shall provide umpires as directed by Hockey WA. *This is a Penalty Provision.*
- (b) Club appointed umpires shall endeavour to wear appropriate clothing or meet official umpiring dress code, unless advised by Hockey WA.
- (c) Hockey WA Panel umpires shall be given precedence over all other umpires at any match, and along with Hockey WA appointed Technical Officials shall be considered as delegates with the authority of Hockey WA during the progress of a match, and as such, should be afforded proper respect.
- (d) Hockey WA Panel umpires shall wear the prescribed uniform.

- (e) It is the responsibility of the Club to ensure that an individual appointed by that Club is at a sufficient level of confidence and competence to perform the allocated umpiring duty. *This is a Penalty Provision.*
- (f) It is the responsibility of the Club to ensure that an individual appointed by that Club to an allocated umpiring duty behaves in accordance with the Hockey WA Codes of Conduct. *This is a Penalty Provision.*
- (g) All umpires must adhere to the duties listed on the cover of the Match Report Book.

5. Misconduct

5.1 Reportable Incidents

- (a) All Clubs, Players and Team officials must comply with Hockey WA Codes of Behaviour. Any Club, Player or Team official considered by Hockey WA to be in breach of any of the Codes of Behaviour may be fined or suspended or otherwise penalised as decided by the Hockey WA Protests and Disputes Tribunal.
- (b) In the event of excessive harassment of an umpire by coaches, Club officials or supporters, the umpire (or Technical Official where applicable) has the power to stop the match, call both captains and ascertain whether the offending person(s) is a coach, Club official or supporter.
- (c) The procedure and consequences of harassment are as follows:

Offender engaged in harassment	Procedure and consequence
Coach or Club official	The offender's name and Club should be written on the match report and the relevant captain asked to warn the offender that if the harassment persists, the game may be terminated, with the result of the match reflecting the score at the time the match is terminated.
Spectator	The official(s) must bring the offence to the attention of the match day official and the match day official must deal with the offender in an appropriate manner. Discretion is to be used with regards to when the offence is brought to the attention of the match day official, and the manner in which the offender is dealt with.

- (d) A Player may be reported to Hockey WA by the umpire or opposing Team captain if they:
 - (i) disputed the decision of any umpire;
 - (ii) used insulting or abusive language before, during or after the match;
 - (iii) performed a deliberate act contrary to fair play;
 - (iv) caused interference or attempted to cause interference with the control exercised by an umpire during a match; or
 - (v) acted in a manner likely to bring discredit on the game of hockey.

Incident Report Forms can be downloaded from the Hockey WA website.

- (e) A Player who is reported may be referred by Hockey WA to the Protests and Disputes Tribunal for consideration of disciplinary action.

5.2 Misconduct cards

A breach of the FIH Rules of Hockey may be dealt with in one of the following ways:

Action	Misconduct card	Duration of suspension for offending player	Imposition on offending Team
Verbal warning	None	No suspension	The Team does not play with any less Players
Warning / Temporary suspension	Green card	Two (2) minutes	The Team plays with one (1) less player
Temporary suspension	Yellow card	A minimum of five (5) minutes	The Team plays with one (1) less player
Permanent suspension	Red card	The remainder of the match, the next following Fixture Week for which they are available, and they may face a tribunal where the tribunal will decide if further penalties are to be incurred	The Team plays with one (1) less player for the remainder of the match.

- Misconduct cards cannot be contested after the fixture match except in the case of mistaken identity. A Player seeking to complain about mistaken identity in relation to a misconduct card may lodge a protest with Hockey WA who will refer the matter to the Protests and Disputes Tribunal.
- For further explanation of green, yellow and red cards and the procedure attached to each refer to **Appendix D**.

