



2022 Hockey Victoria Competition

Regulations Document

ADOPTED JANUARY 2007

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<u>Hockey Victoria Guiding Principles</u>	
The objective of Hockey Victoria's Rules and Regulations are to:	
➔	encourage and facilitate participation in the sport for all members, both players and officials;
➔	ensure fair, competitive and enjoyable competitions;
➔	protect the integrity of the sport, its members and the wider sporting community;
➔	provide flexibility to clubs in regards to selections and availability;
➔	support representative members and teams (of Victoria or Australia);
➔	minimise the administrative burden on club administrators and HV staff

HV Document Order:

- 1) HV Rule/Regulation/Schedule Index
- 2) HV Rules
- 3) **HV Regulations**
- 4) HV Schedules Section 1
- 5) HV Schedules Section 2



Hockey Victoria Inc

Competition Regulations 2022

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Field Hockey

These Regulations should be read in conjunction with the Hockey Victoria (HV) Competition Rules (“the Rules”) and where there is a conflict between these Regulations and the Rules, the Rules shall prevail.

The attachments to these Regulations are documents (“Schedules”) containing information supplemental to these Regulations and where there is a conflict between the Regulations and the Schedules, the Regulations shall prevail.

Terms contained in the Regulations and Schedules shall have the same meaning as the definitions contained in the Rules.



1. Fixture

At a date to be determined by HV, it shall notify its Affiliates details of the competitions it intends to conduct together with a competition specification ("Competition Specification") that shall contain the detailed specifications of each competition that shall form part of the Schedule.

After receipt of valid team entries HV shall construct a draft match schedule ("draft fixture") detailing the time and place it intends to conduct the competition.

The draft fixture shall then be issued to Affiliates for comment and after receiving such comments HV shall determine the final match schedule ("the Fixture"). HV shall provide all competing Affiliates with reasonable notice of the commencement of the Fixture.

Except as provided in these Regulations all matches are to be conducted in accordance with the Fixture.



2. Conduct of Matches

2.1 Playing Rules

All matches shall be conducted in accordance with the Rules of Hockey subject to:

- (a) “Directions to Umpires”, and/ or “Interpretations” as issued by Hockey Australia and adopted by HV, and
- (b) “Experimental rule(s)” declared by FIH to be mandatory, and
- (c) “Experimental rule(s)” sanctioned by Hockey Australia, and
- (d) any rules specifically adopted by HV and declared to be Local Rules. Local Rules are contained in the HV Schedule documents.

All matches will be played on fields and with such equipment as shall be permitted by the Rules of Hockey as may be reasonably varied by HV from time to time to suit local conditions. Where HV deems that a variation of the Rules of Hockey is necessary, details of such variations shall be recorded in a Schedule.

2.2 Ball

The provision of a ball shall be the responsibility of the first named team for Regular Season matches and by each team for Finals Matches.

White balls shall be used for the duration of the match unless there is a mutual agreement between both captains (team manager or coaches for Junior matches) and umpires to use a coloured ball. Such agreement may be reached at the commencement of the match or at any time during the match.

Note: At all venues where blue playing surfaces are currently installed, HV confirms that upon the agreement between both team captains, the type of ball to be used for matches may be a yellow ball in accordance with FIH Rules of Hockey.

2.3 Team Composition

2.3.1 Full Sized Field

Teams will consist of not more than sixteen (16) eligible players and not less than seven (7) eligible players, of which a maximum of eleven (11) players can take the field at any one time.

Taken from FIH Rules of Hockey Rule 2 Composition of Teams:

If a team has more than the permitted number of players on the field, time should be stopped to correct the situation. A personal penalty may be awarded against the captain of the team involved, if inadvertently having too many players on the pitch occurs for a very short period of time and does not materially affect the match. In cases where this occurs and materially affects the match, a



personal penalty must be awarded against the captain of the team involved. Decisions taken prior to correcting the situation cannot be changed.

Play and time is restarted with a free hit to the opposing team unless another penalty had been awarded against the offending team immediately before time was stopped in which case that penalty is taken.

2.3.1.1 Finals

A maximum of 17 players may be used by a team in a Finals Match, of whom 2 must be goalkeepers wearing full protective equipment. If a team chooses not to include a second goalkeeper in the 17 players, they are limited to using 16 players in a match.

The 17th player must be a second listed GK. This second listed GK is restricted and may not enter the field of play during the match unless they are substituting for the starting goalkeeper, who in the opinion of the umpire, has either sustained an injury requiring off field medical attention, or is in contravention of the guidelines on bleeding contained in the Schedule. The substitution is only valid for the period of time until the starting goalkeeper is able to resume his/her part in the game. If the starting goalkeeper is temporarily or permanently suspended, the 17th player is not able to take the field.

Eligibility requirements for the 17th player is outlined in Regulation 8.5.3.

2.3.2 Half Sized Field

Teams will consist of not more than sixteen (16) eligible players and not less than (5) eligible players, of which a maximum number of seven (7) players can take the field at any one time (a goal keeper is included as part of the 7 players).

2.3.3 Goalkeeper

The Senior, Mid Week and Masters HV Competitions are subject to the FIH Rules of Hockey.

