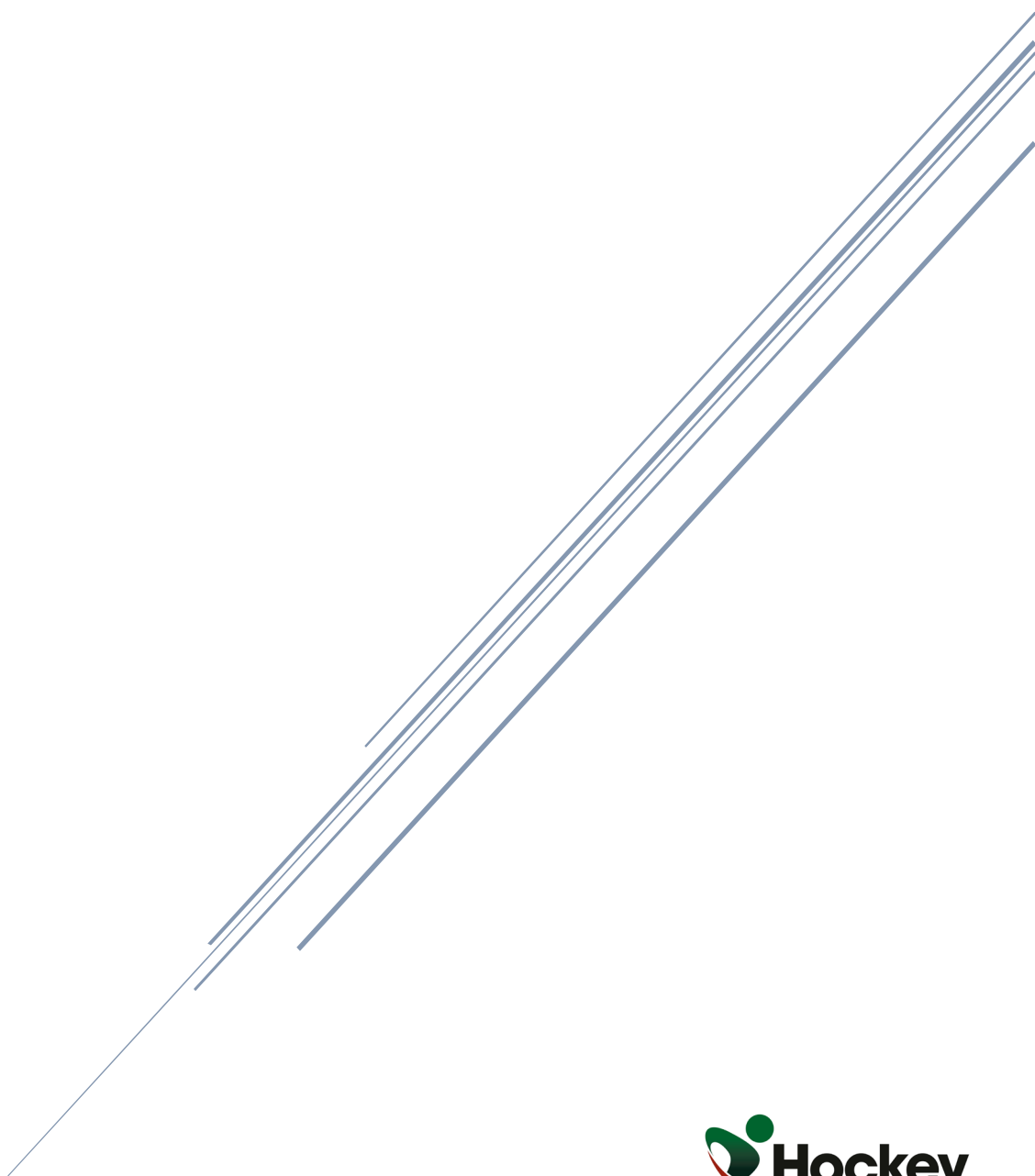


# HOCKEY TASMANIA COMPETITION REGULATIONS

UPDATED MARCH 2022



*do not print on this page*

# HOCKEY TASMANIA COMPETITION REGULATIONS

1. COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE .....	3
2. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS .....	3
3. REGULATIONS .....	3
4. ALLEGED BREACH OF REGULATIONS .....	3
5. PLAYING RULES .....	4
6. TEAM NOMINATION .....	4
7. COMBINED TEAMS .....	4
8. UNIFORMS .....	4
9. REGISTRATION .....	5
10. CLEARANCES .....	5
11. ELIGIBILITY OF AUSTRALIAN PLAYERS .....	5
12. PENALTY (SUSPENDED OR INELIGIBLE PLAYERS) .....	6
13. SUSPENSIONS .....	6
14. BREACH OF HOCKEY AUSTRALIA CODE OF CONDUCT .....	7
15. PROCEDURE ON RECEIPT OF A REPORT .....	7
16. PENALTIES TO BE APPLIED BY HOCKEY TASMANIA .....	7
17. TRIBUNAL.....	10
18. TRIBUNAL PROCEDURE ON REPORTS REFERRED BY TECHNICAL MANAGER .....	10
19. APPEALS AGAINST THE DECISION OF THE TRIBUNAL .....	11
20. PROCEDURE ON RECEIPT OF AN APPEAL .....	11

# HOCKEY TASMANIA COMPETITION REGULATIONS

## 1. COMPETITIONS COMMITTEES

1.1. The Competitions Committees (SCC/NCC/NWCC) are regional committees of Hockey Tasmania (HT) with responsible for overseeing the management of competitions in their respective region.

1.2. The Committees will operate under the **Hockey Tasmania Regional Competition Committees Terms of Reference.**

## 2. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

2.1. Each Competitions Committee (CC) will be responsible for the following appointments prior to the commencement of the winter season. The appointees may not be employees of Hockey Tasmania nor the convenor of the regional committee.

- Officiating Coordinator (OC)
- Technical Manager (TM)
- Umpire Manager (UM)

2.2. The Technical Manager will have responsibility for all matters concerning the conduct of matches in accordance with these regulations.

2.2.1. The Technical Manager may convene a Technical Support Group (TSG) to assist with investigation, interpretation, and application of the competition regulations and playing bylaws.