5.3 Suspensions

- Hockey WA will notify Clubs whose players are suspended, either through accrual of yellow cards or as a direct result of a red card, with a minimum twenty-four (24) hours' notice prior to the next fixtured match.
- For the avoidance of doubt, a Player will be available for a game unless the Player is serving one of the following:

Misconduct card	Rule (also refer to Appendix D)
Yellow card	When a Player accumulates three (3) yellow cards in any Hockey WA League during the Competition season, a one (1) Fixture Week suspension from all Hockey WA Leagues will take effect upon notification by Hockey WA
Yellow card	For every additional two (2) yellow cards a player receives in any Hockey WA League during the Competition season, a two (2) Fixture Week suspension from all Hockey WA Leagues will take effect upon notification by Hockey WA
Yellow card	When a Player accumulates two (2) yellow cards in any Hockey WA League during a Finals series, a one (1) Fixture Week suspension will take effect in the next following Fixture Week for which they are available
Red card	The Player will be suspended for the next following Fixture Week for which they are available

- A Player who is suspended may participate in an Australian Championship or Australian Representative Team and must serve their suspension on their return.
- For the purpose of Finals, all yellow cards will be removed from a Player's record at the end of the Qualifying Season. If at the end of the Qualifying Season a Player is due for suspension under rule 5.3, then the suspension will be served in the next following Fixture Week for which they are available.

6. Player qualification

6.1 Eligibility for transfers

- (a) Clubs and Associations must provide Hockey WA with a current list of non-transferable players by January 31st in the year of competition. This list should include all players that have outstanding moneys (including fees) or equipment owing to the Club or Association or Hockey WA.
- (b) The only reason for Clubs or Associations to put a player on their list of non-transferable players is that the player has outstanding moneys (including fees) or equipment to the Club or Association.
- (c) Hockey WA will make this list of non-transferable players accessible to Clubs and Associations from no later than February 10th in the relevant year and throughout the winter season.
- (d) Players that are not on the list of non-transferable players are eligible to transfer to a new Club which may be in a different Association.
- (e) Players that are on the list of non-transferable players are not eligible to transfer to a new Club or Association until they have fulfilled their obligations to the former club.
- (f) Clubs and Associations must ensure that Hockey WA is updated as to changes to their list of non-transferable players after January 31st in the year of competition.

6.2 Process for transfers

- (a) Players wishing to transfer between the start of the season and the end of the 4th round of their respective competition are not required to seek the approval of Hockey WA.
- (b) If the Player has not played for the Former Club in the current season, the transfer request must be received at least two (2) matches before the end of the Qualifying Season has ended.
- (c) If the Player has played for the Former Club in the current season, the transfer request must be received before COB on the last business day in June.
- (d) The process for a Player to request a transfer is as follows:

Step	Description
1	Obtain a transfer form signed by an office bearer of the club that they have played for in that season (Former Club).
2	Ensure the transfer form is received by Hockey WA no less than five (5) Business Days prior to the Player's first game for their proposed new club.
3	If the Former Club has not responded to a request for a transfer form to be signed within three (3) Business Days, the Player wishing to transfer clubs should notify Hockey WA, and Hockey WA will notify the Former Club of the due date for a response, which shall be two (2) Business Days after the notification is received.
4	Hockey WA will grant the transfer if: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the Former Club responds with the signed transfer request form within the required time frame; or (ii) the Former Club does not respond to Hockey WA or the Player within the required time frame notified by Hockey WA under Step 3.
5	Hockey WA will not grant the transfer if the Former Club responds to inform Hockey WA that the Player has outstanding moneys or equipment owing to the Club.
6	If Hockey WA does not grant the transfer, the player wishing to transfer must ensure all obligations are met and send a new request to the Former Club.

- (e) Hockey WA may enquire into any transfer if it suspects that such a transfer is unreasonable or to be temporary only and, in its discretion, may refuse to approve the transfer.
- (f) Hockey WA must not consider an objection to a transfer made by anyone other than the Former Club.

6.3 Player eligibility

- (a) Provided they are eligible to play in any competition match, a new Player shall be deemed automatically approved if their name appears on the match report of their first match and their details (as per rule 1.3(a)) have been entered into the Online Portal at least two Business Days prior to the team match details being entered into the Online Portal.
- (b) A player may play in a junior game and a senior game on the same weekend for different clubs provided both clubs are in agreement and have notified their agreement to Hockey WA. If a player wishes to play for a different club on the same weekend in seniors and juniors and the two clubs are not in agreement with this then that player will not be permitted to play for different clubs unless prior written approval from Hockey WA is obtained. In approving or refusing any such application Hockey WA shall have regard to the intent expressed in these rules of encouraging the largest amount of participation in the sport of hockey.
- (c) Where a person is a Playing Member of two Clubs according to rule 6.3 (b), the Senior Competition Club must notify Hockey WA so that approval can be noted in the Online Portal.
- (d) No player shall participate in more than three (3) matches in the Hockey WA competition across different age restrictions in one fixture weekend. Players are still only permitted to play two games in a weekend in a specific League. For example:

