

EHL REGULATIONS 2022-23 (September 2022)

CONTENTS (Click on to go to relevant section)

GLOSSARY

1. INTRODUCTION

2. MANAGEMENT

3. ENTRY INTO THE LEAGUE

4. THE COMPETITION

5. FIXTURES

6. MATCHDAY ADMINISTRATION

7. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY - REGISTRATION

8. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY - FAIR SELECTION

9. TEAMS, MATCH SHEETS & RESULTS

10. DRESS

11. UMPIRES & MATCH OFFICIALS

12. DISCIPLINE

13. POSTPONEMENT OR ABANDONMENT

14. FAILURE TO HONOUR A FIXTURE OR FORFEITURE OF A MATCH

15. BREACH OF REGULATIONS & PENALTIES

16. APPEAL PROCEDURE

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 – LEAGUE TITLES AND DIVISIONS

APPENDIX 2 – ENGLAND HOCKEY POLICIES

APPENDIX 3 – VARIANCES TO FIH RULES OF HOCKEY

APPENDIX 4 – FAIR SELECTION & PLAYER ELIGIBILITY GUIDANCE NOTES

APPENDIX 5 - STANDARD PENALTIES & TARIFFS OF FINES

APPENDIX 6 – APPEAL NOTICE TEMPLATE

APPENDIX 7 – DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF APPOINTED MATCH OFFICIALS

APPENDIX 8 – CALENDAR & RESERVE LEAGUE DATES

APPENDIX 9 – SHOOTOUT REGULATIONS

GLOSSARY

In these Regulations:

ADA means the relevant Area Disciplinary Administrator

AL means the Area League. The Divisions of the overall league pyramid administered by an Area

ALAP means the Area League Appeal Panel appointed pursuant to the Area Articles of Association and the Area Regulations

ALC means the Area League Chair

ALDS means Area League Divisional Secretary

ALFO means the Area League Finance Officer (or Treasurer)

ALM means the Area League Manager who oversees the administration of all Divisions within an Area

ALMC means the Area League Management Committee

ALWG means the Area Leagues Working Group, with representatives from each Area League

AMC means the Area Management Committee

AOC means the relevant Area Officiating Committee (and for the purpose of these Regulations where not expressly stated shall also include the Welsh Hockey Umpires Association)

Appellant means the party (usually a club) making an appeal on a EHCD decision

Area Appointed Umpire means the Umpire or Official appointed to a match by an appointing body e.g., Area Officiating Body (or its component sub-areas), National Officiating Body.

Area means, unless the context otherwise requires, the Area Company that has adopted these Regulations and is one of the eight Area Companies (the Areas) required to cooperate with the other seven Areas in the governance of hockey subject to and within the powers and responsibilities of EH, and to carry out and do all such things as are set out in the Area's Articles of Association

ASC means the Areas Standing Committee where the 8 Area organisations meet nationally

BUCS means British Universities & Colleges Sport

Club means the member club that is participating in the League

Club Appointed Umpire: Umpire or Official appointed to a match by a Club, whether affiliated to that Club or 'on loan' temporarily from another Club.

EH Code of Ethics means the EH Code of Ethics and Behaviour

EH means England Hockey, the National Governing Body for hockey in England

EH Appeal Panel means the England Hockey Appeal Panel

EHCD means the EH Competitions Department

EHF means the European Hockey Federation

EHL means the England Hockey League comprising of both Men's and Women's League Premier Division, Division One North & South and Conference East, Midlands, North, West also known as League (or for the purposes of the Leagues structure *NL* National League)

FIH means the International Hockey Federation

GMS means the online Game Management System designated for use by EH

Grade A number of Steps within a league pyramid that are banded together that share the same requirements for participant eligibility, competition and matchday administration. Note that across parallel leagues it is possible for teams at the same Step in different Leagues to be at different Grades depending on the size of those Leagues

League means the England Hockey League

League Reserve Date (aka slip date) is a date that should be used for the playing of re-arranged fixtures

Leagues means the collective term for the 8 Area Leagues and the England Hockey League.

Liaison Officer means the main contact at a club for the EHCD

League Reserve Date (aka slip date) is a date that should be used for the playing of re-arranged fixtures

NL means the National League. The Divisions of the overall league pyramid administered centrally by EHCD for which separate regulations are issued

PPM means Points Per Match and may be used to determine promotion or relegation issues. If teams have played an unequal number of matches, then the average PPM will be used along with averages for any other method of determining positions (see Regulation 4)

Principles means Principles of Fair Selection

Regular Team means the team in which a player is usually selected, determined by the record of their playing appearances

Step means the allocation of Divisions in a League pyramid structure. The highest Division will always be Step 1, the next highest, Step 2 etc. It is possible to have more than one parallel Division at any Step

TAP means the England Hockey Technical Appointments Panel

Team is used to differentiate between a Club's different teams, either Men's or Women's

Team Admin means the individual from a team within a club that is responsible for liaising with the Divisional Secretaries and using the GMS

These Regulations means these England Hockey Leagues Regulations and any reference herein to a particular Regulation is, unless otherwise expressly stated, a reference to a particular Regulation in these Regulations

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Leagues structure in England will comprise of:

- National League – administered centrally by England Hockey and currently known as the 'England Hockey League'.
- 8 Area Leagues – each administered by their respective Area organisation.

1.2 The titles of the Leagues and divisions therein are shown as Appendix 1 and must be so referred in any communications including any Area or National sponsor's names.

1.3 All England Hockey policies will apply to all matches within the Leagues. (See Appendix 2)

1.4 The Rules of Hockey, including any experimental rule changes approved by EH for use in Competitions shall be observed except as provided by Appendix 3.

1.5 The Regulations for National League and Area adult hockey leagues are aligned to the Grades. The application of these Regulations will vary at different Grades to ensure that the expectations are commensurate with the standard of play. England Hockey League is Grade 1.

1.6 EH shall own the broadcasting rights to all matches played in the League, including its playoff and qualifying tournaments, be they, terrestrial, satellite, cable, or internet streaming. All other broadcast coverage may be permitted with the prior approval of EH.

1.7 Betting

1.7.1 No person or affiliated body that is for the time-being participating in the League and/or is otherwise concerned in officiating over any match played in the League, or in the administration of the League, shall, either directly or indirectly, bet, or instruct, permit or enable any person or body to bet on the result, progress, or, conduct of an League fixture.

1.7.2 No such person or affiliated body shall use, or provide to any other person or body, any information relating to the League which the person or affiliated body has by virtue of their position and which is not publicly available for, or in relation to, betting.

1.7.3 Any breach of Regs 1.7.1 and/or 1.7.2 shall be considered a Disrepute Offence under the EH Code of Ethics.

2. MANAGEMENT

2.1 The operational management of the League will be by the EHCD.

2.2 The League shall be managed in accordance with these Regulations as issued, and amended, from time to time by England Hockey.

2.3. Appeals against League decisions will be heard by the EHAP via the Appeals process (see Reg 16).

2.4 Any Team Admin requiring clarification on League Regulations should consult directly with EHCD.

3. ENTRY INTO THE LEAGUE

3.1 Clubs

3.1.1 Each club, by its entry into and participation in the League, and each player, by registering to participate in the League, shall be deemed to have given consent to abide by these Regulations, England Hockey policies and any amendments that may be ratified by EH from time-to-time. Each club and/or player shall be deemed to have agreed to abide by the decisions of the EHCD in relation to these Regulations or any matter not covered in these Regulations and any penalty or sanction it may see fit to impose.

3.1.2 For their teams to be eligible to participate in the League, clubs must, by the due date, have:

3.1.2.1 Completed their membership to England Hockey (and where relevant Hockey Wales), including any payments;

3.1.2.2 Paid League entry fees;

3.1.2.3 Paid any fines or monies outstanding to England Hockey, Area and/or Sub-Area

3.1.3 Each participating club must appoint a Liaison Officer and 2nd contact for each gender of team participating in the League. (An individual may cover both roles). The Liaison Officer and 2nd contact should be available to the EHCD, and other teams as required, by

the usual channels of communication. The name, e-mail address and telephone number(s) of the Liaison Officer and 2nd contact must be advised to the EHCD, via, or for use in, the GMS and by the date specified. Any change in details of any of the above must be advised via or for use in the GMS.

3.1.4 By agreeing to be a Liaison Officer or 2nd contact and providing the information required under this Regulation, the Liaison Officer and 2nd contact consent to receiving information from the EHCD and any other person or body involved in the proper administration of the League, and further consents to the EHCD, and any other person or body involved in the proper administration of the League, sharing this information for that purpose.

3.1.5 Each participating club must have a representative from their club at any meeting called by the EHCD. These will ordinarily be online but may be physical meetings. In addition, each club shall respond to requests for information by the EHCD, NPUA or TAP by the due date.

3.1.6 Any club that wins a perpetual trophy must arrange for it to be returned at the club's cost to EHCD by 1st February, unless otherwise agreed by the EHCD. EHCD will advise the club if the trophy is to be engraved or not engraved in advance of this. The cost of any additional engraving or a replacement if a trophy is misplaced by a club will be invoiced to the relevant club.

4. THE COMPETITION

4.1 Structure

The Divisions

4.1.1 Each gender of the League will consist of seven Divisions: Premier, Division One North & Division One South (collectively referred to as 'Division One'), Conference East, Conference Midlands, Conference North and Conference West (collectively referred to as the 'Conferences'). Each Division shall consist of ten teams except that the Premier Division shall consist of twelve teams.

