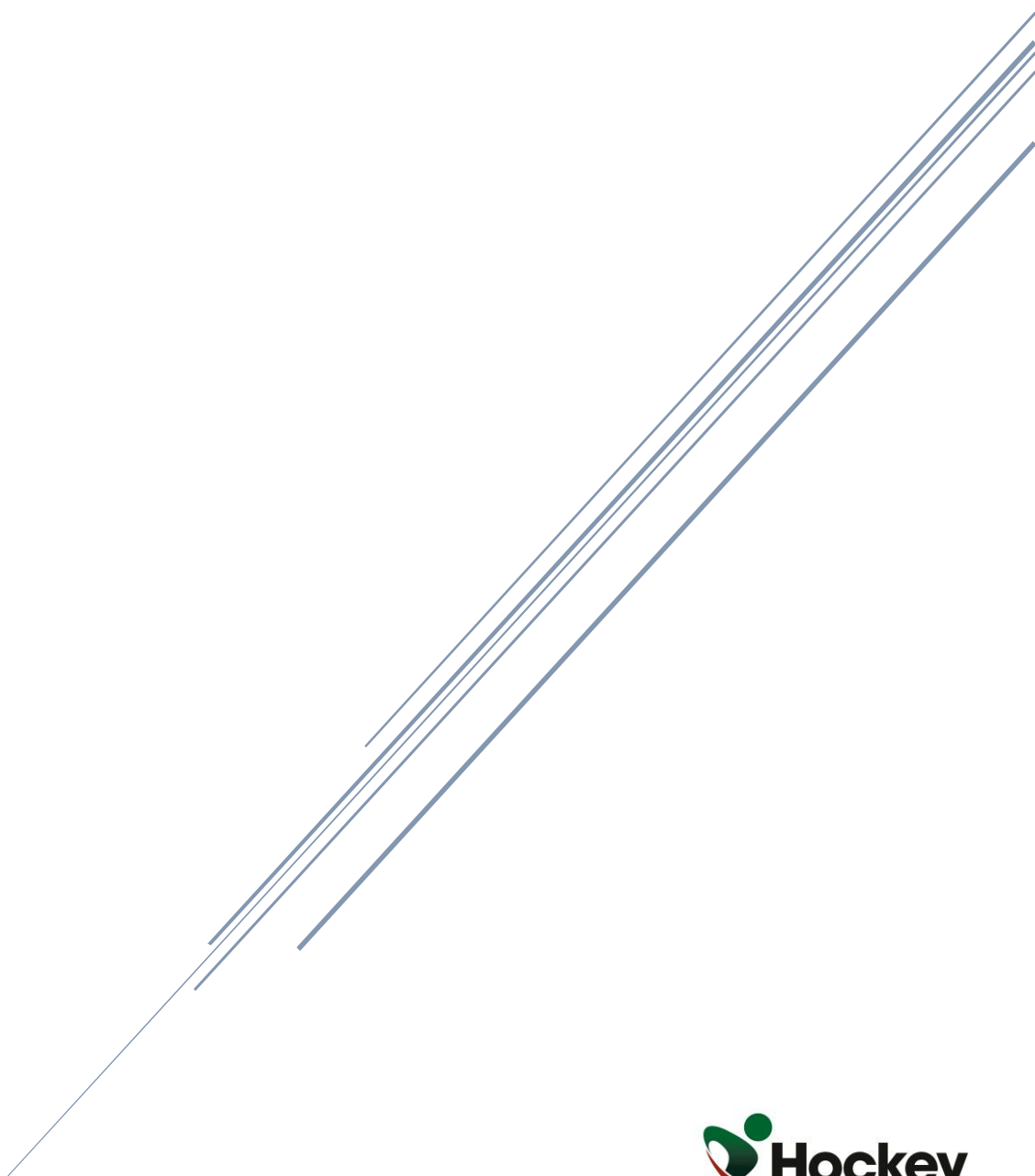


HOCKEY TASMANIA COMPETITION REGULATIONS

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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 will 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 HT CEO upon application by the player.

13.5. The Technical Manager 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 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 SHL 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 SHL Goal Scorer Award.

14. HOCKEY TASMANIA CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

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

14.2. An allegation by a HT member of misconduct by a player, club member, spectator, Club or HT Official must be made in writing to the HT CEO, within 72 hours of the alleged offence. The matter will be dealt with in accordance with the HA Member Protection Policy.

14.3. This may include the appointment of an investigative officer who may recommend a penalty.

15. BREACH OF HOCKEY AUSTRALIA CODE OF CONDUCT BY A PLAYER OR TEAM OFFICIAL.

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

15.2. If the TSG decides not to either offer an automatic penalty or refer an allegation to the Tribunal, the Technical Manager may refer it to the CC for consideration and application of any appropriate penalty.

15.3. The TSG has the authority to initiate a report and subsequently reprimand or to suspend for one or more matches players, team officials and other officials who, in the belief of the TSG, commit a reportable offence before, during or after a match wherever that misconduct occurred.

15.4. In the event of undesirable or improper practice or behaviour by any team officials on the sideline, the umpire may order the captain of the offending official's team to request that the official behave or leave the playing area. If the official refuses to comply, the umpire may suspend the Captain from the field of play. For further infringements, the umpire may consult with the other umpire and on agreement may award the game to the non-offending team.