Example	Description
1	A Junior player is permitted to play two (2) Junior matches in a weekend under the two games in a weekend rule, plus an additional game in the Senior League.
2	A Junior player is permitted to play one (1) Junior match, plus then play in two (2) Senior League matches in that weekend under the two games in a weekend rule.
3	A Masters player is permitted to play two (2) Masters matches in a weekend under the two games in a weekend rule, plus an additional game in the Senior League.
4	A Masters player is permitted to play one Masters match, plus then play in two (2) Senior League matches in that weekend under the two games in a weekend rule.

- (e) Rule 6.3 (d) does not apply to Midweek Masters Divisions.
- (f) Where any Player is suspended by their club or by another association for misconduct and Hockey WA is advised by their club or the other association, then that Player is not permitted to participate in any hockey game conducted under the auspices of Hockey WA for the duration of their suspension.

6.4 Age

To play in the senior competition a player must be at least 12 years of age by 1 January in the year in which they wish to compete, unless otherwise approved by Hockey WA.

7. Gender

Individuals seeking more information on Hockey Australia's guidelines for the inclusion of transgender and gender diverse people in community hockey should read through [this linked document](#). Hockey WA encourages all interested parties to do so.

- (a) An individual may participate in a competition that best reflects their gender identity. This is in accordance with the Sex Discrimination Act 1984 (Cth), which explains that it is unlawful to discriminate against a person on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and intersex status. Clubs and associations should have in place well-established practices of grading and the selection of players to:
 - (i) Address any relevant disparity of players;
 - (ii) Protect the health and safety of participants; and
 - (iii) Provide fair and meaningful competitions.

- (b) Such practices should be applied consistently across all players when considering varying skill levels.
- (c) Hockey WA competitions are run under two categories:
 - (i) Men's/Boys' competitions
 - (ii) Women's/Girls' competitions

As a part of their registration to a club, individuals of any gender identity shall identify which category of competition they will be participating in. Those individuals that tick "male" shall only play in the men's/boys' competition, and those individuals that tick "female" shall only play in the women's/girls' competition. Those individuals that identify outside of these two options may choose their category based upon their preference.

8. Finance

8.1 Team Withdrawals

When a team nomination is withdrawn by a Club and written notification is received by Hockey WA less than twenty-eight (28) days prior to the beginning of the Winter Season for that team then the nomination and/or affiliation fees for that team shall be as set out in the *Penalty Provisions*.

8.2 Unfinancial player

- (a) If a player fails to pay to Hockey Australia, Hockey WA, an affiliated Club or Association or other State Association any money that is due and owing by the player within thirty (30) Business Days following the due date of payment and such failure continues for a period of fourteen (14) Business Days after the date on which Hockey WA gives notice in writing to the Player and the player's last known Club or Regional Association, then:
 - (i) the player will not be eligible for selection in any representative Hockey WA team; and
 - (ii) that player is deemed to be an ineligible player for the purposes of the application of:

Rules	Definition
Senior Turf League By-Laws Section 4	'Player Qualification'
Metropolitan League By-Laws Section 4	
Masters League By-Laws Section 4	
Junior League By-Laws Section 4	
Proposed Indoor League By-Laws Section 4	
Proposed Junior Indoor League By-Laws Section 4	
Proposed Country Association Championships By-Laws Section 4	
Proposed Junior WA Club Championships By-Laws Section 4	

- (b) Hockey WA will not grant a clearance for that player to any other club or Regional Association or to a Club in any other State or Territory of Australia.
- (c) All clubs must submit a list of their non-transferable players to Hockey WA by 31 January in each the year of competition. This list will:
 - (i) state the players owing equipment or fees to the Club; and
 - (ii) be used in the administration of transfers and it is the responsibility of clubs to ensure this list remains current.