4.1.2 Each team in Division One North & Division One South and each of the Conferences will play all other teams in its respective Division on a home and away basis on the dates specified by EH.

4.1.3 The formation of Division One and the Conferences shall be decided annually by EHCD.

4.1.4 The Premier Division will be played in three Phases - Phase 1, Phase 2 & Phase 3 as follows:

4.1.4.1 Phase 1:

4.1.4.1.1 Each team will play each other once on the dates specified by EH; each team will play either five or six home matches and five or six away matches as determined by EHCD and will accrue points as per 4.2 below.

4.1.4.1.2 All points, deductions, goals scored and goals conceded from Phase 1 will carry forward to Phase 2 as per 4.1.4.2 below;

4.1.4.2 Phase 2:

4.1.4.2.1 Teams ranked 1-6 (referred to as Tier 1) at the end of Phase 1 shall play each other once either home or away on the dates specified by EH. Teams ranked 1-3 will play three home matches and teams ranked 4-6 will play two home matches

4.1.4.2.2 Teams ranked 7-12 (referred to as Tier 2) at the end of Phase 1 shall play each other once either home or away on the dates specified by EH. Teams ranked 7-9 will play three home matches and teams ranked 10-12 will play two home matches

4.1.4.2.3 Teams in Tier 1 and Tier 2 will accrue points as per 4.2 below in addition to all points, deductions, goals scored and goal conceded from Phase 1

4.1.4.3 Phase 3:

4.1.4.3.1 **League Finals** Teams ranked 1-8 at the end of Tier 2 will participate in the League Finals.

4.1.4.3.2 Teams will be divided into two pools of four based on their ranking at the end of Tier 2. Teams ranked 1,4,5,8 will form one pool, and teams ranked 2,3,6,7 will form the other pool. Teams in each pool shall play each other once either home or away on the dates specified by EH. Teams ranked 1-4 will play two home matches and teams ranked 5-8 will play one home match. No points, deductions, goals scored and goals conceded from Phase 1 or Phase 2 will carry forward to Phase 3. Teams will accrue points as per 4.2 below and in addition, in the event of a match being drawn, a shoot-out competition will be played in accordance with Appendix 9 and the winner of the shoot-out competition will be awarded one bonus point.

4.1.4.3.3 The winner of each pool shall play the runner-up of the other pool (semi-finals) and the winners of the semi-finals shall play in the final and the losers of the semi-finals shall play in the 3rd place play-off on the dates and venues specified by EH.

4.1.4.3.4 Further regulations will be issued by EHCD in respect of the League Finals.

4.1.4.4 Play-offs. Teams ranked 9-12 at the end of Phase 2 will participate in the Play-offs. All points, deductions, goals scored and goals conceded from Phase 1 and Phase 2, as per 4.2 below, will carry forward to the Play-offs. Teams in the Play-offs shall play each other once either home or away on the dates specified by EH. Teams ranked 9-10 will play two home matches and teams ranked 11-12 will play one home match.

4.2 Scoring Systems

4.2.1 Teams shall be awarded 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw, 0 points for a loss.

4.2.2 In the event of teams being equal on points at the end of the season or a Phase in the Premier Division, places within a Division shall be determined by each of the following factors, in the order shown:

4.2.2.1 Highest goal difference;

4.2.2.2 Highest number of goals scored;

4.2.2.3 Highest number of matches won;

4.2.2.4 Aggregate result of the matches between the teams concerned (and, if also equal, away goals taking precedence over home goals);

4.2.2.5 If teams are still equal they will share the position except when it determines a championship, promotion, relegation, play-off or further progression between Phases in the Premier Division. In that case a further match between the teams involved will be arranged, for which the match arrangements will be organized by the EHCD

4.2.3 Walkovers

A team that fails to honour more than the one match during the season will be withdrawn from the League and all previous results will be void. The EHCD will consider the circumstances in which a fixture is not fulfilled before implementing any sanction.

4.4 Teams from the same club and Divisions

Teams from the same club may not play in the same Division of the League.

4.5 Promotion & Relegation

4.5.1 Standard promotion and relegation is as shown but may be varied by EHCD in line with Regulation 4.5.4 and 4.5.5. below.

Premier Division (A) & Division One North (B1) and South (B2)	Bottom two teams in A relegated – those teams finishing 11th and 12th at the end of the Play-offs. Top team in both B1 and B2 promoted
Division One North (B1) and South (B2) & Conference East (C1), Midlands (C2), North (C3), West (C4)	Bottom two teams in both B1 and B2 relegated Top team in each of C1, C2, C3, C4 promoted
Conference East (C1), Midlands (C2), North (C3), West (C4) & 8 Area Premier Divisions	Bottom two teams in each of C1, C2, C3, C4 relegated Top team in each of the 8 Area Premier Divisions promoted

4.5.2 If the relegation of a team means there would be more than the maximum number of teams from the same club in a Division (see Reg 4.4 above), the team with the lowest ranking from the club in the lower Division will be relegated irrespective of finishing position. Any additional place will be filled by the highest placed team in the relevant Division who would otherwise have been relegated.

4.5.3 If the promotion of a team means there would be more than the maximum number of teams from the same club in a Division, the promotion will not go ahead. Any additional place will be filled by the next highest placed team, below the team that cannot be promoted, in the relevant Division.

4.5.4 Any further additional places will be filled in the following order:

4.5.4.1 Relegation: the next placed team in the relevant Division who would otherwise have been relegated

4.5.4.2 Promotion: the next highest placed team, below the team that cannot be promoted, in the relevant Division

4.5.5 Where additional promotion(s) or reprieve(s) from relegation are required due to any variance from the League structure (Reg 4.1) this will be determined by EHCD, with places determined in the order shown in 4.5.4. Where this involves consideration across parallel Divisions the PPM method will be used to determine any outcome required.

4.6 EHF Club Competitions Qualification

EH will have a designated number of places in the EHF Club Competitions (EHFCC) and the ranking of teams for participation in EHFCC for the following season as per EHF's designation will be as below.

4.6.1 1st – the team winning the League Finals

4.6.2 2nd – the team ranked 1 at the end of Phase 2

4.6.3 3rd – the team who are runners-up in the finals

4.6.4 4th – the team winning the 3rd place play-off in the finals

4.6.5.1 If the team ranked 1 at the end of Phase 2 wins the League Finals, then the runner-up in the League Finals will be EH's second ranked team, the winner of the 3rd place play-off will be EH's third ranked team and the loser of the 3rd place play-off will be the fourth

ranked team.

4.6.5.2 If the team ranked 1 at the end of Phase 2 is runner-up in the finals, then the winner of the 3rd place play-off will be EH's third ranked team and the loser of the 3rd place play-off will be the fourth ranked team

5. FIXTURES

5.1 Fixture Scheduling

5.1.1 EHCD will issue fixtures with their scheduled dates.

5.1.2 Clubs may agree to move a fixture to within 3 days of the scheduled date. This is subject to the approval of EHCD. If a match is moved to a designated reserve slip date under this regulation, EH retain the right to change the match back to the original date if the slip date is subsequently required

5.2 Fixture Management

5.2.1 Each team shall provide, using the GMS, by 1 September the proposed time and venue for each of its home matches as below. This is subject to any variation for a later deadline at the discretion of the EHCD.

5.2.2 Any change to this information must be notified to EHCD and to the Team Admin of the opposing team and any appointed match officials at least 16 days prior to the match.

5.2.3 Any changes within these number of days is by exception only and must be agreed by both teams and all match officials and notified to the EHCD as above. In this event any changes must be communicated to opponents and match officials AND confirmed back by email or message no later than 20:00hrs on the Wednesday prior to the match.

5.2.4 EHCD reserves the right to decline any change if it represents a significant or unnecessary variation from previously notified details and the opposition do not agree.

5.2.5 The Home team must contact their opponents, both Umpires and the Match Official to confirm arrangements by 20:00hrs five days prior to the match.

5.2.6 The Away team must provide the Home team with an accurate list of players including shirt numbers, by a date as specified by the home club, for inclusion in the matchday programme, where produced.

6. MATCHDAY ADMINISTRATION

6.1 Pitches & facilities

6.1.1 All League matches must be played on artificial turf pitches suitable for hockey. EHCD reserves the right to not allow a specific pitch to be used for League matches if it deems it unsuitable.

6.1.2 For all League matches, a broken line must be marked 5 metres from the outside edge of the circle. Each line is to be 30 cm in length with a gap between each line of 3 metres starting with a solid line at the centre of the top of the circle.

6.1.3 Clubs must undertake a risk assessment for venues they use, this is usually an insurance requirement, and all clubs must be insured. Advice on risk assessments as part of the Planning Safe Hockey guide can be found here:
<https://www.englishockey.co.uk/governance/duty-of-care-in-hockey/safe-hockey>

6.1.4 It is the responsibility of the home club to ensure that pitch facilities, including markings, goals and goal nets are satisfactory and that all other requirements in this Regulation are met prior to a match. Immediately prior to the commencement of a match, or once a match has started, the decision on whether it should be postponed or abandoned is determined by the umpires in consultation with any EH appointed match official. Safety of players shall be a key factor in any decision making.