All Junior HV Competitions are subject to a Local Goalkeeper Rule. Refer to Schedule Section 1, Clause 1.1 for full information.

2.3.4 Interchange

Interchange of players is only permitted from an area on the field designated by the intersection of the half line with the sideline on the side of the field nearest the area allocated for the team bench. If the position of the interchange area is unclear then the interchange area shall be that area determined by the umpires.



2.3.5 Players General

All players shall, at all times, respect and obey the instructions of either the umpires or the technical officials (where appointed). Players and team officials will also abide by their respective Codes of Behaviour.

2.4 Team Officials & Spectators

Teams are permitted to have up to a maximum of 10 persons on the team bench. This shall include up to 5 substitute players and 5 non playing team officials (which may include coach, team manager, assistant coach, assistant manager, team statistician or medical person). An exception to this could occur during the Finals Series when a team selects a Conditional Goalkeeper to sit on the bench as an “Emergency Goalkeeper” in addition to the 5 substitute players.

The team manager, or in the absence of a team manager the team captain, shall be responsible for the behaviour of all persons on the team bench and where practical shall be the team bench representative should an umpire or HV Technical Official need to address anyone on the team bench. The team manager (if any) should ensure that any player substitution made during the match is properly executed.

Team officials are not permitted on the field of play during the period of match play (except as detailed below) unless there is a stoppage in play and then only with the permission of the umpires or Technical Bench (where appointed).

At all other times, team officials are to confine themselves to the area allocated for their respective team benches and shall, at all times, obey the instructions of either the umpires or the technical officials (where appointed).

Spectators are not permitted on the team bench or on the field of play at any time and shall, at all times, obey the instructions of either the umpires or technical officials (where appointed) and if requested shall move immediately from the team bench or field of play to an area deemed appropriate by umpires or technical officials (where appointed).

The only exceptions permitted are:

- (a) Under 10 and Under 12 Half Field: One (1) Coach is permitted on the field during the match in any part of field.
- (b) Under 12 Full Field competitions: One (1) coach is permitted on the field during the match in any part of the field however these coaches are not permitted inside the goal circles during the completion of a Penalty Corner. Coaches can however be inside the scoring circles during the natural stoppage in play between the penalty corner being awarded and the ball being injected to provide positional advice to the developing players.



- (c) On the occurrence of what reasonably appears to be a minor injury in a Junior match, one (1) designated team official is entitled to enter the field of play without the permission of the umpires to attend the injured player. Provided that the team official does not interfere with play and otherwise abides by the provisions of the Guidelines.

2.5 Match Commencement

Matches shall commence after:

- (a) the umpires have called both teams to the centre of the ground for the traditional greeting of three cheers and handshake, and
- (b) the opposing captains have tossed for choice of attacking goal direction for the first period of play (the second period of play shall be to the opposite goal) or first possession of the ball, and
- (c) the umpires have sounded the whistle to signal the start of the match.

Except as provided in 2.6 hereof, all matches shall commence at the times scheduled in the fixture.

All matches shall conclude not less than five minutes before the scheduled commencement of the next match scheduled to take place on the same field.

2.6 Delays to Match Commencement

All matches shall commence at the times scheduled in the fixture unless:

- (a) Either or both teams cannot comply with clause 2.3 hereof. As soon as the minimum required number of players are ready to take the field, the match shall commence without undue delay.
- (b) If, after ten (10) minutes from the scheduled starting time only one team is able to comply with clause 2.3 hereof, that team may claim a walkover in terms of Clause 3.1 hereof.
- (c) If neither team is able to comply with clause 2.3 hereof, the match shall be declared as a forfeit and a five (5) nil (0) loss shall be recorded against both teams.
- (d) The Rostered Umpires have not arrived by the scheduled starting time, in which case if both captains, or in the case of a Junior match, the team managers, agree to a replacement umpire or umpires(s) the match shall commence as soon as practicable after the scheduled time.



If the Rostered Umpire(s) arrive after the commencement of the match, they may take the place of the replacement umpire(s), upon the agreement of both captains or in the case of a Junior match, both team managers.

If after ten (10) minutes no agreement can be reached in regard to replacement umpires the match shall be suspended and the teams shall have two (2) business days in which to arrange a rescheduling of the match to the satisfaction of HV.

If no satisfactory rescheduling can be arranged, the circumstances of the match delay and details of the attempt to reschedule the match shall be advised in writing to HV by the first named team within three (3) business days of the scheduled commencement of the suspended match. Whereupon the match shall be declared in abeyance and at the discretion of HV, having regard to all the circumstances either:

- (i) rescheduled, or
- (ii) declared and recorded as a nil (0) nil (0) draw, or
- (iii) cancelled with no goals or points awarded to either team.

2.7 Match Duration

2.7.1 General Principles

The umpires shall have sole responsibility for determining compliance with scheduled match duration and for determining the elapsed time of any match. However, the umpires may delegate responsibility for time keeping to a Technical Official (where appointed).

Only in exceptional circumstances shall a delay in a preceding match be permitted to delay the commencement of a succeeding match scheduled for play on the same day on the same field.

If compliance with this Regulation requires the match duration to be shortened, then where possible, equal time shall be deducted from both periods of play.

HV may, in determining Competition Specifications, specify other periods of play but the duration of matches shall unless otherwise specified comply with these Regulation.