9. Match reporting

Subject to any special rules for Premier Division One, Two and Three set out in **Appendix B** of the Senior Turf League By-Laws, the match reporting rules are as follows.

- (a) Each Team is responsible for providing a match report book (duplicate booklet) for each match it plays, unless the match sheet is controlled by a Technical Officer. Hockey WA will provide the match report booklets to Teams prior to the commencement of the season.
- (b) Each match report must record:
 - (i) the result of the match played;
 - (ii) a list of Players (both surname and first names) in the Team completing the match report;
 - (iii) details of misconduct cards received by individual Players;
 - (iv) details of goal scorers;
 - (v) details of Player roles (Goalkeepers = GK, Import Players = I, Double Up Players = D, State Replacement Players = S, and Permit Players = P. Multiple codes may be entered);
 - (vi) names and Club (if applicable) of umpires who officiated; and
 - (vii) all injuries or incidents that have occurred during the match.
- (c) In the event of a forfeit, no scores should be entered for either Team. Only the result should be entered. Team lists should be entered for both Teams that reflect the Players available for the match.
- (d) If a Player does not take the field, they must be removed from the match report or indicated as 'did not play' (DNP).
- (e) The duplicate copy of the match report is to be given to the opposing Team immediately following the match. *This is a Penalty Provision.*
- (f) The result of the match must be entered on the Online Portal by the first named Team in the fixture by 1.00pm on the first business day after the fixture is played.
- (g) Specified Team match details must be entered on the Online Portal by the respective Teams by 1.00pm on the first business day after the fixture is played.
- (h) Specified Team match details on the Online Portal include:
 - (i) Player names (first name and surname);
 - (ii) misconduct cards received by individual Players;
 - (iii) goal scorers (own goals are not to be recorded against Players' names);
 - (iv) Player roles (e.g. goalkeeper or captain) are to be marked.
- (i) It is the responsibility of each Team to ensure that their opposing Team's details have been entered correctly on the Online Portal. Should the Online Portal not reflect the duplicate copy of the match report, a Team can enter a 'Dispute'.
- (j) The original match report sheet and the duplicate copy of the opposing Teams must be retained by each Club until 30 November of the year in which the match was played.
- (k) Rules 9(b), (d), (f), (g), (h) and (j) are *Penalty Provisions*.

9.1 Match disputes

- (a) If a Team disputes the match reporting information entered on the Online Portal, as set out in rule 9, a protest must be made in writing and submitted to the Hockey WA office within fourteen (14) days of the match with the accompanying Protest Fee.
- (b) In the event of a match reporting dispute each Team must send their original match report to the Hockey WA office within seven (7) days of the protest. *This is a Penalty Provision.*
- (c) Any dispute relating to the last two (2) rounds of the Qualifying Season and Finals matches must be lodged within two (2) business days of the match, with the accompanying Protest Fee.
- (d) The details of the imposition of any penalty will be forwarded by Hockey WA in writing to the Club(s) involved. If a Club wishes to protest against the imposition of any such penalty, then a protest is to be made in writing and submitted to the CEO within fourteen (14) days.
- (e) Should an error on the Online Portal not be protested or otherwise corrected within two (2) weeks of the date of publication, the Online Portal will be deemed to be correct.