2.2.2 The TSG has authority to reprimand or to suspend for one or more matches, players, team officials and other officials who, in their opinion, commit a reportable offence before, during or after a match within the playing area.

2.3. The CC will be responsible for the appointment of such other officials as it deems necessary to manage the competition.

## 3. REGULATIONS

3.1. If any dispute arises as to the interpretation of these Regulations, it is to be determined by the CC and if unable to be resolved, it may be referred to the Hockey Tasmania Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

3.2. It is the intention of these regulations to ensure that all players are properly registered, eligible to compete in their competition and able to play in an appropriate grade. These regulations may be applied by the Technical Manager with discretion to ensure that unintended outcomes do not eventuate.

## 4. ALLEGED BREACH OF REGULATIONS

4.1. A Club may lodge notice of an alleged breach of the Regulations by another Club by submitting in writing details of the alleged breach to the committee within 48 hours of the breach occurring. The TSG will undertake preliminary investigations to determine whether the alleged breach should be referred to the HT CEO or CC Convenor.

4.2. The Technical Manager will notify the Clubs concerned on the next course of action within 48 hours of the original notification; including rejection of the Club's submission should the allegation be deemed to be frivolous or vexatious.

4.3. The CC Convenor and the TSG will investigate the alleged breach of the Regulations and will make a determination to be made known to all interested parties within 48 hours of the decision.

## **5. PLAYING RULES**

5.1. All games of Hockey will be played subject to the **Rules of Hockey** as published by Federation Internationale Hockey (FIH) from time to time unless varied by Hockey Australia (HA), or Hockey Tasmania as described in the body of these regulations, or as set out in the **HA Tournament Regulations**.