The Schedule contains further information on the methods of time management of matches.



2.7.2 Senior Matches

(i) All Senior matches

A match shall consist of four (4) periods of play of seventeen (17) minutes, quarter and three-quarter time intervals of two (2) minutes, and a half-time interval of five (5) minutes.

A maximum of eight (8) minutes may be added for delays or interruptions but the match shall conclude at a time which is the earlier of:

- (a) not less than five (5) minutes before the scheduled commencement of the next match scheduled to take place on the same field or
- (b) eighty-five (85) minutes after the commencement of play.

2.7.3 Masters and Mid Week Matches

A match shall consist of two (2) periods of play of twenty-five (25) minutes and a half-time interval of five (5) minutes.

No time off is allowed during the match and the match shall conclude at a time which is the earlier of:

- (a) not less than five (5) minutes before the scheduled commencement of the next match scheduled to take place on the same field, or
- (b) fifty-five (55) minutes after the commencement of play.

2.7.4 Junior & Under 18 Matches

(i) Under 14, Under 16 & Under 18 Full Field Age Divisions

A junior match in the Under 14 and Under 16 age divisions and matches in the Under 18 competition shall consist of two (2) periods of play of thirty (30) minutes and a half-time interval of five (5) minutes.

No time off is allowed during the match and the match shall conclude at a time which is the earlier of:

- (a) not less than five (5) minutes before the scheduled commencement of the next match scheduled to take place on the same field, or
- (b) sixty-five (65) minutes after the commencement of play.

(ii) Under 12 Full Field Age Divisions

All junior matches in the Full Field Under 12 age division shall consist of two (2) periods of twenty-five (25) minutes and a half-time interval of five (5) minutes.



No time off is allowed during the match and the match shall conclude at a time which is the earlier of:

- (a) not less than five (5) minutes before the scheduled commencement of the next match scheduled to take place on the same field, or
- (b) fifty-five (55) minutes after the commencement of play

(iii) Under 10 and Under 12 Half Field

A junior match in the Under 10 and Under 12 Half Field divisions shall consist of two (2) periods of twenty (20) minutes and a half-time interval of five (5) minutes.

No time off is allowed during the match and the match shall conclude at a time which is the earlier of:

- (a) not less than five (5) minutes before the scheduled commencement of the next match scheduled to take place on the same field, or
- (b) forty-five (45) minutes after the commencement of play, providing a five (5) minute interval between scheduled matches.

Refer to Schedule Section 1, Clause 1.2.7 for Under 10 & 12 Half Field Rules.



3. Match Exceptions

3.1 Walkovers

3.1.1 Circumstances

A walkover shall be declared in the following circumstances:

- (a) when an Affiliate provides HV notice that it has a team that will not be able to comply with Regulation 2.3 and this notice has been provided on or before 12pm on the business day immediately prior to the day of the match ("Early Notice Walkover").
- (b) when an Affiliate provides HV with notice that it has a team that will not be able to comply with Regulation 2.3 and this notice has been provided after 12pm on the business day immediately prior to the day match ("Late Notice Walkover").
- (c) when a team of an Affiliate fails to provide notice to HV prior to 5pm on the business day immediately prior to the match and fails to comply with Regulation 2.3 by more than ten (10) minutes after the scheduled commencement of a scheduled match. ("No Notice Walkover")

To claim a No Notice Walkover the team receiving the walkover shall notify HV.

An Affiliate giving notice to HV of a walkover in terms of sub-clauses (a) and (b) shall be responsible for notifying the opposition team.

3.1.2 Consequences

A walkover shall result in:

- (i) Either:
 - (a) a 5-0 loss to the team responsible for the walkover and a 5-0 win to the opposing team; or
 - (b) in instances where the match has commenced and the score prevailing at the time the walkover is declared would be more advantageous to the opposing team than by applying sub clause (a) above, then the score prevailing at the time of the walkover shall be declared.
- (ii) As well as a financial penalty to the Affiliate of the team who concedes a walkover as provided in Schedule Section 1, 3.3 Fines and Penalties, Walkovers.



Regardless of whether the home team (first named) or the away team (second named) concedes the walkover, the home team (first named) shall be responsible for entering the walkover match score and match result (walkover) into ERS in accordance with HV Regulation 7.3 (a) & (b).

Any team who claims and receives a walkover may enter a team list into ERS in accordance with HV Regulation 7.3 (a) & (b). The team who has conceded a walkover is not eligible to enter a team list into ERS.

All such players named on the team list on ERS by the ERS final deadline in accordance with HV Regulation 7.3 (a) & (b) shall be deemed to have played in that match and will be bound by the HV Rules and Regulations for that round. Any player not named in the team list by the final deadline in accordance with HV Regulation 7.3 (a) & (b) shall be deemed not to have played in that match.

An Affiliate whose team has given a No Notice Walkover may, at the discretion of HV and having regard for all the circumstances, have all the results of matches of that Affiliate's lower ranked teams in the same age group in the same round of matches in which the No Notice Walkover, also declared as No Notice Walkovers.

Any team conceding more than two walkovers in any one regular season of a particular competition may, at the sole discretion of HV, be withdrawn from all remaining scheduled matches in the competition.