10. Ineligible players

- (a) A Player is an ineligible player if:
 - (i) they do not meet the player qualification rules set out in rule 5.
- (b) A Team can only use Players who were eligible to play on the original nominated date. *This is a Penalty Provision*, which applies per Player breach.
- (c) Any protest relating to ineligible players must be made by the opposing Team in writing and submitted to the Hockey WA office within fourteen (14) days of the match with the accompanying Protest Fee.
- (d) A protest relating to the last two (2) rounds of the Qualifying Season and Finals matches must be lodged within two (2) business days of the match with the accompanying Protest Fee.
- (e) If Hockey WA believes that there is good cause for doing so, then it may investigate any match at Hockey WA's discretion through random audits, regardless of receipt of a protest.
- (f) Should a Team be found to have played an ineligible player, the consequence will be forfeiture of the match. The Team that has not offended will be awarded the three (3) premiership points and the score of the match will reflect a five (5) goals to nil (0) result in favour of the non-offending Team, unless the original score-line reflects a greater goal difference in favour of the non-offending Team, in which case this score will be kept.
- (g) Should the opposing Team also have fielded an ineligible player, then neither Team will receive any points, and nil (0) goals will be recorded against both Teams.
- (h) In the event of the false recording of a Player name on a match report the offending Team forfeits the fixture.
- (i) A Player who plays under a false name and the person whose name that Player plays under will be deemed not to have played in the game for the purposes of qualifying for Finals (see *respective rule in the relevant League/Championship*).
- (j) If a Team plays an ineligible player or records a false Player name on the match report in a Final, it loses the Final.
- (k) Should the opposing Team also have fielded an ineligible player in a Final, then neither Team will win the Final, and nil (0) goals will be recorded against both Teams. In this instance, how the result impacts other Finals within that division will be decided by Hockey WA.

11. Premiership table

- (a) Teams will be awarded three (3) premiership points for a win, one (1) premiership point for a draw and nil (0) premiership points for a loss.
- (b) The Team finishing first at the completion of the Qualifying Season in each grade is the Season Premier (or a name to be determined by Hockey WA) for that grade.
- (c) Where two (2) or more Teams have played in an equal number of fixtures and have an equal number of premiership points, their relative positions on the premiership table will be decided:
 - (i) firstly, on goal difference. Goal difference is determined by subtracting the goals scored against a Team from the goals scored by it (e.g. 40 goals scored by the Team and 20 goals conceded by the Team, gives a goal difference of +20);
 - (ii) then if still equal, by the most number of goals scored for;
 - (iii) then if still equal, on the number of matches won;
 - (iv) then if still equal, by the highest total of goals scored when the Teams played each other during the Qualifying Season;
 - (v) then if still equal, by the tossing of a coin.
- (d) Where two (2) or more Teams have played an unequal number of matches at the end of the Qualifying Season and have an equal number of premiership points, their relative positions on the premiership table will be decided on:
 - (i) firstly, percentages. A Team percentage is arrived at by dividing the points scored by the possible points and multiplying the result by a hundred (e.g. matches played 10 = possible points 30, points scored = 15. Percentage $15/30 \times 100 = 50\%$);
 - (ii) then if still equal, by following the steps outlined above in sub-rule (b).
- (e) Clubs querying or wishing to correct the premiership table must do so in writing to Hockey WA. Changes will not be made without confirmation from Clubs directly affected by the correction.
- (f) Should an error on the premiership table not be queried or otherwise corrected within two (2) weeks of the date of publication of that premiership table, the premiership table will be deemed to be correct.

12. Protests and disputes tribunal

The Board of Hockey WA will constitute a protests and disputes tribunal to deal with any matter referred to it by Hockey WA arising from any game played in a Hockey WA sanctioned competition.

The Tribunal's powers and processes are as set out in their terms of reference as a sub-committee, under rule 15.1 of the Constitution.

13. Situations not covered by these By-Laws

- (a) Hockey WA must consider the intent and purpose of these By-Laws so that they may be applied in any given situation.
- (b) Any situation not provided for explicitly in these By-Laws will be referred to Hockey WA for consideration and determination.
- (c) In the event of serious disruption to Hockey WA competitions and events caused by unforeseen circumstances, including but not limited to: natural disasters; pandemics; epidemics; or war, Hockey WA shall determine in consultation with the Competition Rules Committee how the competition or event will be conducted.

14. Seeking an unfair advantage

- (a) Clubs or Teams who deliberately seek to gain an unfair advantage will be subject to a penalty.
- (b) For example, Clubs or Teams that collude or conspire to predetermine the results of any match will be deemed to be seeking an unfair advantage.
- (c) *This rule 8 is a Penalty Provision.*

15. Fines and Penalties table

Where any rule confers discretion to determine a fine or penalty, the decision maker will be guided by the following decision matrix:

Level of breach	Example
Minor breach	Procedural breach only
Medium breach	Has the potential to operate to the detriment of another Club or Team
Serious breach	Wilfully attempting to gain an unfair advantage, to the detriment of another Club or Team

Appendix A: Defined terms

Association, WAHA, and Hockey WA all refer to the name of the Western Australian Hockey Association Incorporated and its Staff, Board and Committees.