6.1.4.1 Every effort must be made to find a suitable replacement pitch if a team's regular pitch is unfit.

6.1.5 If the pitch is deemed unsuitable by the umpires, they may direct that the match be postponed. The EHCD reserves the right to determine the suitability of facilities in line with the Planning Safe Hockey guidance.

6.1.6 Home teams must provide a designated bench area on the side of the pitch (away from any spectator area) either side of the

centre line and extending no further than the 23 metre lines. Each team shall be allocated a section of the area, i.e. from centre line to one of the 23 metre lines. Substitutes and officials on the team-sheet must remain in the vicinity of their section of the designated bench area (unless warming up/down) and no other persons are allowed in the designated bench area or within 5 metres of the dugout. Dugouts for both teams and for umpires and match official are required, subject to dispensation from EHCD, which may be granted in exceptional circumstances.

6.2 Pitch bookings

6.2.1 Pitch bookings must be of a minimum length as shown below,

- Premier Division and Division One – 2 hours
- Conference – 1 hour 45 minutes

6.2.2 For any match, teams may agree to a shorter window than that shown as long as this does not impact the match being completed.

6.2.3 On the last weekend of matches, pitch bookings must be an additional 30 minutes longer, scheduled before the pre-match familiarisation time to ensure any previous game that over-run does not impact on the start time of the match.

6.3 Start times and floodlights

6.3.1 Match start times shall be between the following times:

Time – Sep & Oct, Mar & Apr	Time – Nov-Feb	Under floodlights at a minimum of 350 lux
11:30 – 15:00hrs	11:30 – 14:30hrs	18:00hrs at the latest

6.3.1.1 Consideration should be given to opposition travel when scheduling fixtures.

6.3.2 Matches may be played earlier or later than the times shown if both teams, EHCD and NPUA agree.

6.3.3 The home team may set a start time in a window between 14:30 hrs and 17:00 hrs on a Saturday without the agreement of the away team, provided that:

- 6.3.3.1 The home club's floodlights exceed an average maintained output of 350 lux
- 6.3.3.2 The distance the away team is travelling is less than 100 miles one way; and/or,
- 6.3.3.3 The away team is not involved in a League or EH T1 Championship match, or has players participating in EH Performance or EAGS activity, the following day.

6.3.4 On the last scheduled round of matches in Phase 1 and Phase 2, Tier 1 and Tier 2, of the Premier Division and all Divisions of the League the start time of all matches shall be 14:00hrs, as determined by the EHCD.

6.4 Starting the Match

If a delay is caused by late arrival of players, where a team has a minimum of 7 players available to start the match, and the match would no longer be able to fit within the allocated time slot, then the match should start.

6.5 Changing Facilities

Home teams must provide the following:

- Toilet on site
- Separate changing for both teams and for umpires at the pitch venue (teams and umpires to have exclusive use for 1 hour prior to and after match)*.

(*Subject to dispensation from EHCD in exceptional circumstances)

Home teams must always ensure they have no advantage over away teams in terms of room access and times.

6.6 Hospitality

6.6.1 The requirement for home teams is that pre-and post-match hospitality should be made available to visiting teams, umpires and match officials, including a hot post-match meal*. (*Subject to dispensation from EHCD in exceptional circumstances)

6.6.2 The away team must confirm if they do not wish to receive any offered hospitality by 20:00hrs on the Wednesday prior to the match. The away team is liable for any costs incurred if they notify they do not require hospitality after this time or if it is not taken on

the day.

6.7 Balls

Home teams must provide a sufficient quantity of good quality hockey match balls, which must be of the same type and colour and suitable for the surface on which the match is to be played. The colour of the match ball(s) shall be white. If a home team wishes to play with any other colour ball then it must apply to EHCD for approval to do this. Any application must be made at least 10 days in advance of the first match where this shall apply. If the match ball is approved to be a colour other than white, then the home team must notify all teams in their Division of this (including the colour of the ball) once approval has been granted. If EHCD approval has not been given to the use of a non-white ball and there is any dispute as to colour, the Rules of Hockey will apply.

6.8 Spectators and Stewards

6.8.1 Teams will provide a designated area for spectators that shall not impede the safe movement of players, umpires or officials, and where possible not within 2 metres of the sideline and team benches.

6.8.2 Home teams must provide stewards, or have an official responsible for spectator control, for all home matches; this person shall not be the team manager. The phone number of this person must be provided to any appointed Match Official before the game.

6.9 Ice & pitch cleaning materials

Home teams must ensure a separate supply of ice pitch side at each bench; a further small supply of ice will be available for the separate use of the umpires. The home team will also provide and, if required, utilise the means to clean any blood spillage or secretions.

6.10 Banners

Clubs must display, when requested, any banner or advertising specified by the EHCD that is supplied by either EH or a sponsor.

6.11 Programmes

Programmes are mandatory for Premier Division and Division One. Home teams must produce a programme for each match. This can be on-line or hard copy. Adverts supplied by EHCD must be included in the programme. The programme must also include accurate team lists. Programmes are recommended for Conferences and where produced must include information as above.

6.12 Conduct

The Team Manager is responsible for the proper conduct of all players and officials named on the team-sheet. A Coach or Assistant Coach on the team bench, unless a designated first aider, may not enter the field of play during playing time, except to assist with a serious injury. Vocal communication by team officials and/or players on the team bench must not in any way be directed at the players of the opposing team, the Umpires, or the Match Official.

6.13 On field Injuries

If any person from the team bench and/or doctor or other medically qualified person attending the match is required to enter the field of play to attend to a player, other than a goalkeeper, that player must leave the field of play and return to the team bench area for a minimum of two minutes. The two-minute period will be managed by the Match Official on duty. The player required to leave the field may be substituted, subject to the provisions of the Rules of Hockey.

6.14 Ball Patrol

6.14.1 For matches in the Premier Division, home teams must provide a ball patrol of a minimum of four people.

6.14.2 It is recommended that Division One and Conference Division teams provide a ball patrol of a minimum of four people. If a home team wishes to provide a ball patrol, they may do so without the permission of the away team provided that they have advised the away team of their intention to do so when contacting them with match details under Regulation 5.2.5 above.

6.15 Video Analysis for the purposes of performance analysis

6.15.1 All home teams must either allow their opposition access to the same videoing facilities as the home side, or, if they are unable to provide access to the same videoing facilities, and if requested, provide a copy of their footage to the opposition.

6.15.2 Any third-party team must request permission, in writing, from the home club to video a match, for the purposes of performance analysis and it is at the discretion of the home club to permit this or otherwise.

6.15.3 Any team videoing a match for the purposes of performance analysis should, by request from the NPUA umpires appointed to the match, make a copy of the footage obtained available for the purposes of the umpire's performance analysis.

7. PLAYER REGISTRATION

7.1 General

7.1.1 To be entitled to play in the League for a club a player must be registered on GMS with that club to play adult league hockey and, since time of their first match during any one season, not have played for another club or team in any:

7.1.1.1 League match in England and Wales (excluding matches organised under the authority of BUCS, intra-university competition, or 'dedicated Masters' or Junior leagues); or

7.1.1.2 Domestic competition in any another country.

7.1.2 Playing for another club in line with 7.1.1 whilst registered for a League club means that a player is ineligible to play for that League club.

7.1.3 Registration must comply with Regulations 7.2 to 7.6 below.

7.2 Photo

A player must have an approved head & shoulders photo uploaded to their registration to be eligible to play in the League

7.3 Age

7.3.1 A player must be aged 15 or above on the day of the match to participate in a Premier Division match

7.3.2 For all other matches, a player must be aged 13 or above on the day of the match.

7.4 Gender

Players shall play in the relevant competition

7.5 Nationality

7.5.1 No Objection Certificate

No player whose Home National Association is not EH, Scottish Hockey or Welsh Hockey is eligible for registration in the League unless they hold a current No-Objection Certificate (NOC) from their Home National Association for the purposes of the EH Sanctioned and Unsanctioned Events Regulations. Evidence of this must be uploaded to the player's record on GMS.

7.5.2 Players who do not hold a United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland passport (UK Passport) or a Republic of Ireland passport (RoI passport)

A team may not field more than three players in any match who do not:

7.5.2.1 hold a UK or RoI Passport; or,

7.5.2.2 have a permanent right of abode, or indefinite leave to remain, as defined by Sections 1 and 2 of the Immigration Act 1971 (as amended from time to time); or,

7.5.2.3 hold a current valid Ancestry Visa or Family of a Settled Person Visa for a right to remain in the United Kingdom; or,

7.5.2.4 have settled or pre-settled status in line with the EU Settlement Scheme.

Evidence of this must be uploaded to the player's record on GMS

7.5.3 This regulation does not apply to a UK Resident who:

7.5.3.1 has no passport and has not previously held a passport for another country; and,

7.5.3.2 is eligible to hold a UK passport

7.6 Registration & Transfers Deadlines

7.6.1 Week by week

7.6.1.1 A player's registration or transfer must be completed for them to be eligible to play 3 days prior to the match, (i.e. by midnight on a Wednesday for a Saturday or midnight Thursday for a Sunday).

7.6.2 Final date

7.6.2.1 A player may only transfer between clubs once during the season and this must be completed by the date below. These deadlines also apply for a new registration (i.e. a player who has not played for another club in a Leagues match in England and Wales or competitive match in another country).