Walkovers subject to sub clauses (a) and (b) hereof shall be applied only to the Affiliates lowest ranked team in the Senior, Masters and Junior competitions except for:

Walkovers subject to sub clause (a) hereof may be applied to a team other than the Affiliate's lowest ranked team in the Junior and Masters competitions, pending HV approval. The Affiliate should lodge a written application that must be received by HV no less than 48 business hours prior to the scheduled match and should provide sufficient evidence and information to support the application. HV will notify the outcome of the application as soon as practicable.

Ranking of Men's Masters and Junior teams for the purposes of this Regulation shall be determined by HV from time to time and shall be detailed in the Schedule.

An Affiliate giving a walkover in terms of this clause 3.1 shall be responsible for all costs (including those of the opposition team) of ground hire and/or umpires fees (if any).



3.2 Rescheduling and Cancellations

Every reasonable effort shall be made to ensure that all matches are played in accordance with the match schedule, subject to the following:

- (a) HV, may at its sole discretion, reschedule or cancel all or any part of a round of matches if it deems that circumstances surrounding the playing of that round or part of a round is not in the best interests of the competition or its Affiliates. For clarity, HV will not reschedule or cancel all or any part of a round of matches due to players (regular or otherwise) who are unavailable for selection due to their participation as players or officials at an HV sanctioned State or National fixture or an HA sanctioned event; and
- (b) Applications by Affiliates made in accordance with this clause 3.2

3.2.1 Applications

There are two applications that an Affiliate may make to HV for permission to reschedule a match in which a team of that Affiliate is scheduled to play:

Mutual Consent Application

Where the team of the Affected Affiliate is unavailable to play on the scheduled date and the Opponent Affiliate agrees to the Affected Affiliate's request to reschedule the match. In this event the match must be scheduled including time, date and venue within 3 business days of the original schedule. In the event this is not achieved HV will schedule the match.

Non Consenting Application

Where the team of the Affected Affiliate is unavailable to play on the scheduled date and the Opponent Affiliate does not agree to the Affected Affiliate's request to reschedule a match.

3.2.2 Procedures

HV shall only approve an application for the reschedule of a match in exceptional circumstances, irrespective of whether it is a Mutual Consent Application or a Non Consenting Application.

For the purposes of an application to reschedule a match, the following factors shall **not** be deemed as exceptional circumstances:

- (i) players (regular or otherwise) who are unavailable for selection due to their participation as players or officials at an HV sanctioned State or National fixture or an HA sanctioned event; or



- (ii) players (regular or otherwise) who are unavailable for selection due to injury.

With respect to any application to reschedule a match, HV:

Shall (if it approves any application) apply such measures as it deems reasonable to provide equitable treatment to the teams affected by the rescheduling of a match.

Shall not approve any application which would breach;

If an Affected Affiliate is granted permission to reschedule a match HV shall provide both the Affected Affiliate and the Opponent Affiliate of the teams that are scheduled to play in the match a Notification of Rescheduled Match as soon as reasonably practicable after reaching such decision which may include details of the time and place set for the rescheduled match which to be played provided that:

Any regular round match shall be completed no less than seven (7) days before the commencement of semi-final matches of the applicable competition, or

Any Finals Match must be completed not less than seventy two (72) hours before the next scheduled final in which either of the teams shall be required to compete.

Further, as soon as reasonably practicable, HV shall provide all other Affiliates with teams in the grade in which a rescheduled match has been approved:

- Written Notification of Rescheduled Match via each Affiliate's respective Secretaries email address last identified to HV by the Affiliate which may include details of the time and place set for the rescheduled match, and
- Notice of a Rescheduled Match by annotation of the Competition Fixtures/Results page of that grade on the ERS website OR

Further, as soon as reasonable practicable, HV shall advise the Affected Affiliate and the Opponent Affiliate that the application is denied and the match shall remain as originally scheduled by HV.

3.2.3 Outcomes

If HV receives an application from an Affiliate in terms of hereof for the rescheduling or cancellation of a match or matches, it may in accordance with this clause 3.2, determine that the circumstances:

- (a) Warrant a rescheduling of the match or matches; or
- (b) Does not warrant a rescheduling of the match or matches.



Further to the above, if the team of the Affected Affiliate requesting the postponement is unable to meet the requirement of the matches schedule then that team shall be deemed to have failed to meet the requirements of clause 2.3 and the terms of sub-clause 3.1.1 (a) shall apply.

3.2.4 General Information Regarding Rescheduling

With respect to a Mutual Consent Application, if HV approves such application HV may (in its sole and absolute discretion) resolve that the rescheduled match shall be played at a particular venue (different to the venue detailed in the Mutual Consent Application) on the date which the Affected Affiliate and Opponent Affiliate have agreed.

With respect to a Non Consenting Application, HV shall consider any written application that has been lodged pursuant to clause 3.2.1. HV may undertake such further enquiries as HV determines in its sole and absolute discretion in order to assist in the determination of the Non Consenting Application.

In the event that HV approves the Non Consenting Application, HV shall in its sole and absolute discretion resolve the details of the rescheduled match with respect to the venue, the date and the time.