Business Day means a day (other than a Saturday, Sunday, or Public Holiday) in Perth, Western Australia.

CEO refers to the Hockey WA Chief Executive Officer.

Club means any Club or Association, or any other group within Australia or overseas controlling the playing of field hockey, according to the Rules of FIH.

Committee refers to the Competition Rules Committee that is set up by Hockey WA to carry out delegated functions or powers of Hockey WA.

Competition means the leagues controlled by Hockey WA.

Division refers to the specific ways in which each League controlled by Hockey WA is separated. These are outlined for each specific League within their own specific rules.

Event means any special championship or event run by Hockey WA for Hockey WA or Hockey Australia purposes.

FIH refers to the International Hockey Federation.

Final refers to any of the series of matches played at the end of the Qualifying Season to determine the Premier.

Fixture Week refers to a period during which a set of fixtures for that Competition takes place, as set out in Hockey WA's season calendar.

Grade refers to the specific ways in which each Division within each League controlled by Hockey WA is separated, which is mainly done when divisions can be separated by location.

League refers to one of Senior Turf League, Metropolitan League, Masters League, Junior League, Senior Indoor League or Junior Indoor League which are conducted under the auspices of Hockey WA.

Media means any form of media or social media such as, but not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, Blogs, Instagram or Flickr.

Members are the Clubs and regional associations affiliated with Hockey WA.

Official Activity refers to championship fixtures and all commitments associated with them, and rest periods for athletes sanctioned by the governing bodies responsible for those athletes.

Online Portal refers to the online Competitions, fixtures and results portal used by Hockey WA.

Penalty Provision means a rule which if breached could result in the imposition of a financial penalty (usually a fine).

Player refers to any player regardless of their position, includes field players and goalkeepers.

Playing Member means:

- (a) a person who is a financial member of a Club or State association for whom they played for in the previous season;
- (b) a person who has commenced playing for, or has been registered as, a playing member of a Club in the current season; or
- (c) a person who has been cleared to another Club and whose transfer details have been supplied to Hockey WA, even if that the player may not yet have commenced playing with such Club.

Qualifying Season is the round matches played prior to the Finals series.

Regional Association means a regional association whose objects include the fostering, promotion or management of the game of hockey and who apply to and are accepted by resolution of the Hockey WA Board as affiliates of Hockey WA.

Regular Grade is the grade in which a player has played most of their matches in the current season at that point in time up to and including the last qualifying round. Where a player has played an equal number of matches in more than one grade, his/her Regular Grade will be the higher of those grades.

Rules of Hockey means current edition of the FIH Rules of Hockey.

Senior Competition refers to the Senior Turf and Senior Grass Leagues.

Team means a number of players registered with a Club and designated by that Club to represent it in a scheduled match in the Competition.

Winter Season means a Winter Season Competition run by Hockey WA or a Hockey WA affiliated Regional Association, including junior Competitions, the first day of which will be the date of the first match of the Competition and the last day of which will be the date of the grand final match of the Competition for that season.

Appendix B: Venue Minimum Criteria

Venue Requirements for Hockey WA Competitions (Field of Play – Facilities on field)

Space	Applicable Venues	Size	Specific Requirements	Further Information
Competition Pitch – Turf/Grass	All venues	91.4m long x 55m wide	Refer FIH Field Specifications	<p>The quality of the playing surface (turf and grass) is of high importance.</p> <p>Turf – no gaping seems or worn patches.</p> <p>Grass – no potholes that present risk to players.</p> <p>Routine mowing program in place with local government authority.</p> <p>Line markings must be clear.</p>
Pitch & Sport Equipment	All venues		Goals that are in a high-quality condition and meet the requirements of the rules of hockey	
Access	All venues		The ground must be accessible at least 30 minutes prior to the first scheduled game on any day	

Venue Requirements for Hockey WA Competitions (Field of Play – Surrounding field)

Space	Applicable Venues	Size	Specific Requirements	Further Information
Change Rooms – Teams	All venues	50m ²	<p>Showers with hot and cold water (min. 2)</p> <p>Toilets (min. 2)</p> <p>Electrical outlets</p> <p>Storage for belongings</p>	Must be lockable and secure
Spectator Amenities	All venues		<p>At least 1 male and 1 female public toilet for spectators (clean and hygienic)</p> <p>At least 1 disabled toilet</p>	Access to club venue must be available for all Hockey WA fixtures.