7.6.2.1.1 If joining a Premier Division club:

- i. 9th November - if the player is transferring from another Leagues club or if the player does not hold a UK passport
- ii. 18th December - if the player holds a UK passport and is transferring from a club or team in a domestic competition in any other country than England or Wales.

7.6.2.1.2 If joining a Division One or Conference club:

1st February.

7.6.2.2 Players may apply to EHCD for transfers in exception to the above, i.e. a second transfer or returning to play (e.g. for injury or changes in personal circumstances). The EHCD has the discretion to approve or otherwise such transfers but the deadlines as shown in 7.6.2.1 will apply to participation in matches in the League.

7.6.3 Transfers between Clubs (in England and Wales only)

7.6.3.1 A player can request to move to a new club via GMS.

7.6.3.2 The new club must approve the move.

7.6.3.3 The previous club must approve the move within 10 days of the request or notify EHCD in that period why this has not been approved. The player can play as soon as the transfer is approved.

7.6.3.4 The previous club can decline a move (e.g. on the basis of unpaid fees to the existing club, outstanding disciplinary issues or club assets or permissions held by the player that may need to be returned prior to transfer) and must notify EHCD of this.

In the event of an objection the 10-day period can be extended to 17-days.

7.6.3.5 The EHCD will determine what action to take for an unapproved request within 17 days of the request.

If no approval or notification from the existing club is received within 10 days of the request the transfer will be automatically approved.

7.6.4 Transfers between clubs (in England and Wales) and clubs in other countries including unassigned players

7.6.4.1 A player moving to a club outside of GMS (i.e. not from England and Wales) must request to become unassigned via GMS.

7.6.4.2 Their existing club must approve the move.

7.6.4.3 An unassigned player may play for a club in a League match in another country (excluding England and Wales).

7.6.4.4 An unassigned player, or a player who has not previously been registered on the GMS, can request to move to a new club in England and Wales via GMS. Their existing club, via confirmation to England Hockey, and the new club must approve the move.

8. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY - TEAM SELECTION

8.1 This regulation provides for the application of the Aims of Fair Selection. These Aims and additional notes are included in Appendix 4: Fair Selection & Player Eligibility Guidance Notes.

8.2 The EHCD reserves the right to determine at any time whether or not a club is in breach of the Aims of Fair Selection.

8.3 Whilst 5.1.2 allows Clubs to agree to move a fixture to within 3 days of the scheduled date, subject to the approval of EHCD, for the purposes of this Regulation the original scheduled date of the game will apply.

8.4 The GMS provides a system for the gathering of information and statistics in order to assist in determining whether the Aims of the Fair Selection Policy have been, and are being, achieved.

8.5. Movement of Players

8.5.1 Selection of a player for a higher team than their Regular Team is unrestricted week to week.

8.5.2 Selection of a player for a lower team than their Regular Team is subject to restrictions and must not strengthen a lower team intentionally.

8.5.3 At Grade 1 a player may move a maximum of two teams down from week to week (ie 1st XI to 3rd XI).

8.5.4 In weeks where a team has a fixture but higher teams in their club do not, that team may only select players who have played a minimum of 50% of the League matches they have played in that season for either that team or for a lower team. NB: In this case 8.5.3 does not apply.

8.5.5 For a team's last four matches in the League season, all players must have played a minimum of 50% of the League matches they have played in that season for the team they are selected for, or a lower team.

8.6 Doubling Up

8.6.1 "Doubling up" is defined as when a player plays two Leagues fixtures for their club on the same match day. In respect of the League where matches may be scheduled for a Sunday this includes an Area League match scheduled on a Saturday and a League (EHL) match scheduled on the Sunday.

8.6.2 No player may double up for a team participating in the League save as for Reg 8.6.3.

8.6.3 Doubling Up -- Youth Experience Player

A club at Grade 1 may double up a maximum of one young player for experience per match week under the conditions below:

8.6.3.1 The Youth Experience (YE) Player may double up by playing for their Regular Team (usually the second ranked team in their club) and the highest ranked team in their club (or the second ranked team if that team plays in the League).

8.6.3.2 The YE player must be aged under 18 on 31 August in the year in which the League competition commences.

8.6.3.3 A maximum of one YE Player may double up in any match week.

8.6.3.4 A maximum of five different YE Players may double up in any season.

8.7 Selection Exemption

8.7.1 A club may request a Selection Exemption Pass (SXP) for a player or players. If granted by EHCD the SXP will exempt them from certain Fair Selection & Player Eligibility Regulations for a specified time period to meet the Aims of Fair Selection.

8.8.2 Examples of scenarios where, in genuine cases, the SXP may be granted can be found in the Selection Exemption Guidance Notes in Appendix 4.

9. TEAMS, MATCH SHEETS & RESULTS

9.1 Match Sheets

All match sheets and results will be managed using the GMS.

9.2 Players

A player whose name appears on the match sheet showing those players eligible to play in a match will be deemed to have played in that match.

9.3 Team Officials

Each team may have a maximum of 4 officials in the bench area plus a medically qualified doctor. One of the bench officials must be a team manager who is not participating in the match as a player.. The role of any official is to be included within the match sheet.

9.4 Deadline for submission of information

9.4.1 All players and any team officials participating in a match must be uploaded onto the match sheet on the GMS by one hour prior to the match. By doing so the team confirms that each player listed is eligible to play. Teams must provide an appointed Match Official with a copy of the information supplied for the matchsheet from GMS and not less than 10 minutes before the start of the match notify the Match Official of its starting line-up.

9.4.2 The home team must confirm the score (or if the match is postponed or abandoned) as soon as possible but no later than 30 minutes after the match.

9.4.3 Both teams must confirm full details of goals, cards and injuries one hour after the match.

10. DRESS

10.1 Field players must wear uniform shirts and uniform knee length socks and shall wear shorts, skirts or skorts of the same colour.

10.2 Any additional clothing (e.g. cycle shorts, leggings or long-sleeved under-shirts) must be of the same colour as the corresponding item of clothing shown on the team-sheet.

10.3 The second named (away) team shall wear shirts and socks that contrast with those of the home team.

10.4 Goalkeepers must wear shirts contrasting with those of both teams and must wear protective equipment as specified in the current Rules of Hockey.

10.5 Players shall wear shirts individually numbered on the back with the number allocated on the team-sheet. All numbers shall be no less than 8" (20cm) in height and shall contrast with the colour of the shirt. Taped numbers may only be used in an emergency.

10.6 Turbans, Hijabs (or other agreed head coverings) should be plain or match the shirt in line with club colours on the team sheet. For all head coverings, they must not:

- be attached to the playing shirt
- have any protruding items from the surface
- have any metal fastenings or pins
- cause a danger to the player, or other players
- have the potential to be inadvertently pulled or unravelled

11. UMPIRES & MATCH OFFICIALS

11.1 The NPUA is responsible for the appointment of Umpires to League matches. TAP is responsible for the appointment of Match Officials and their duties and responsibilities in relation to these Regulations are shown in Appendix 7.

11.2 If an Umpire fails to fulfil an appointment, the Match Official shall endeavour to find another Umpire to enable the match to be played. Any replacement Umpire must be at least an active Level 2 Registered Umpire. If no replacement can be found the fixture must be postponed and re-arranged.

11.3 No person shall umpire and be registered to play in the same division of the League during the same season.

11.4 There can be no appeal or complaint against any decision (or non-decision) of an umpire on the field of play or a match official during a match.

11.5 Any issues regarding umpiring shall be dealt with by the appointing body, which will be the NPUA for League games.

11.6 All clubs must complete an Umpire's report as determined by NPUA and feedback on EH appointed Match Officials.

12. DISCIPLINE

12.1 Conduct

12.1.1 In complying with Code of Ethics it is the responsibility of clubs to regulate the behaviour of their players, officials, members and spectators. By participating in the League, clubs confirm that they have established an internal disciplinary procedure to deal with serious disorderly, abusive, offensive or improper behaviour by players, officials, members and spectators prior to, during and after any League match either in person or on social media. This extends to behaviour towards League officials.

12.1.2 Any behaviour contrary to the EH Code of Ethics or the obligations of these Regulations, may be the subject of a Disrepute Complaint and dealt with pursuant to the Disrepute Offence Regulations, or will be dealt with by the EHCD.

12.2 Yellow Cards

12.2.1 Players in the League shall be subject to incremental match suspensions from League matches for yellow cards that they accrue throughout the season in matches in the League. Yellow cards will be recorded on the GMS and the responsibility for applying suspensions rests entirely with the player's club.

12.2.2 The following suspensions shall apply to each individual:

Four yellow cards in a season = 1 match suspension;
Two further yellow cards in the same season (i.e. six in total) = 1 further match suspension;
For each further yellow card thereafter in the same season = 1 further match suspension.

12.2.3 The suspension is to be applied for all club matches, on the date of the next Leagues match of the player's Regular Team (by appearances), unless advised otherwise by EHCD.

12.2.4 The club of any player who is to receive a suspension must immediately contact the EHCD. Any suspension imposed as a consequence of this Regulation shall take effect on the date of the next Leagues match that the team in which the qualifying yellow card was issued, unless otherwise determined by the EHCD. If that match is postponed the EHCD will confirm the date of the suspension. If a player is issued with a red card as defined in Regulation 6.3 of the Red Card and MMO Regulations, the red card shall be counted as 2 yellow cards for the purposes of this Regulation.