3.3 Abandonment

3.3.1 Circumstances

A match may be abandoned in the following circumstances:

- (a) where prior to the commencement of play or at any time during play of a senior or masters match that is in the control of a Rostered Umpire(s) and such Rostered Umpire(s) consider that the conditions are unfit for play or,
- (b) where prior to the commencement of play or at any time during play of a senior or masters match that is not in control of a Rostered Umpire, the two opposing captains consider that the conditions are unfit for play or,
- (c) where prior to the commencement of play or at any time during play of a Junior match, the opposing team managers in consultation with the Rostered Umpire(s) (if any) consider that the conditions are unfit for play.
- (d) where less than fifty percent of the available time of the match (as may have been shortened due to delays) has been played an event has occurred that prevents the completion of the match within five (5) minutes before the scheduled commencement of the next match.

When the match has been abandoned the team sheets of the two opposing teams shall be endorsed with the reason for the abandonment.



3.3.2 Consequences

Where the abandonment occurred:

- (a) prior to the commencement of play or where less than fifty percent of the available time of the match (as may have been shortened due to delays) has been played then the two captains of open age and over age teams or the two team managers of Junior teams may:
 - (i) agree to record a nil all draw, or
 - (ii) agree to reschedule the match in which case the teams shall have two (2) business days in which to arrange a rescheduling of the match to the satisfaction of HV.
 - (iii) apply to HV to reschedule the match in instances where it has been agreed to reschedule but no agreement can be reached. Refer Regulation 3.2 herein. If the abandoned match is a grand final the match shall, subject to ground availability, be rescheduled to a date and venue determined by HV or the result shall otherwise determined by HV.
- (b) after the commencement of play and where fifty percent or greater than fifty percent of the available playing time of the match (as may have been shortened due to delays) has been played, the result at the time of the abandonment shall stand and the match shall be deemed to have been completed. If the abandoned match is a grand final match it shall, subject to ground availability, be rescheduled to a date and venue determined by HV or the result shall otherwise determined by HV.

3.4 Forfeit

3.4.1 Circumstances

A team shall be deemed to have forfeited a match where:-

- (a) that team has played a player who is not an eligible player.
- (b) that team has failed to comply with the requirements of the Rules and Regulations that apply to the competition section and sub-section in which the team is entered.
- (c) the Team Management and/or the supporters of that team have been deemed by HV, after an investigation, to have committed a serious act or acts of misconduct.
- (d) a player or the team or the Team Management has committed a serious breach of these regulations where match forfeit is the declared penalty.
- (e) the Affiliate for which the team competes has been declared by HV to be in Financial Default and HV has exercised its discretion in terms of Regulation 5.1 hereof.



- (f) a team has been notified that it is required to provide an umpire or umpires and fails to do so.

3.4.2 Consequences

Each match in which a breach occurs shall be forfeited. Forfeited matches shall be treated as a five (5) nil (0) win to the opposing team, (five (5) nil (0) loss to the offending team), unless the actual score in the match is more advantageous to the opposing team and then the actual score shall stand.

If both teams have committed breaches under this Regulation the result will be recorded as a nil (0) score line with nil (0) premiership points.

3.5 Team Withdrawal and Late Team Entry

3.5.1 Withdrawal of Teams

3.5.1.1 Circumstances

Any Affiliate may by notice in writing to HV withdraw a team from a competition at any time after the commencement of that competition. The team to be withdrawn will be the affiliate's lowest ranked team in the same competition/age group, unless otherwise determined by HV.

In determining the lowest ranked team, the ranking nominated by the affiliate in terms of Reg 8.2 will be applied. A table outlining the ranking of junior and master teams will be as provided by HV from time to time.

3.5.1.2 Consequences

- (i) Any Affiliate withdrawing a team in terms 3.5.1.1 hereof shall forfeit the full amount of the affiliation and competition charge and at the discretion of HV any such additional sum as may be determined by HV. In determining such additional sum to be forfeited HV shall consider the financial impact of the withdrawal on other affected parties.
- (ii) In all instances of team withdrawal, for purposes of result recording, the following shall apply:
 - (a) The point in the season where all teams have played each other once will be known as the mid-way mark.
 - (b) Where a team withdraws prior to the mid-way mark, the result of all completed matches played against the withdrawn team shall be removed and recorded as a bye.



- (c) Where a team withdraws after the mid-way mark, the result of all completed matches played against the withdrawn team up to the mid-way mark shall remain, and all completed matches played against the withdrawn team after the mid-way mark shall be removed and recorded as a bye.

3.4.3 Late Team Entry

To fill a bye or vacancy created by the withdrawal of a team, HV may at its sole discretion, permit the late entry of a team to the competition up to and including either:

- (i) Any time prior to the completion of not more than twenty five (25) percent of the matches that comprise the Regular Rounds of the Regular Season with all unplayed matches treated as byes.
- (ii) at the commencement of the Regular Round that represents the commencement of at the second fifty (50) percent of the Regular Rounds of the Regular Season.

The team shall only be required to play the matches of the second fifty (50) percent of the Regular Rounds of the Regular Season and only matches played shall count for points.

Provided however, that HV reserves the right to make such other arrangements as it believes represents a reasonably equitable resolution of the issues surrounding the late entry of a team and having regard to the impact on the original teams in the grade.