## **6. TEAM NOMINATION**

6.1. Clubs must nominate teams by the date set by the CC.

## **7. COMBINED TEAMS**

7.1. Where a Club has insufficient numbers to field a team in a grade, it may choose to enter into an arrangement with another Club to enter a combined team in that grade. One of the two Clubs involved in this arrangement is to be designated as the Primary Club and will be responsible for all financial obligations to HT associated with participation in the roster. Any arrangements for contribution by the Second Club towards those financial obligations are to be negotiated between those two Clubs.

## **8. UNIFORMS**

8.1. Full playing/umpiring/technical officials' uniform must be worn by all participants in any game played under these regulations.

8.2. Each player taking part in a Premier League/Greater Northern League game or any other game as agreed by the CC should wear a number on their shirt to distinguish that player from all other players in the team. The number must be at least 18 centimetres high and clearly readable. Sponsors logos or badges on playing uniforms must be in accordance with any direction of HT.

8.3. All Clubs must submit details of their Club uniform to the CC for approval at the time a Club applies for affiliation or if a change of strip is desired.

8.4. Where a conflict of uniform occurs and unless the CC otherwise agrees, the uniform that has been in existence the longest will remain. A conflict will occur if in the opinion of the CC a uniform is sufficiently like an existing uniform as to potentially create difficulty in distinguishing players during a game.

8.5. Where two teams from the same Club play each other, one team must wear different coloured tops and socks.

## 9. REGISTRATION

9.1. To be eligible to play in any roster game a player must be registered as a member of their Club and the details registered on the electronic record required by HT.

9.2. Registration details on the electronic record must be updated annually for each player, before playing their first roster game for the season. A player will remain registered with their Club until such time as a clearance may be given to allow that player to join another Club.

9.3. During the season, a Club may register a new player after the commencement of the season by registration on the electronic record no later than 48 hours after of the player has played their first match.

9.4. Official Records Registration forms, result sheets and other official records (paper or electronic) held by the CC or HT shall be conclusive evidence of the matters entered therein and no other evidence of such matters shall be received without the permission of the CC.

9.5. Any player who intends to play, who:

(a) is not recognised as an Australian Citizen; and

(b) has played in a hockey competition in an overseas country at any time during the past two years;

is required to provide a **No Objection Certificate** to HT from the player's national body.

## 10. CLEARANCES

10.1. It is the intention of these regulations to ensure that all players are properly cleared by any former Hockey Australia Club.

10.2. If a player wishes to transfer from one Hockey Australia Club to another, the player must submit a clearance to HT through their club secretary and register on the electronic record before their first game of the season. A clearance will not be required if the player has not played with their previous Club for (4) four consecutive years.

10.3. If a player seeking a clearance is unable to obtain a clearance form from their previous Club, the player may apply to HT. HT may approve the clearance provided that no monies are owing to the original Club.

10.4. Players may be registered with two Clubs, one each from two separate regions in Tasmania.

10.5. A player may be registered with an Independent School playing in a HT competition and a HT Club but may not play in the same grade for both school and club.

10.6. Any player owing monies to a HT Club or HT will not be cleared to play with another Hockey Australia Club.

## 11. ELIGIBILITY OF AUSTRALIAN PLAYERS

11.1. Dispensation may be sought by a Club where a player having been a registered member in the previous year and reregistered with the Club in the current season, and who has been selected in a Hockey Australia representative hockey team, is unable to play five games for a

Club in a season. The requesting Club must apply for dispensation to the CC before the end of Round 2.

## **12. PENALTY (SUSPENDED OR INELIGIBLE PLAYERS)**

12.1. Any Club playing a player who is not registered or obtained a clearance, who plays in a lower or higher graded team without approval, who is suspended or otherwise ineligible under these regulations shall forfeit the game in which the player played.

## **13. SUSPENSIONS**

13.1. A player shall cease to be eligible to play when they have been suspended for any reason. Ineligibility will last for the period of the suspension.

13.2. A coach or team official shall cease to be eligible to enter the playing area when they have been suspended for any reason. Ineligibility will last for the period of the suspension.