12.2.5 In the event that a player is issued with a red card that is not a red card as defined in Regulation 6.3 of the Red Card and MMO Regulations, any yellow card(s) issued to the same player in that match shall still be counted for the purposes of this Regulation.

12.2.6 If a player or team official from the bench is issued with a yellow card, a player is withdrawn from play for the duration of the suspension and it must be the captain, if on-field at the time. If a player or team official from the bench is issued with a red card the team has to withdraw a player from the field of play for the remainder of the match and the withdrawn player may continue to be substituted on and off the pitch during the suspension, but the team must play with one fewer player for the duration of the suspension. In these cases, for the purposes of Regs 12.2.1-12.2.5, the card is recorded against the player who was carded and not the player who served the suspension.

12.2.7 Cards and Suspensions for yellow cards under this Regulation will not carry over from one season to the next.

12.2.8 The failure to suspend a player under this Regulation will be treated as playing an ineligible player.

13. POSTPONEMENT OR ABANDONMENT

13.1 Priority

Unless postponed due to weather or travel as below, a team may only postpone a match if they are playing a higher priority fixture on the date of the match, which includes EHF Club competition. (See Appendix 8 for link to Priority list for coming season). Re-arrangements of fixtures will be made by EHCD

13.2 General

13.2.1 Immediately prior to the commencement of a match, or once a match has started, the decision on whether it should be postponed or abandoned is determined by the umpires. Safety of players shall be a key factor in any decision making.

13.2.2 In the event of a match having to be abandoned, the EHCD will decide on the action to be taken after receiving a report from the Umpires, Match Official and teams. Such a decision may necessitate a replay of the fixture, dependent on the circumstances at the time of abandonment.

13.2.3 In the event of a postponement and/or replay of an abandoned match:

13.2.3.1 In the first half of the season - the match must be replayed on or before the first designated league reserve date when both teams do not have a higher priority fixture, unless otherwise agreed by both teams and the EHCD (see Appendix 8 for league reserve dates for the current season).

13.2.3.2 In the second half of the season - the match must be replayed on or before the first designated league reserve date when both teams do not have a higher priority fixture or may be played prior to the slip date if agreed by both teams (see Appendix 8 for league reserve dates for the current season).

13.2.3.3 In the event of the home team wishing to postpone a match, the away team shall, at its own cost, have the right to inspect the ground prior to a decision regarding postponement being reached.

13.3 Procedure for Bad Weather & Associated Travel

13.3.1 Pitch

13.3.1.1 The home team should use the following procedures.

13.3.1.2 The home Team Admin should ascertain from the visiting team, the Umpires and the Match Official the latest time of notification of cancellation, i.e. when they intend to depart for the pitch venue. If an overnight stay prior to the match is expected, this time should be adjusted accordingly. If it is clear that the pitch will be unfit due to weather earlier than the above time, the visiting team should be

informed immediately.

13.3.1.3 It is the responsibility of the home team to inspect the pitch prior to the above-mentioned departure time. The Team Admin and/or a member of the club or team's leadership should do this and a realistic view must be taken at this stage. They should check with Met Office (www.metoffice.gov.uk) to confirm weather conditions for the next 24/48 hours. All teams should use the Met Office as a standardised reference for weather conditions. If the pitch is unfit and is likely to remain so, the match should be postponed, and the following action taken:

- notify the visiting team.
- notify the Umpires and Match Official, if appointed
- notify EHCD.

The team must notify via an answered phone call, or ensure a response is received.

13.3.1.4 Once the teams and Umpires, if appointed, have arrived, Reg 13.2.1 above shall apply.

13.3.1.5 If a team fails to follow the above procedures and, when all parties arrive, it is clear that the pitch was, and patently has been, unfit prior to the times outlined above, the teams, Umpires and Match Official, if appointed, will be asked to submit a report for the consideration of EHCD who may take action as it deems appropriate.

13.3.2 Travel

13.3.2.1 The away team should use the following procedures.

13.3.2.2 The away Team Admin should check with the Met Office (www.metoffice.gov.uk) and Highways England and/or Highways Wales (www.trafficengland.com or www.traffic.wales) to confirm weather and travel conditions and guidance for the next 24/48 hours. All teams should use the Met Office, Highways England and/or Highways Wales as a standardised reference for weather/travel conditions.

13.3.2.3 If guidance is that you should not travel and this guidance is that this will not change prior to the intended departure time, the match should be postponed and the following action taken:

- notify the home team.
- home team notify the Umpires and Match Officials, if appointed
- home team notify EHCD.

The team must notify via an answered phone call, or ensure a response is received

13.4 The agreement of both teams and EHCD is required before a match can be postponed in line with 13.2.1 and 13.3.2. If teams disagree, the EHCD shall make a ruling whether to postpone or not.

(NOTE: Whilst it is accepted that no system of match postponement can be perfect, teams are requested to try and ensure that matches are postponed in sufficient time for visiting teams and officials to be saved the time and expense of wasted journeys.)

14. FAILURE TO HONOUR A FIXTURE OR FORFEITURE OF A MATCH

If a team fails to honour a fixture, or forfeits a match, it shall be deemed to have lost 0-5 and the opposing team shall be awarded three points and be deemed to have won the match 5-0. This is subject to any remission or further penalty that the EHCD may impose in line with Breach of Regulations & Penalties.

15. BREACH OF REGULATIONS & PENALTIES

15.1 The provisions contained in these Regulations are without prejudice to anything contained in the EH Code of Ethics, but any club or team or individual found to be in breach of these Regulations may be subject to further penalties, as detailed below, in addition to any penalty imposed by any EH Disciplinary Body

15.2 For breaches of any or all of these Regulations, and/or the EH Code of Ethics, the EHCD shall, apply the standard tariff of penalties set out in Appendix 5 save that, in exceptional circumstances, or when there is no standard tariff provided for, the EHCD may impose any penalty, including, but not exclusively, the deduction of points, fines and suspension of players, and may require teams to play matches away from their home venue. These may be applied within the current and/or subsequent season.

15.3 When imposing any penalty, the EHCD shall have regard to any recommendation that may have been made by any relevant Disciplinary Body under the provisions of any Regulation included in the EH Code of Ethics.

16. APPEAL PROCEDURE

16.1 There can be no appeal against the decision of an Umpire or EH appointed Match Official.

16.2 Clubs and teams have the right to appeal against a decision of the EHCD as set out in this Regulation.

16.2.1 The Appeal to the England Hockey Appeal Panel (EHAP) must be commenced by an Appeal Notice (Appendix 6) marked for the attention of the England Hockey Appeal Panel, sent to and received by EHCD not later than 3 days after the Appellant has been notified of the decision to be appealed against. The full Appeal, including copies of all documents and the written statements of any witnesses upon which the Appellant intends to rely in the Appeal must be sent to and received by the Appeal Panel not later than 7 days after the Appellant has been notified of the decision to be appealed against.

16.2.2 The Appeal Notice should be sent by email to the EHCD. A deposit of £100 must be sent within 7 days after the Appellant has been notified of the decision to be appealed against. This will be returned, all or in part, if the Appeal is successful. As soon as reasonably practical after receipt of the Appeal Notice, the Chair of the EHAP shall give directions for the further conduct of the Appeal.

16.2.3 The Chair of the EHAP may, upon the application in writing made by or on behalf of the Appellant, stay, suspend or vary any penalty that is the subject of an Appeal pending determination of the Appeal, and, in exceptional circumstances, may extend the time for appealing upon such terms, if any, as the Chair may think fit. The decision of the Chair shall be final.

16.2.4 Save where the Chair of the EHAP directs otherwise, all Appeals will be dealt with in writing by email unless the Appellant requests an oral hearing, in which case the Chair of the EHAP may direct an oral hearing.

16.2.5 The parties to the Appeal are the Appellant and EHCD, to be represented by a member of EHCD.

16.2.6 Any other club that may be directly affected by an Appeal shall, as soon as reasonably possible, be notified of the Appeal and subsequently the outcome of the Appeal.

16.2.7 As soon as reasonably practical after the receipt of the Appeal Notice, the Chair of the EHAP shall give directions for the further conduct of the Appeal, which may include inviting or permitting any club that may be affected by the Appeal to submit written evidence and/or submissions in support or against the Appellant.

16.3 Every Appeal will be limited to a review of the decision of the EHCD unless the EHAP considers that in the circumstances of the individual Appeal it would be in the interests of justice to treat the Appeal as a re-hearing of the matter (whether or not an oral hearing has been directed, and whether or not there is additional evidence available to the EHAP than was before the EHCD).

16.4 The EHAP will allow an Appeal where the decision of the EHCD was (a) wrong; or (b) unjust because of a serious procedural or other irregularity in the procedure followed by the EHCD in reaching the decision.

16.5 If an Appeal is not allowed in full, the EHAP may impose any sanction that the EHCD could have imposed.

16.6 Where there has been an oral hearing of an Appeal the decision of the EHAP may include a direction that the Appellant shall pay all or part of the costs of the Appeal to be summarily assessed by the EHAP.

16.7 The decision of the EHAP shall be notified in writing to the parties to the Appeal within 48 hours of the decision. Succinct reasons for the decision shall be sent to the parties to the Appeal and the EHCD within 7 days of the decision. The Chair of the EHAP may extend this timetable.