4. Player Requirements

4.1 Playing Equipment

All equipment used by players shall conform with the Rules of Hockey as amended from time to time and HV Codes of Behaviour. The relevant sections of the Rules of Hockey document are:

- Field and Equipment Specifications
- Section 2. Stick
- Section 3. Ball
- Section 4. Goalkeeper's Equipment

Detail regarding these matters can be found on the FIH website www.fihockey.org

Any queries in regard to equipment should, in the first instance, be directed to HV.

4.2 Uniform

All players shall comply with the uniform requirements contained in Rule 4 of the Rules.

4.3 Shirt Numbers

Players in the following grades are required to wear a number unique to them on the back of the upper body of their uniforms:

- Premier League & Reserves
- All Vic League & Reserves
- All Under 16 A (Shield)

Numbers shall be:

- (a) legible and in a colour that contrasts with the colour of the surface of the uniform to which they are affixed.
- (b) at least 16 cm in height.
- (c) allocated to the player by the Affiliate and recorded on the team sheets each match.

4.4. Footwear and Socks

All footwear worn must be suitable for the playing surface on which it is to be used.

4.5. Protective Equipment

Players must not wear anything which is dangerous to other players.



Goalkeepers

Goalkeepers must wear protective equipment comprising at least headgear, leg guards and kickers. The headgear and any hand protectors may be removed when taking a penalty stroke.

The following are permitted for use only by a fully equipped goalkeeper: body, upper arm, elbow, forearm, hand, thigh and knee protectors, leg guards and kickers.

Field Players

As per FIH Rules of Hockey, Field Players:

- (a) are permitted to wear hand protection which does not increase the natural size of the hands significantly; any hand protection used, both for normal play and to defend penalty corners, must fit comfortably (without the need for compressing it) into an open-ended box of internal dimension 290mm long x 180mm wide x 1110 high.
- (b) are recommended to wear shin, ankle and mouth protection.
- (c) are permitted to wear any form of body protection (including leg protection, or knee pads, when defending a penalty corner) underneath normal playing clothing; knee pads, used for this purpose, may be worn outside the socks.
- (d) are permitted to wear throughout a match for medical reasons only a smooth preferably transparent or white but otherwise single coloured face mask which closely fits the face, soft protective head-covering or eye protection in the form of plastic goggles (ie goggles with a soft-covered frame and plastic lenses).

Any player wishing to wear a face mask or goggles throughout the match should apply to HV for a Permit. Details of the particular device as well as a medical certificate should accompany the permit application.

The player concerned must also understand the possible implications of playing with the medical condition.

- (e) are permitted to wear an approved face mask for the duration of a penalty corner or penalty stroke as follows:

Such a face mask should be smooth preferably transparent or white but otherwise single coloured face mask or metal grill face mask, which follows the contours of the face. The primary objective of wearing a face mask to defend a penalty corner is safety. Players are not permitted,



when wearing face masks to conduct themselves in a manner which is dangerous to other players by taking advantage of the protective equipment they wear.

- (i) For all Junior Full Field Competitions, the wearing of an approved face mask by all Field Players to defend a penalty corner is compulsory.
- (ii) For all other Full Field Competitions, the wearing of an approved face mask by all Field Players to defend a penalty corner or penalty stroke is strongly recommended.

4.6 Other Items

Apart from the registered uniform the only other permissible items that can be worn outside the uniform are:

- (a) wedding rings and medical bracelets but both items must be taped in a manner unlikely to cause any injury to another player. The wearing of any other items of jewellery including watches is strictly forbidden.
- (b) headwear with a soft edge and unlikely to cause any injury to another player. Headwear with hard edges is strictly forbidden.
- (c) Full-length compression garments given that they are not the same colour as the predominant colour of the opposition uniform. Compression garment shorts and short-sleeved shirts are permissible.

Note: A HV rostered Umpire or a HV appointed Technical Official has the power to require the removal of any item worn by a player that may or may not be covered by this Regulation 4 if in the sole opinion of that Rostered Umpire or Technical Official they consider such item potentially injurious to other players.



5. Match Results

5.1 Match Points

For the purposes of determining a competition ranking the following points shall be awarded for each:

Win	three (3) points
Draw	one (1) point
Loss	no (0) points

All goals scored by a team shall be recorded and tallied ("Goals For") and all goals conceded by a team shall be recorded and tallied ("Goals Against"). The difference either positive or negative obtained by deducting Goals Against from Goals For ("Goal Difference").

Any Affiliate that has been declared in Financial Default by HV, may at HV's discretion be ineligible to score points in matches during the period of that Financial Default.

5.2 Competition Rankings

5.2.1 Equalisation

Where teams in a grade at the end of the season have played an unequal number of games the final total points for each team shall be adjusted as follows:

- (a) the number of byes for each team shall be determined.
- (b) the points gained by each team shall be divided by the number of games played by each team and then multiplied by the number of games that should have been played.
- (c) the resulting number of points shall be calculated to two (2) decimal places to determine the ranking of each team in the grade.
- (d) $\text{team points} = (\text{Points earned} / \text{number of games played}) \times \text{number of Regular Season matches}$.