13.3. A player receiving a Yellow card shall collect 1 point.

13.4. A player receiving a Red card shall receive an automatic 1 game suspension from playing in the next scheduled roster game in all grades. The suspension may be reviewed by the Technical Manager upon application by the player.

13.5. The Technical Manager in collaboration with TSG may also award points to players, coaches, and team officials as an automatic penalty for level 1 offences.

13.6. The maximum number of points that any player can collect in any one roster or finals game is two (2).

13.7. The Technical Manager shall keep the record of the receipt of cards as recorded by the umpire or match manager on the result sheet and shall advise the relevant club of any penalty.

13.8. A player who collects 3 points in the same season of regular roster games will be stood down from playing in the next scheduled roster game in all grades.

13.9. For each additional 2 points collected a player will incur a penalty of an additional one round stand-down as above.

13.10. A coach or team official who collects 3 points in the same season of regular roster games will be ineligible to enter the playing area in the next scheduled roster game in all grades.

13.11. Points collected during roster games and automatic suspensions resulting from those points shall only apply to roster games. Any suspension due by players, coaches or team officials following the last roster game shall be carried over to the next roster game in the following season.

13.12. A player who collects 3 points in the same season of finals games will be stood down from playing in the next scheduled finals games in all grades in that season.

13.13. A player receiving a Red card in a finals game shall receive an automatic 1 game suspension from playing in the next scheduled game in all grades.

13.14. Any player who faces the Tribunal (and or accepts an Automatic Penalty of level 2 or above) during the season and is found guilty of an offence shall be deemed to be ineligible to win a regional Best and Fairest Award.

13.15. Any votes gained in a match by a player who is ineligible to play that match shall not count towards that player's points tally for the regional Best and Fairest Award.

13.16. Any goals scored in a match by a player who is ineligible to play that match shall not count towards that player's goals tally for the regional Goal Scorer Award.

#### **14. BREACH OF HOCKEY AUSTRALIA CODE OF CONDUCT**

14.1. Players, officials, spectators, and umpires must abide by the **HA Member Protection Policy and Code of Conduct**.

14.2. An umpire, technical officer, match manager, player, spectator who considers that an incident or breach of the Code of Conduct has occurred should lodge a report with the Technical Manager no later than 72 hours of the incident, for discussion with the TSG to determine any further action as they consider appropriate in accordance with these regulations.

14.3. The TSG has the authority to initiate a report and subsequently reprimand or apply a penalty to the umpire, technical officer, match manager, player, spectator who, in the belief of the TSG, has breached the Code of Conduct.

#### **15. PROCEDURE ON RECEIPT OF A REPORT**

15.1. Upon receipt of a written report the Technical Manager shall,

15.1.1. Provide the reported person, or the Club of the reported person with a copy of the details submitted on the report and request a response within an appropriate period, and

15.1.2. By the next game, if possible, notify the reported person or the Club/s of the report/s including whether an Automatic Penalty is to be offered; or whether the reported incident needs to progress direct to a Tribunal hearing.

15.2. If the reported person rejects the Automatic Penalty, or if an Automatic Penalty is not applicable the Technical Manager will as soon as practicable arrange a Tribunal hearing as allowed under these regulations.

15.3. If the reported person accepts an automatic penalty, that penalty will apply immediately.

15.4. If a reported person rejects an automatic penalty, it is the responsibility of that person to advise the Technical Manager by email that they wish the matter to be heard by the Tribunal. The Technical Manager must have this notification within the period stipulated by the Technical Manager; failure to comply will invoke the automatic penalty.

#### **16. PENALTIES TO BE APPLIED BY HOCKEY TASMANIA**

16.1. In addition to the Cards (Green/Yellow/Red) & Point System, HT has in place a list of Automatic Penalties that may be imposed by the TSG and, for the guidance of the Tribunal, recommended minimum Suspension Penalties for specific offences.

Automatic Penalties can be offered to the person reported where, in the judgment and opinion of the TSG, it is considered based upon the information received (based upon reports and preliminary inquiries concerning the circumstances of the report) that procedural justice and fairness can be achieved without having to go down the path of invoking the Tribunal process.