15.5. A full report must then be submitted to the Technical Manager within 48 hours of the completion of the game, for consideration by the TSG to determine any further action as they consider appropriate in accordance with these regulations.

15.6. If appointed to a game, a technical officer has the authority to direct any team official on the team bench to leave the bench area if undesirable or improper practice or behaviour

continues. A full report must then be submitted to the Technical Manager within 48 hours of the completion of the game, for consideration by the TSG to determine any further action as they consider appropriate in accordance with these regulations.

15.7. In the event of unacceptable behaviour by a parent or supporters at any game an umpire may stop the game and advise the person or persons involved of the behaviour required. Should the unacceptable behaviour continue, the umpire may stop the game and warn the offending parties that the game may be abandoned if the behaviour continues. On a further occasion of unacceptable behaviour the umpires must consult and if agreed may abandon the game.

Unacceptable behaviour includes constant and unnecessary barracking of an abusive nature, particularly when targeting an individual or an umpire.

15.8 Where a game is abandoned under Clause 15.7, the Technical Manager may determine a result. A full report from the umpires must be submitted to the Technical Manager within 48 hours of the completion of the game, for consideration by the TSG to determine any further action as they consider appropriate in accordance with these regulations, including a report to the HT CEO under the Member Protection Policy.

16. PROCEDURE ON RECEIPT OF A REPORT

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

16.1.1. 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

16.1.2. 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.

16.2. 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.

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

16.4. 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.

17. PENALTIES TO BE APPLIED BY HOCKEY TASMANIA

17.1. 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.

17.2. 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 MINIMUM PENALTIES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE TRIBUNAL
Level 1	An act or acts detrimental to hockey including abuse of equipment and facilities.	Formal warning and/or collection of 1 point	
Level 2	Seriously disputing an umpire's decision. Use of lewd gestures or unacceptable language towards players, officials (includes ball attendants), and spectators. An act or acts detrimental to hockey including abuse of equipment and facilities.	1-week suspension plus any enforcement by the umpire/s during the game in which the player was reported. Plus restitution of any costs.	2 weeks suspension
Level 3	Use of language that discriminates or vilifies another based on race, religion, age, gender, or sexual orientation. Unduly rough or dangerous play. Pushing/shoving (brawling) & wrestling. Attempting to strike a player with anything other than a hockey stick (including retaliation). Serious or prolonged abuse towards a player/s, official/s (includes ball attendants) and spectator/s An act or acts detrimental to hockey including abuse of equipment and facilities.	2 weeks suspension plus any enforcement by the umpire/s during the game in which the player was reported. Plus restitution of any costs.	3 weeks suspension
Level 4	Spitting on or at a player/s, official/s (includes ball attendants) and spectator/s. Striking at a player/s, official/s (includes ball attendants) and spectator/s with anything other than a hockey stick (including retaliation). Striking at a player, official, spectator with a hockey stick – no contact (including retaliation).	3 weeks suspension plus any enforcement by the umpire/s during the game in which the player was reported.	4 weeks suspension for 1st offence; 8 weeks suspension for a second offence within 2 years

Level 5	Threatening another player, official (includes ball attendants), spectator with a hockey stick (including retaliation) off the field.	4 weeks suspension plus any enforcement by the umpire/s during the game in which the player was reported.	5 weeks suspension for 1 st offence. 10 weeks suspension for a second offence within 2 years.
Level 6	Striking a player, official, (includes ball attendants) spectator with a hockey stick (including retaliation).	6 weeks suspension plus any enforcement by the umpire/s during the game in which the player was reported.	8 weeks suspension for 1 st offence. 2 calendar years suspension for a second offence within 2 years
Level 7	Assault of an umpire or match official whether on or off the field.		Up to life suspension

17.3 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.

17.4 Any person penalised following a reported offence will be ineligible to receive a regional Best and Fairest Award.

18. TRIBUNAL

18.1. 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.

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

18.3. 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.

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

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

18.6. 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.

19. TRIBUNAL PROCEDURE ON REPORTS REFERRED BY THE TECHNICAL MANAGER

19.1. 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.

19.2. 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.

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

19.4. 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.

19.5. 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.

19.6. 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.

19.7. 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.

19.8. 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.

20. APPEALS TO THE COMPETITION COMMITTEE

20.1. A Club may appeal against a decision of any appointee of the CC by submitting in writing details of the appeal to the CC Convenor, within 48 hours of notification of the decision to the Club.

20.2. The CC will review an appealed decision within an appropriate period from receipt of the appeal.

21. APPEALS AGAINST A DECISION OF THE TRIBUNAL

21.1. 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 \$250.00, within 48 hours of notification of the decision.

21.2. 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

21.3. 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.

21.4. 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.

22. PROCEDURE ON RECEIPT OF AN APPEAL

22.1. 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.

22.2. The CEO shall notify the CC, the appellant and/or the appellant's Club of the time and venue of the Tribunal.

22.3. 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.

22.4. 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.

22.5. Where the Tribunal considers that the appeal is frivolous or vexatious it may impose further penalties, including an amount of \$250 upon the appealing individual or Club.

22.6. No legal representation will be permitted.

22.7. The Tribunal may determine its own procedure.

22.8. The Tribunal will hand down a written decision.