5.2.2 Standard Rankings

After the application, where necessary, of Equalisation in terms of 5.2.1 hereof, HV shall rank the teams in order of the number of points each team has accumulated during the home and away season. The four highest ranked teams shall contest the final series. Where two or more teams have accumulated an equal number of points, the following measures shall be applied in descending order of priority until there is a separate ranking for each team:-

- (a) the team with the highest Goal Difference shall be deemed to be the higher ranked team.
- (b) where teams have equal Goal Difference, the team with the higher number of "Goals For" shall be deemed the higher ranked team.



- (c) where teams have an equal number of “Goals For”, the team with the highest number of wins for the season shall be the higher ranked team.
- (d) where teams are equal on the number of wins for the season then sub clauses (a), (b), and (c) shall be applied again but restricted to those games played during the season between the teams being ranked under this procedure.
- (e) if sub clause (d) fails to separate the teams this method should be repeated but treating any goals scored by the second named team (“Away Goals”) in the matches between the teams as equivalent to two (2) goals and if this fails to produce a result the result of the last match between the two teams shall determine the result and if this match was drawn the second named team in that match team shall be declared the higher ranked team.

5.2.3 Promotion and Relegation

Apart from the Metro Division of the Senior Competition Section, no Affiliate may field more than one team in any division of any grade of a Regular Season competition.

5.2.3.1 Premier League Relegation

At the conclusion of the regular rounds the lowest ranked team based on ladder position will be relegated

5.2.3.2 Vic League 1 Promotion

Subject to Rule 5.1, the highest ranked teams in Vic League 1 at the completion of the Regular Rounds of the competition shall be eligible to be considered for promotion to Premier League for the succeeding season.

5.2.3.3 Other Senior Competitions

(a) Vic League 1 Relegation and other League Divisions Promotion and Relegation:

Subject to Rule 5.1, the two highest ranked teams in a grade at the completion of the Regular Rounds of a competition shall be eligible to be considered for promotion to the next higher grade (if any higher grade) for the succeeding Regular Season competition.

The first promotion position to the next higher grade shall be offered to the Minor Premier and the second promotion position shall be offered to the Major Premier or if Major Premier is also the Minor Premier then the second promotion position shall be offered to the team ranked second after the completion of the Regular Rounds.



As a consequence of the promotion of up to two team/s into the next highest grade HV shall have the power to relegate up to two of the lowest ranked teams in any grade at the completion of the Regular Rounds of a competition to the next lower grade for the succeeding Regular Season competition.

(b) Pennant Divisions Promotion and Relegation

Subject to Rule 5.1, the two highest ranked teams in a grade at the completion of the Regular Rounds of a competition shall be eligible to be considered for promotion to the next higher grade (if any higher grade) for the succeeding Regular Season competition.

The first promotion position to the next higher grade shall be offered to the Minor Premier and the second promotion position shall be offered to the Major Premier or if Major Premier is also the Minor Premier then the second promotion position shall be offered to the team ranked second after the completion of the Regular Rounds.

As a consequence of the promotion of up to two teams into the next highest grade HV shall have the power to relegate up to two of the lowest ranked teams in any grade at the completion of the Regular Rounds of a competition to the next lower grade for the succeeding Regular Season competition.

Where the relegation of a team to the next lowest grade causes an Affiliate to have two teams in a grade then the existing team in the lower grade will also be relegated. Any such forced relegation of a team shall be counted as one of the maximum of (up to) two teams relegated from the grade.

(c) Metro Divisions

The process for grading the metro divisions of the Senior Competition will be as advised by Hockey Victoria each Regular Season.

Exceptions

(a) Lowest Ranked Vic League Grade

At the end of each Regular Season, the two lowest ranked teams in the lowest ranked Vic League grade shall be eligible for relegation and at HV's discretion have their positions in the grade declared vacant. If only one position is declared vacant it shall be the position occupied by the lowest ranked team.

Any Affiliate without representation in a Vic or Premier League grades may apply to have its highest ranked team graded into the lowest ranked Vic League grade and the Affiliate with the highest ranked team shall be eligible for an offer to fill the first vacancy created by the application of this Regulation.



HV, at its sole discretion, may give precedence for the second vacancy to an application for a team representing an Affiliated Association.

Provided however, that no application from an Affiliate that has a team playing in an Affiliated Association shall be considered where that Affiliated Association has a representative team entered in the Premier or Vic League grades.

Any team relegated from the lowest ranked Vic League grade shall be placed in a grade that HV considers appropriate.

(b) Lowest Ranked Pennant Grade

At the end of each Regular Season, the two lowest ranked teams in the lowest ranked Pennant grade shall be eligible for relegation and at HV's discretion have their positions in the grade declared vacant. If only one position is declared vacant it shall be the position occupied by the lowest ranked team.

Any Affiliate without representation in this lowest Pennant grade may apply to have its next highest ranked team (Metro) graded into the lowest ranked Pennant grade and the Affiliate with the highest ranked team shall be eligible for an offer to fill the first vacancy created by the application of this Regulation.

HV, at its sole discretion, may give precedence for the second vacancy to an application for a team representing an Affiliated Association.