The person offered the Automatic Penalty can elect to reject the offer therefore proceeding to a Tribunal hearing.

16.2. Reported offences which incur either set penalties, or suspensions arising from Tribunal hearings will be in addition to the **HT Card & Points System**:

LEVEL	DESCRIPTION OF OFFENCE	AUTOMATIC PENALTIES (may be wholly or partially suspended)	RECOMMENDED PENALTIES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE TRIBUNAL
Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Visible/Audible language and/or gestures including excessively audible or repetitious swearing; and obscene gestures which are not directed at another person, such as swearing in frustration at one's own poor play or misfortune. This also includes showing dissent at an Umpire's decision.</li> <li>▪ Acts of aggression and/or intimidation including inappropriate and deliberate physical contact between players in the course of play, as well as charging or advancing towards an Umpire or technical official in an aggressive manner.</li> <li>▪ Physical actions causing potential danger to others that is determined to have been intentional including - inappropriately throwing a stick or ball (or any other object/item of equipment at or near another participant).</li> <li>▪ Abuse of physical structures including any action(s) outside the course of normal hockey actions, such as hitting or kicking the goal posts and any action(s) which intentionally or negligently results in damage to the team benches, chairs, advertising boards, dressing room doors, mirrors, windows and other fixtures and fittings.</li> <li>▪ Disobeying instructions.</li> </ul>	The penalty for Level 1 offences is suspension from the next scheduled match in any competition. Repeated Level 1 offences will result in escalation to Level 2 status.	Up to 2 Weeks

Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reckless physical actions causing <b>low impact</b> danger and/or <b>low impact</b> injury to others. This includes inappropriately (but not intentionally) throwing a stick or ball (or any other object/item of equipment) at or near another participant causing low impact injury.</li> <li>▪ Intentional physical actions causing <b>low impact</b> danger and/or <b>low impact</b> injury to others. This includes inappropriately (and intentionally) throwing a stick or ball (or any other object/item of equipment) at or near another participant causing low impact injury. This also includes acts of aggression and/or intimidation that result in physical contact causing low impact danger and/or low impact injury to others.</li> <li>▪ Verbal Abuse - Use of offensive, insulting abusive or intimidating language and/or gestures. This includes intimidation of umpires, officials and/or players with the use of language or gestures</li> <li>▪ Demonstrated trends of Level 1 offences.</li> </ul>	1 - 2 match suspension depending on determined intention of the offence.	Up to 3 Weeks
Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reckless physical actions causing <b>high impact</b> danger and/or <b>high impact</b> injury to others.</li> <li>▪ Intentional physical actions causing <b>high impact</b> danger and/or <b>high impact</b> injury to others. (Includes intentionally spitting towards others).</li> <li>▪ Verbal Abuse - incitement to violence, or repeated offensive insulting, abusive or intimidating language and/or gestures.</li> <li>▪ Demonstrated trends of Level 2 offences.</li> </ul>	at least a 3 to 6 match suspension but may be directed straight to Tribunal	At least 4 weeks
Level 4	<p>Extreme breaches of code of conduct that are not considered to be part of the course of play and could damage the reputation of Hockey Tasmania or Hockey in Australia. Language or gestures to vilify</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Extreme act of violence, outside course of the game</li> <li>▪ Public statements that are misleading or damaging</li> <li>▪ Bringing the game into disrepute</li> <li>▪ Extreme act that because of its nature cannot be adequately covered by other definitions.</li> </ul>	Refer direct to Tribunal	

16.3 All penalties, as decided by an Automatic Penalty or the Tribunal, would be in addition to whatever action may be pursued in a criminal or civil court of law.

## **17. TRIBUNAL**

17.1. There shall be an independent Tribunal appointed or confirmed by the CC at the commencement of each winter season to hear and investigate all reports referred by the Technical Manager, matters referred under the **Members Protection Policy** and any protests decisions made by the CC under these Regulations. The Tribunal shall act for all competitions controlled by the CC.