16.8 The decision of the EHAP shall be final.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 – LEAGUES TITLES AND DIVISIONS

See - <http://fixtures.englishhockey.co.uk/> for details

APPENDIX 2 – ENGLAND HOCKEY POLICIES

All England Hockey policies shall apply to matches in the Leagues. These may be revised and or supplemented from time to time by England Hockey but include

- FIH Rules of Hockey (with any variations as determined by EH and as shown in Appendix 3)
- EH Code of Ethics
- EH Red Card and Matchday Misconduct Regulations
- EH Disrepute Offence Regulations
- EH Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey
- EH Privacy Policy
- EH Equality Policy
- EH Transgender Policy
- UK Anti-Doping Rules
- EH Anti-Corruption Policy
- EH Leagues Sponsorship Policy
- EH Safe Hockey Policy

APPENDIX 3 – VARIANCES TO FIH RULES OF HOCKEY

The Rules of Hockey 2022 shall apply with the exception of Rules 1.9, 5.1, 13.3 and 14, which shall be varied as follows:

Rule 1.9

Flag-posts between 1.20 and 1.50 metres in height are placed at each corner of the field – these are not required.

Rule 5.1

a. League matches

A match consists of four quarters of **17 minutes 30 seconds**, with an interval of 2 minutes between quarter 1 and 2 and between quarter 3 and 4, and a half-time interval of 5-10 minutes (to be agreed before the match starts) between quarter 2 and 3.

Rule 13.3

Time is not stopped after a penalty corner is awarded (unless stopped by the umpire). If a suspended player's period of suspension ends during the taking of a penalty corner the player cannot return until the penalty corner has been completed or another penalty corner is awarded.

Rule 14 Personal penalties - Suspensions

1. Umpires shall have the authority to suspend any player or official from the team bench for indiscipline, whether temporarily (green or yellow card) or permanently (red card). This will require the relevant team to withdraw a player from the pitch for the duration of the suspension.
2. If a field player receives a green or yellow card, the Umpires stop the match (but not necessarily the time) to issue the card. If time has been stopped, the Umpires re-start it immediately after issuing the card.
3. If a goalkeeper receives a green card, the Umpires stop time and re-start it immediately after that player has left the field of play.
4. The offending player leaves the field immediately. If they interfere with play on their way to the designated suspension area the Umpire may further penalise the player in accordance with the Rules of Hockey.
5. The timing of the temporary suspension starts when the player is seated in the designated area. For the avoidance of doubt a player or team official who is temporarily suspended from play must sit calmly and quietly throughout the period of suspension and may not be involved in the match in any way. It is the responsibility of the Team Manager to work with the officials to ensure that this is done.
6. The offending player is permitted to resume play when the Umpire who suspended them indicates that the period of suspension has been completed unless this occurs during the taking of a penalty corner in which case the player cannot return until the penalty corner has been completed or another penalty corner is awarded.

7. If the offending player is a goalkeeper, the Umpire shall stop the time at the next available stoppage of play to enable that player to resume play.
8. Where appointed, a Match Official may undertake timing duties on behalf of Umpires in line with Appendix 7.

APPENDIX 4 – PLAYER ELIGIBILITY & TEAM SELECTION

1. Aims of Fair Selection

- 1.1. For clubs to have reasonable flexibility in managing player selection.
- 1.2. For a club's League teams to be selected in hierarchical order and be composed of players that reflects their level of ability within their club based on a) their availability on any one day and b) not being selected at a lower level than usual to strengthen a lower team.
- 1.3. To endeavour to ensure all clubs to feel competition is "fair" and that clubs are not disadvantaged by the application of these Regulations.
- 1.4. To endeavour to ensure players are able to play and not be "unselectable" due to the League Regulations.
- 1.5. To enable simpler administration electronic Match Sheets are mandatory at all levels to support simpler administration:
 - To provide clarity and simplicity, including building logic into the GMS to maximise compliance;
 - To eliminate subjective administrative intervention wherever possible;
 - To provide the data to improve systems and Regulations over time.

2. Doubling Up of a Youth Experience Player

- 2.1. Regulation 8.6 now provides for doubling up across all Grades to ensure equal opportunity for clubs of all sizes and capabilities.

3. Selection Exemption Guidance Notes

3.1 A Selection Exemption Pass can be provided for a specific time period by EHCD at their discretion to manage specific scenarios. A club can request a retrospective exemption in the case of an emergency.

3.2 Examples of relevant circumstances where exemptions may apply in genuine cases, where a player's movement between teams is greater than shown in the tables in Regulation 8. Fair Selection & Player Eligibility. The scenarios listed are not exhaustive and are intended to provide examples of circumstances in which a Selection Exemption might be considered by the EHCD.

3.2.1 Player returning from injury after a few weeks

- A regular 1st team player at Grade 1 is injured and wants to return with a match in the 2nd team in Grade 1.

3.2.2 Player has not played for a number of weeks

- A player has not played a minimum of 50% of the League matches they have played either for that team, or for a lower team.
 - A player plays early in the season and does not play again until the last four weeks of the season and it can be demonstrated this is now an appropriate level for the player.
 - A player has regularly been covering for injuries or unavailability in a higher team.
 - A player has been "dropped" by a higher team e.g., a player selected for a 1st team pre-Christmas for 11 matches but post-Christmas playing solely in the 2nd team for 5 matches at time of the match in question.

3.2.3 Doubling up players from a team higher than a club's lowest or second lowest ranked team

- This may be required if the lowest teams are both away from home or match times clash and players from these teams are unable to double up and any subsequent doubling-up is not in ascending team order.
- A mid-ranked team has significant unavailability and any players doubling up are genuinely from lower ranked team(s)
- A low-ranked team has significant unavailability and needs more than three players to double up in order to field a team.
- A player doubling up is genuinely from a lower ranked team where the difference between the two teams is greater than two, such as a regular 6th team player playing for a 3rd team.
- Doubling up players from higher Grades, (might be required if a club has one team at Grade 2 & one team at Grade 5 & no other teams, or if the club has 3 teams, the highest at Grades 2-3, & that team is at home with one of the others)

3.2.4. *Emergency issues*

- A 1st team goalkeeper is injured in a warm-up and their 4th team keeper is available, having played earlier in the day.
- A club has a number of goalkeepers injured or unavailable and their regular 4th team GK is selected for the 1st team but wants to return to the 4th team on the next match day.

APPENDIX 5 - STANDARD PENALTIES & TARIFFS OF FINES

1. The provisions contained in the Regulations are without prejudice to anything contained in the EH Code of Ethics, but any club or team or individual found to be in breach of these Regulations may be subject to further penalties, as detailed below, in addition to any penalty imposed by any EH Disciplinary Body

2. For breaches of any or all of Regulations, and/or the EH Code of Ethics, the EHCD shall, at its absolute discretion, have the right to impose any penalty, including, but not exclusively, the deduction of points, fines and suspension of players, and has power to make teams play matches away from their home venue. These may be applied within the current and/or subsequent season.

3. When imposing any penalty, the EHCD shall have regard to any recommendation that may have been made by any relevant Disciplinary Body under the provisions of any Regulation included in the EH Code of Ethics.

4. Breaches

4.1 Stages - Stage 1, Stage 2, Stage 3 below refer to an individual breach and the process giving the opportunity to rectify this. A second breach of the same Regulation may result in this being treated as Stage 2.

4.2 Repeat Breaches – 1st Occurrence, 2nd Occurrence, 3rd Occurrence, below refer to the same Regulation being breached on one or more occasions. Penalties may be doubled for repeat breaches.

5. Fines

5.1 There are recommended amounts for fines, Tariff 1, T1 - £25, Tariff 2, T2 - £50, Tariff 3, T3 - £100

5.2 Note waiving of a fine is at the discretion of EHCD in exceptional circumstances

5.3 Where a fine is applied it will be doubled for repeat offences

5.4 Payment of fines is within 28 days unless alternative date is set by EHCD

REGULATION	SUB-SECTION	GRADE	STAGE 1 or 1 st BREACH	STAGE 2 or 2 nd BREACH	STAGE 3 or 3 rd BREACH	FINE
3. Entry into the League	3.1.2 Completed by the due date its membership of England Hockey (and where relevant Hockey Wales), including payment	1	Reminder that it needs to be completed with a revised deadline	If new deadline not met. Warning that it must be completed prior to next match. Fine, if applicable.	Club fixtures awarded as walkovers until completed. Fine, if applicable.	Stage 2 - T1 Stage 3 - T2
		2				
		3				
		4				
		5	Fine, if applicable	N/A	N/A	Stage 1 - T1
		1				
		2				
		3				
	3.1.5 Representation from club at any meeting called by EHCD	4	Reminder that it needs to be completed with a new deadline	Fine	N/A	Stage 2 - T1
		5				
		1				
		2				
	3.1.5 Response to requests for information by the EHCD, NPUA, TAP	3	Regs 3.2.5 & 4.3 apply. Fine, if applicable	N/A	N/A	T3
		4				
		5				
		1				
	3.2.5 Withdrawal of a team during the season	2	Fine, if applicable	N/A	N/A	T2
		3				
		4				
		5				
5. Fixture Management	5.2 Provision of time and venue for each of its home matches by	1	Reminder that this needs to be completed with a new deadline	If new deadline not met. Fine, if applicable	N/A	T2
		2				T1
		3				T1
		4				T1