Venue Requirements for Hockey WA Competitions (Medical Facilities)

Space	Applicable Venues	Size	Specific Requirements	Further Information
First Aid Equipment	All venues with club rooms		<p>Appropriate first aid measure in place, including aid kit(s)</p> <p>Available at clubroom or as part of team equipment</p> <p>AED available at venue</p> <p>Stretcher available at the FOP</p>	
Ice Facilities	All venues		Ice for injury	Provision must be made for all Hockey WA fixtures.
Ambulance Pitch Access	All venues	Adequate to allow a medical vehicle access	Clubs should ensure all team coaches or managers are aware of how an ambulance may access their home ground.	Coach/Manager induction plan.

Appendix C: Match day official roles and responsibilities

Roles

The match day official is clearly identifiable by wearing a yellow top.

The match day official is the first point of contact for any disputes/indiscretions that may arise.

Responsibilities

Mandatory Responsibilities	Encouraged Responsibilities
Ensure First Aid Equipment and ice facilities are in place in in working order	Meet and greet the opposing team(s) and officials making them aware of club facilities
Provide support to the officials both during and after fixtures, including dealing with breaches of Code of Conduct	Ensure field(s) are clear and that fixtures are able to start on time or as promptly as possible
Be aware of spectators' behaviour and be prepared to respond if necessary	Behave in a polite and courteous manner to all persons, including when dealing with breaches of Code of Conduct

Appendix D: Green, yellow and red misconduct cards

Further explanation of the rules and procedure attached to a green card is as follows:

Explanation	Procedure
The offending player is temporarily suspended for two (2) minutes.	The offending player must leave the field immediately and the suspension commences when the player is seated in a place designated by the umpires, Technical Officer or ground controller. The umpire will immediately restart the game and if the offending player interferes with play whilst leaving the field, the umpire will further penalise the player in accordance with the Rules of Hockey.

Further explanation of the rules and procedure attached to a yellow card is as follows:

Explanation	Procedure
The offending player is temporarily suspended for a minimum of five (5) minutes.	<p>The timing of yellow card suspensions is determined by the umpire that issued the card. The offending player must leave the field immediately and the suspension commences when the player is seated in a place designated by the umpires, Technical Officer or ground controller. The umpire will immediately restart the match and if the offending player interferes with play whilst leaving the field, the umpire will further penalise the player in accordance with the Rules of Hockey.</p> <p>If a player receives a second yellow card (for the same offence) in the same game, the player is not permitted to take any further part in the game.</p> <p>When a player accumulates three (3) yellow cards in any Hockey WA League during the Competition season, a one (1) Fixture Week suspension from all Hockey WA Leagues will take effect upon notification by Hockey WA.</p> <p>For every additional two (2) yellow cards a player receives in any Hockey WA League during the Competition season after the fourth caution, a two (2) Fixture Week suspension from all Hockey WA Leagues will take effect upon notification by Hockey WA.</p> <p>For the purpose of Finals, all yellow cards will be removed from a player's record at the end of the Qualifying Season. When a player accumulates two (2) temporary suspensions (yellow cards) in any Hockey WA League during finals series, a one (1) Fixture Week suspension will take effect upon notification by Hockey WA.</p>

Further explanation of the rules and procedure attached to a red card is as follows:

Explanation	Procedure
The offending player is suspended for the remainder of the match.	The offending player must leave the field of play for the remainder of the match.
They are also suspended for the next following Fixture Week for which they are available, and they may face a tribunal where the tribunal will decide if further penalty/penalties are to be incurred.	<p>Should the umpire consider it necessary, they may require the offending player to leave altogether the venue where the match is being played.</p> <p>The umpire who issued the red card must submit a report on the incident to the Hockey WA office within 72 hours of the offence occurring.</p>