



MARSHALS

Vital To Enjoyment of the Sport

OVERVIEW

The Board is very conscious of the need to ensure participation in hockey at every level is safe, enjoyable and is played in the spirit all sports should be played. It is a duty of clubs also to ensure their players, coaches, managers and spectator conduct is maintained at the highest level to ensure enjoyment by all. It cannot be left solely to others, including officials, umpires, Board or third parties.

Off field bad behaviour and unsportsmanlike conduct has been contributing to Umpire attrition and diminishing enjoyment of umpires and all involved in Hockey. The behaviour of spectators which is outside of the Disciplinary Structure of the Association and Hockey Victoria need to be managed. This structure also applies to officials, players, managers and administrators.

The Board has researched what was happening in other codes and in particular soccer in the conduct of their sport and the introduction of club based Marshals.

IMPLEMENTATION

From March 2017 Marshals were introduced by Hockey Albury Wodonga and now vests are available either in the Canteen or the dugout. The roles and responsibilities of the Marshal are outlined below and all clubs are to ensure that they follow this role in the oversight of our game. The role is as firstly one of supervision and observation rather than necessarily intervention where harm or risk of some other impact could occur to the Marshal.

The vests initiative has led to a better outcome for all concerned.

POLICY

The Board has adopted the following position:

Failure to provide the Marshal within 5 minutes of the game start time will result in the offending Club Team given one "Strike" against them per Match. Once a club has three strikes, then they will be fined \$100, and a further \$100 for each failure to provide post that.

Where there is high probability of an incident/event based on substantive evidence, the club who is identified as associated with the perpetrators will be issued with a fine as is appropriate as follows:

Failure to supply a Marshal	\$50
Each incident	\$50

The fine will be issued by HAW on the basis that the club may elect to "show cause" as to why the fine should be suspended or not apply. In the event of a show cause request, a Board subcommittee of no less than a quorum will convene and consider the grounds given and respond.

If there is a further appeal by a club it will be heard by a minimum of three club nominees selected by the HAW Tribunal Secretary from clubs not involved with any party. The decision of this committee is final.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MARSHALS

All Club Teams participating in Hockey Albury Wodonga competition matches (excluding Masters) must provide a person to act in the role of “Marshal”.

Marshals must:

- a) be 18 years of age or older;
- b) wear clothing that readily identifies them as a Marshal;
- c) patrol the field used throughout the relevant match and ensure they are located in positions where they are clearly visible to Spectators, and are in an appropriate spot for monitoring off-field incidents and behaviour;
- d) if required or appropriate, accompany Match Officials on and off the field;
- e) ensure that, at all times, their Spectators comply with the HAW Code of Behaviour. If Spectators are behaving contrary to the Code of Behaviour, the Marshal must, if it is safe to do so, remind them of their obligations under the Code of Behaviour and issue any reasonable directions to them, including a direction to leave the venue. If they fail to comply with the Marshals reasonable directions, he/she should, contact their Club for further assistance. If required the Club’s official representative is to contact the police or relevant emergency services for support;
- f) NOT be involved in other duties while acting as a Marshal (not refereeing, coaching, managing, canteen duties etc);
- g) not engage in any verbal or physical altercations;
- h) not consume alcohol or smoke while acting as a Marshal;
- i) not, unless it is safe to do so, approach opposition Spectators behaving inappropriately. They must instead approach the opposition Marshal to resolve any issues. If the opposition Marshal is unwilling or unable to assist, and opposition Spectators continue to behave inappropriately, the Marshal should contact their Club representative for further assistance. If required their Club official representative is to contact the police or relevant emergency services for support;
- j) within 48 hours of a Match, provide a written report to HAW on the prescribed form on the HAW website, setting out any inappropriate Spectator behaviour, including any failure by a Spectator to comply with a Marshals reasonable direction and/or any failure by opposition Marshals to provide assistance in controlling opposition Spectators;
- k) conduct themselves in a manner that enhances, rather than injures, the reputation and goodwill of HAW and hockey generally, and
- l) do not interfere or become involved with the match in progress. The umpires are to control on field activity including interchange during time and any time on.

Clubs, Teams and Marshals that fail to comply with these Roles and Responsibilities may be fined by HAW or dealt with in accordance with the HAW Disciplinary Regulations.

Useful reference: Play by the Rules – [Resolving Conflict](#)