17.2. The Tribunal shall consist of a Chairperson and a panel of up to twelve (12) other persons.

17.3. Any three (3) members shall form a quorum and the same members cannot sit on a case that is being appealed against a decision of the Tribunal.

17.4. The Secretary for the Tribunal will be selected from the quorum.

17.5. In the absence of the Chairperson, the three (3) sitting members shall select a replacement chairperson from one of their members.

17.6. No member of the panel may sit on a case in circumstance where they witnessed the incident or in circumstances in which they may be classed (at the discretion of the CC Convenor) as a supporter of the Club of the player or Club officials concerned.

## **18. TRIBUNAL PROCEDURE ON REPORTS REFERRED BY THE TECHNICAL MANAGER**

18.1. The Technical Manager will determine the time and venue of the Tribunal meeting and shall notify members of the Tribunal panel sufficient to constitute a quorum.

18.2. The Technical Manager shall notify the Club Secretary of the player or Club official charged, along with details of the nature of the charge and the time and venue of the Tribunal. It is the responsibility of the Club Secretary to notify the player or Club official.

18.3. The Technical Manager shall notify the reporting umpire or other person of the time and venue of the Tribunal.

18.4. The reporting umpire(s) or person and the reported player or Club official may each have up to two (2) witnesses and a person as a 'friend'. A "friend" does not have the right to ask questions of the witnesses or address the Tribunal.

18.5. Discretion is vested in the Tribunal to allow legal representation in such circumstances as it considers necessary. Circumstances that are relevant to the exercise of that discretion can include:

- an inability of a person to properly present their case.
- where, in the view of the Tribunal, the allegation is a serious one.
- where, in the view of the Tribunal, the issues are complex.
- where, in the circumstances of the matter, it would be unfair to deny legal representation.

18.6. The reported player or Club official, or appellant, is required to attend the Tribunal hearing. If such party refuses to attend an appointed date and time, the Tribunal may proceed in their absence.

18.7. The Tribunal may determine its procedure, but it is not to be bound by the Rules of Evidence and may inform itself as it sees fit.

18.8. The Tribunal will hand down a written decision within five (5) calendar days from the hearing date including where appropriate any penalty to be applied.

## **19. APPEALS AGAINST A DECISION OF THE TRIBUNAL**

19.1. An aggrieved member, or their Club on their behalf, may appeal against a decision of the Tribunal by submitting details, in writing, to the Hockey Tasmania CEO, accompanied by a lodgement fee of \$250 within 48 hours of notification of the decision.

19.2. The only basis for an appeal against a Tribunal decision shall be that due process was not followed or that the penalty applied (if any) was inappropriate in the circumstance

19.3. If an appeal regarding a penalty as handed out by the Tribunal is lodged, then no new evidence regarding the initial incident will be accepted.

19.4. If the Tribunal upholds any part of the appeal or if the appeal results in the original decision/penalty being set aside or decreased, then the lodgement fee may be refunded. If the appeal results in affirmation of the original decision or the penalty is increased, then the lodgement fee will be retained by HT.

## **20. PROCEDURE ON RECEIPT OF AN APPEAL**

20.1. The Hockey Tasmania CEO shall determine the time and venue of the Tribunal meeting and shall notify members of the Tribunal panel sufficient to constitute a quorum.

20.2. The CEO shall notify the Technical Manager, the appellant and/or the appellant's Club of the time and venue of the Tribunal.

20.3. When an appeal is lodged, the decision being appealed shall stand in abeyance and be of no effect until such time as the appeal has been heard and finalised.

20.4. The Tribunal, after hearing all evidence put before it shall have the power to affirm or set aside the original decision or alter the penalty handed down by the Tribunal as they see fit.

20.5. Where the Tribunal considers that the appeal is frivolous or vexatious it may impose further penalties, including an amount of \$200 upon the appealing individual or Club.

20.6. No legal representation will be permitted.

20.7. The Tribunal may determine its own procedure.

20.8. The Tribunal will hand down a written decision.