	deadline -subject to any variation discretion of the EHCD	5				T1
	5.2 Late notification of change of details	1	Fine			T1
		2				
		3	Warning	Fine if applicable		T1
		4				
		5				
6. Matchday Administration	6.1 & 6.5 Provision of Pitch & Facilities and Changing facilities in line with Regulation and no effort to mitigate	1		Fine, if applicable		T3
		2				T1
		3				T1
		4	Warning		Fine, if applicable	T1
		5		Warning		T1
	6.6 Failure to supply hospitality	1		Fine, if applicable	Fine, if applicable	T2
		2				T1
		3	Warning	Warning	Fine, if applicable	T1
		4				T1
		5				T1
	6.6 Hospitality requested or confirmed and not taken	1				T1
		2				Reimburse opposition.
		3		Reimburse opposition. Fine, if applicable	Reimburse opposition. Fine, if applicable	League involved only if non-compliance
		4				
		5				
7. Player Registration	7 & 8. Fielding an ineligible player in a match or not complying with principles of fair selection	1	Match recorded as 5-0 loss (or higher score as determined). Plus 1 point deduction	Match recorded as 5-0 loss (or higher score as determined). Plus 2-point deduction	Match recorded as 5-0 loss (or higher score as determined). Plus 4-point deduction	T1
		2	Match recorded as 5-0 loss (or higher score as determined). Plus 1 point deduction	Match recorded as 5-0 loss (or higher score as determined). Plus 2-point deduction	Match recorded as 5-0 loss (or higher score as determined). Plus 4-point deduction	T1
		3				
		4				
		5	Warning. If this is due to a deliberate act 1 point deduction. In addition, match may be recorded as 5-0 loss, (or higher score as determined)	1 point deduction. If this is due to a deliberate act match recorded as 5-0 loss (or higher score as determined)	2-point deduction. If this is due to a deliberate act match recorded as 5-0 loss (or higher score as determined)	T1
8. Team Selection	9.4.1 Team late in uploading all players and any team officials participating in a match onto the match sheet on the GMS by specified time.	1				T1
		2		Fine, if applicable	Fine, if applicable	T1
		3				T1
		4	Warning	Warning	Fine, if applicable	T1
		5			Warning & fine, if applicable, for persistent non-compliance	T1
	9.4.3 Team late to confirm score on the GMS by specified time.	1		Fine, if applicable		T1
		2				T1
		3			Fine, if applicable	T1
		4	Warning	Warning		T1
		5			Warning & fine, if applicable, for persistent non-compliance	T1
	9.4.4 Team late to confirm details of goals, cards and injuries on the GMS Timeline by specified time.	1		Fine, if applicable	Fine, if applicable	T1
		2				T1
		3			Fine, if applicable	T1
		4	Warning	Warning		T1
		5			Warning & fine, if applicable, for persistent non-compliance	T1
	9. Falsifying	1				T3

	information on match sheet	2	Match recorded as 5-0 loss (or higher score as determined). Fine plus 1 point deduction EHCD to determine if team to be relegated at end of season			
		3				
		4				
		5				
10. Dress	19. Uniform kit, additional clothing, numbers	1		Fine, if applicable	Fine, if applicable	T1
		2	Warning	Warning	Fine, if applicable, for significant non-compliance	T1
		3	Warning for significant non-compliance	Warning for significant non-compliance	Fine, if applicable, for significant & persistent non-compliance	T1
		4				N/A
		5	N/A			
11. Umpires	11.3 Failure of umpire to register as member of England Hockey Officiating (EHO) club	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		2	Warning	Fine, if applicable	Fine, if applicable	T1
		3				
		4				
		5				
	11. Failure to supply umpire of appropriate level	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		2	Warning	1 point deduction from match & fine, if applicable	1 point deduction from match & fine, if applicable. EHCD to determine if match is to be replayed	T1
		3				
		4				
		5	N/A	Warning	1 point deduction from match & fine, if applicable	T1
12. Discipline	12.2.3 Suspended player missing incorrect match	1	Match recorded as 5-0 loss (or higher score as determined). Player to miss 1 further match for appropriate team			T1
		2				
		3				
		4				
		5				
	12.2.4 Fielding an ineligible player in a match (e.g., due to suspension)	1	Match recorded as 5-0 loss (or higher score as determined). Plus 1 point deduction			T1
		2	Match recorded as 5-0 (or higher score as determined). Warning for Team Admin plus 1 point if deliberate			T1
		3				
		4	Warning for Team Admin, plus 1 point deduction if deliberate	Loss of match 5-0 (or higher score as determined). Warning for Team Admin plus 1 point deduction if deliberate		T1
5						
13. Postponement or Abandonment	13. Failure to comply with regulation	1	Match recorded as 5-0 loss for deliberate/negligent failure. Fine and/or reimbursement of opposition expenses			T1 plus opposition expenses
		2				
		3				
		4				
		5				
14. Failure to honour a fixture	14. Failure to honour a fixture	1	Conceded, 0-5 loss (unless EHCD requires match to be played) plus 1 point deduction. Score and point deduction may be increased from 1 point and 0-5 as determined by EHCD. Fine, if applicable			T3 plus additional costs to opposition if applicable
		2				T1 plus additional costs to opposition if applicable
		3				
		4				
		5				
Any regulations not covered above		1	As determined by EHCD			

APPENDIX 6 – APPEAL NOTICE TEMPLATE

ENGLAND HOCKEY APPEAL NOTICE

To be sent to relevant ALM pursuant to Reg 17

Appellant (name of Club and or team)	
Name of Person submitting Appeal Notice	
Position with Club	
Email	
Phone Number	
Decision being Appealed	
Date of Notification of Decision	
Short reason for Appeal	

The club/team confirms that

1. it wishes to Appeal the decision above and is doing so within 3 days of the date of notification of decision.
2. it agrees to pay the deposit of £100 within 7 days of the date of notification of decision
3. it agrees to submit the full details of its appeal within 7 days of the date of notification of decision
4. it understands it will forfeit the right to Appeal if it does not comply with 2. Or 3.
5. it may withdraw its appeal prior to submission of the full details and the deposit will be returned.

Signed	
Print Name	
Position with Club	
Date	

APPENDIX 7 – DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF APPOINTED MATCH OFFICIALS**1. TAP may appoint a Match Official (MO) to league matches with duties and responsibilities as below****2. Matchday Administration**

2.1 Teams shall provide the MO with a copy of their match sheet and team sheet as entered on the GMS and the MO shall check that players and team officials present correspond with information listed and are in line with Reg 9. Only those listed may enter the designated bench area.

2.2 The MO shall record all goals including scorer and type of goal, green, yellow and red cards during the match.

2.3 The MO shall time the suspension applicable for the issue of any green or yellow cards by the Umpire. The period of suspension shall commence when the player has returned to the designated bench area. For the avoidance of doubt a player or team official who is temporarily suspended from play must sit calmly and quietly throughout the period of suspension and may not be involved in the match in any way. It is the responsibility of the Team Manager to work with the MO to ensure that this is done.

2.4 The MO shall check that the record of the match as per Reg 2.2 is agreed by both teams and umpires on the conclusion of the match.

2.5 The MO shall check that the record of the match is correctly submitted to the GMS by teams. Any variance of this shall be raised with the EHCD.

3. Powers of Suspension

3.1 The MO may direct any player or official to be removed from the designated bench area for indiscipline. This will involve the person concerned leaving the playing area, as directed by the MO, for the remainder of the match. Any serious instances involving either an individual or affiliated body MAY be reported as a Disrepute Offence under the Disrepute Offence Regulations. For the avoidance of doubt such action by the MO does not require the team concerned to withdraw a player from the pitch for the remainder of the match.

3.2 The MO may draw the attention of the Umpires to any incident of indiscipline by any player or official from the designated bench area. The Umpires may then impose such personal penalty as they think fit. If the Umpires permanently (red card) or temporarily (green or yellow card) suspend a player or official from the team bench, this will require the relevant team to withdraw a player from the pitch for the duration of the suspension. Such a player may be substituted in line with regulation 12.2.6.

3.3 Any person permanently suspended from the match under Regulation 3.1 or 3.2 may not enter the field of play or designated bench area until completion of the match, which shall include any period of cool down on the field of play after the match.

4. Reporting

The MO shall report any significant variance to the League Regulations by either team to EHCD

5. Club Appointed Match Officials

A Club Appointed MO should undertake the duties as shown in Clauses 2 and 4 above. Clause 3 does not apply.

APPENDIX 8 – PRIORITY LIST AND CALENDAR

The England Hockey calendar may be found [here](#)

The 2022-23 England Hockey League Calendar including League Reserve Dates is below.

If a League Reserve date required for a League fixture is on a Tiered Championships date, the Tiered Championships fixture will be moved by EHCD.

DATE	DATE	LEAGUE RESERVE DATE
Sat 24 Sep	WPrem1 WDI&C1	
Sun 25 Sep	MPrem1 MDI&C1	
Sat 01 Oct	WPrem2 WDI&C2	
Sun 02 Oct	MPrem2 MDI&C2	
Sat 08 Oct	WPrem3 WDI&C3	MPrem1 MDI&C1
Sun 09 Oct	MPrem3 MDI&C3	WPrem1 WDI&C1
Sat 15 Oct	WPrem4 WDI&C4	MPrem2 MDI&C2
Sun 16 Oct	MPrem4 MDI&C4	WPrem2 WDI&C2
Sat 22 Oct	WPrem5 MPrem5 Tiered Champs 1	
Sun 23 Oct		WPrem3 MPrem3
Sat 29 Oct	WPrem6 WDI&C5	MPrem4 MDI&C3
Sun 30 Oct	MPrem6 MDI&C5	WPrem4 WDI&C3
Sat 05 Nov	WPrem7 WDI&C6	MPrem5 MDI&C4
Sun 06 Nov	MPrem7 MDI&C6	WPrem5 WDI&C4
Sat 12 Nov	WPrem8 WDI&C7	MPrem6&7 MDI&C5
Sun 13 Nov	MPrem8 MDI&C7	WPrem6&7 WDI&C5
Sat 19 Nov	WPrem9 WDI&C8	MPrem7&8 MDI&C6
Sun 20 Nov	MPrem9 MDI&C8	WPrem7&8 WDI&C6
Sat 26 Nov	WPrem10 WDI&C9	MPrem8&9 WDI&C7&8
Sun 27 Nov	MPrem10 MDI&C9	WPrem8&9 WDI&C7&8
Sat 03 Dec	WPrem11 Tiered Champs 2	MPrem10 WDI&C9
Sun 04 Dec	MPrem11	WPrem10&11 MDI&C9
Sat 10 Dec		MPrem11
Sat 27 Jan	1. Super6s Final prep 2 Tiered Champs 3	
Sun 28 Jan	Super6s Final	
Sat 04 Feb	WDI&C10	
Sun 05 Feb	MDI&C10	
Sat 11 Feb	WPrem12 WDI&C11 MPrem12 MDI&C11	
Sun 12 Feb	Tiered Champs 4	WPrem12 MPrem12
Sat 18 Feb	WPrem13 WDI&C12 MPrem13	MDI&C10
Sun 19 Feb	MPrem14 MDI&C12	WPrem13 WDI&C10
Sat 25 Feb	WPrem14 WDI&C13	MPrem13&14 MDI&C11
Sun 26 Feb	MPrem15 MDI&C13 WPrem15	WDI&C11
Sat 04 Mar	WPrem16 WDI&C14	MPrem15 MDI&C12
Sun 05 Mar	MPrem16 MDI&C14	WPrem15 WDI&C12
Sat 11 Mar	WDI&C15	WMPrem16 MDI&C13
Sun 12 Mar	MPrem17 MDI&C15 WPrem17	WDI&C13
Sat 18 Mar	WPrem18 WDI&C16	MPrem17 MDI&C14&15
Sun 19 Mar	MPrem18 MDI&C16	WPrem17 WDI&C14&15
Sat 25 Mar	WPrem19 WDI&C17	MPrem18 MDI&C15&16
Sun 26 Mar	MPrem19 MDI&C17	WPrem18&19 WDI&C15&16
Sat 01 Apr	WPrem20 WDI&C18 MPrem20	MPrem19 MDI&C17
Sun 02 Apr	MPrem21 MDI&C18 WPrem21	WPrem19 WDI&C17
Sat 08 Apr	EASTER	
Sun 09 Apr	EASTER	
Sat 15 Apr	Tiered Champs 5	MDI&C18 WDI&C18
Sun 16 Apr		
Sat 22 Apr		Tiered Champs 5
Sun 23 Apr		
Sat 29 Apr		WPrem20 MPrem20
Sun 30 Apr	M Tiered Champs 6	MPrem21 WPrem21
Mon 01 May	W Tiered Champs 6	

APPENDIX 9 – SHOOT-OUT COMPETITION

In a shoot-out competition, five players from each team take a one-on-one shoot-out alternately against a goalkeeper from the other team as set out in this Regulation. The shoot-out competition comprises all series of shoot-outs required to determine a result.

The following sets out both the playing Rules and the procedures to be followed.

1. If the shoot-out competition takes place after the end of a match, the first shoot-out should take place within four minutes of the end of regulation playing time.
2. The respective Team Managers provide five players to take and one player to defend the shoot-outs from those on the Match Report except as excluded below. A player nominated to defend the shoot-outs can also be nominated to take a shoot-out. No substitutions / replacements are permitted during the shoot-out competition other than as specified below.
3. A player who is still serving a disciplinary suspension by the Umpires (or Official where appointed) at the time the shoot-out competition takes place or has been excluded permanently (red card) during the match which leads to the shoot-out competition, cannot take part in that shoot-out competition. A player who has been temporarily suspended (green or yellow card) may take part in the shoot-out competition even if the period of their suspension has not been completed at the end of the match.
4. The Umpires (or Official where appointed) will specify the method of timing shoot-outs taking account of the facilities available and the need to control time accurately.
5. The Umpires (or Official where appointed) will specify the goal to be used.
6. A coin is tossed; the team which wins the toss has the choice to take or defend the first shoot-out.
7. All persons listed on the Match Report other than any player who has been excluded permanently (red card) during the match which leads to the shoot-out competition are permitted to enter the field of play outside the 23m area used for the shoot-out but must be at least 10 metres from the spot where the ball is placed at the start of the shoot-out.
8. The goalkeeper of the team taking a shoot-out shall wait on the back-line outside the circle.
9. A player taking or defending a shoot-out may enter the 23m area for that purpose.
10. Players taking a shoot-out and also defending the shoot-outs taken by opponents are allowed reasonable time to take off their protective equipment to take their shoot-out and subsequently to put back on their protective equipment.
11. Five players from each team take a shoot-out alternately against the goalkeeper of the other team making a total of 10 shoot-outs.
12. Taking a shoot-out:
 - a) the goalkeeper starts on or behind the goal-line between the goal posts; the ball is placed on the nearest 23m line opposite the centre of the goal;
 - b) an attacker stands outside the 23m area near the ball;
 - c) an Umpire blows the whistle to start time;
 - d) an Umpire (or Official where appointed) starts the clock;
 - e) the attacker and the goalkeeper may then move in any direction;
 - f) the shoot-out is completed when:
 - i) 8 seconds has elapsed since the starting signal;
 - ii) a goal is scored;
 - iii) the attacker commits an offence;
 - iv) the goalkeeper commits an unintentional offence inside or outside the circle in which case the shoot-out is re-taken by the same player against the same goalkeeper;
 - v) the goalkeeper commits an intentional offence inside or outside the circle, in which case a penalty stroke is awarded and taken;
 - vi) the ball goes out of play over the back-line or side-line; this includes the goalkeeper intentionally playing the ball over the back-line.
13. If a penalty stroke is awarded as specified above, it can be taken and defended by any eligible player on the Match Report subject to the provisions of Articles 17, 18 and 19 of this Appendix.
14. The team scoring the most goals (or ahead by more goals than the other team has untaken shoot-outs available) is the winner.
15. A player may be suspended by a yellow or red card but not by a green card during the shoot-out competition.
16. If during a shoot-out competition (including during any penalty stroke which is awarded) a player is suspended by a yellow or red card:
 - a) that player takes no further part in that shoot-out competition and, unless a goalkeeper, cannot be replaced;
 - b) the replacement for a suspended goalkeeper can only come from the five players of that team nominated to take part in the shoot-out competition:
 - i) the replacement goalkeeper is allowed reasonable time to put on protective equipment similar to that which the goalkeeper they are replacing was wearing;
 - ii) for taking their own shoot-out, this player is allowed reasonable time to take off their protective equipment to take their shoot-out and subsequently to put it on again.
 - c) any shoot-out due to be taken by a suspended player is forfeited; any goals scored by this player before being suspended count as a goal.
17. If during a shoot-out competition, a defending goalkeeper is incapacitated:
 - a) that goalkeeper may be replaced by another player from among the players listed on the Match Report for that particular match, except as excluded in this Appendix or unless suspended by an Umpire during the shoot-out competition;
 - b) the replacement goalkeeper:
 - i) is allowed reasonable time to put on protective equipment similar to that which the incapacitated goalkeeper was wearing;

- ii) if this replacement is also nominated to take a shoot-out, this player is allowed reasonable time to take off their protective equipment to take their shoot-out and subsequently to put it on again.
- 18. If during a shoot-out competition, an attacker is incapacitated, that attacker may be replaced by another player from among the players listed on the Match Report for that particular match, except as excluded above or unless suspended by an Umpire during the shoot-out competition.
- 19. If an equal number of goals are scored after each team has taken five shoot-outs:
 - a) a second series of five shoot-outs is taken with the same players, subject to the conditions specified in this Appendix;
 - b) the sequence in which the attackers take the shoot-outs need not be the same as in the first series;
 - c) the team whose player took the first shoot-out in a series defends the first shoot-out of the next series;
 - d) when one team has scored or been awarded one more goal than the opposing team after each team has taken the same number of shoot-outs, not necessarily being all five shoot-outs, that team is the winner.
- 20. If an equal number of goals are scored after a second series of five shoot-outs, additional series of shoot-outs are taken with the same players subject to the conditions specified in this Appendix:
 - a) the sequence in which the attackers take the shoot-outs need not be the same in any subsequent series;
 - b) the team which starts each shoot-out series alternates for each series.
- 21. Unless varied by these regulations, the Rules of Hockey apply during a shoot-out.