(c) Equal Ranking Grades

Where the competition structure creates two or more divisions of equal ranking grades and the next higher ranked grade has a lesser number of divisions the following provisions shall apply:

- (i) the relegation positions from the higher ranked grade shall be limited to the two lowest ranked teams in each division (if more than one) at the conclusion of the Regular Rounds of the Regular Season.
- (ii) the relegated teams (if any) shall, where practical and having regard to geographic location, be relegated to separate divisions of the lower ranked grade.
- (iii) promotion shall be offered in the first instance to the Minor Premier in each division of the lower ranked grades and where another team is to be promoted in the following order of



precedence:

1. the major premier in each grade.
2. the best performed of the next highest ranked teams in each of the divisions.

The “best performed” team will be determined by HV having regard to most number of points earned and where equal by greatest goal difference and where equal the most number of wins.

(d) Masters, Mid Week and Junior Competitions

The process for grading the Masters and Junior competitions will be as advised by Hockey Victoria for each Regular Season.

(e) Anti-Blocking Provision

In instances where promotion to a higher ranked grade is being blocked by teams that cannot be promoted due to the restriction of one Affiliate per grade, HV may promote a team that would otherwise not be eligible for promotion in terms of these Regulations.

The only teams HV shall consider promoting under this Regulation are those teams from Affiliates that meet the criteria set out in Schedule Section 2, Clause 5.

(f) Team Removed from the Competition Section

In instances where an affiliate removes a team that is not in the lowest ranked competition of the respective Competition Sub-Section the team will be removed from the current year final standings prior to the grading process for the following season.



6. Finals

6.1 Ranking

6.1.1 Minor Premiership

The highest ranked team at the completion of the Regular Rounds of the Regular Season shall be declared the Minor Premier except for those Junior grades determined by HV and detailed in the Schedule.

6.1.2. Major Premiership

(a) Premier League and Premier League Reserve

The eight highest ranked teams in each grade shall play off for the Major Premiership in accordance with the Competition Specifications for that grade.

(b) All Other Grades

The four highest ranked teams in each grade shall play off for the Major Premiership in accordance with the Competition Specifications for that grade except for those Junior grades determined by HV and detailed in the Schedule.

6.2 Eligibility

Only those teams of Affiliates who are not in Financial Default and are eligible to be declared the winner of the minor premierships or to compete for the major premierships.

Where any teams are ineligible to compete in finals matches as a result of Financial Default, they shall be removed from the rankings and the grade shall be re-ranked for the purposes of determining eligibility to compete in the finals.

6.3 Finals Match Structure

In accordance with the Competition Specifications determined by HV for each grade and detailed in an addendum to these Regulations, Finals Matches shall be conducted by means of one of the following methods.



6.3.1 Method One

(a) Week 1

(i) Qualifying Final

(Winner advances to the Grand Final and the loser to the Preliminary Final)

Qualifying Final (QF): First ranked team v Second ranked team

In the event that scores are equal at full time a Penalty Shoot-Out Competition shall be played in accordance with Regulation 6.4.1 to determine a winner.

(ii) Elimination Final

(Winner advances to the Preliminary Final and the loser is eliminated)

Elimination Final (EF): Third ranked team v Fourth ranked team

In the event that scores are equal at full time a Penalty Shoot-Out Competition shall be played in accordance with Regulation 6.4.1 to determine a winner.

(b) Week 2

Preliminary Final

(Winner advances to the Grand Final and the loser is eliminated)

Preliminary Final: Loser QF v Winner EF

In the event that scores are equal at full time a Penalty Shoot-Out Competition shall be played in accordance with Regulation 6.4.1 to determine a winner.

(c) Week 3

Grand Final

(Winner is awarded the Premiership and the loser is declared the Runner Up)

Grand Final: Winner of the QF v Winner PF



In the event that scores are equal at full time a Penalty Shoot-Out Competition shall be played in accordance with Regulation 6.4.1 to determine a winner.

6.3.2 Method Two – Cross Conference

(a) Week 1

(i) First Semi Final

(Winner advances to the Preliminary Final and the loser is eliminated)

First Ranked Team in each conference v Fourth Ranked Team in the same conference

In the event that scores are equal at full time a Penalty Shoot-Out Competition shall be played in accordance with Regulation 6.4.1 to determine a winner.

(ii) Second Semi Final

(Winner advances to the Preliminary Final and the loser is eliminated)

Second Ranked Team in each conference v Third Ranked Team in the same conference

In the event that scores are equal at full time a Penalty Shoot-Out Competition shall be played in accordance with Regulation 6.4.1 to determine a winner.

(b) Week 2

Preliminary Final

(Winner advances to Grand Final and the loser is eliminated)

The winner of the First Semi Final in each conference v the winner of Second Semi Final from the opposite conference. In the event that scores are equal at full time a Penalty Shoot-Out Competition shall be played in accordance with Regulation 6.4.1 to determine a winner.

(c) Week 3

Grand Final

(Winner is awarded the Major Premiership and the loser is declared the Runner Up)



Winner of the First Preliminary Final v Winner of Second Preliminary Final

In the event that scores are equal at full time a Penalty Shoot-Out Competition shall be played in accordance with Regulation 6.4.1 to determine a winner.

6.3.3 Method Three – Premier League 8 Team Finals Series

(a) Week 1 Qualifying Finals and Elimination Finals

(Winner QF1 and QF2 advance to Week 3 Preliminary Final)
(Loser EF1 and EF2 are eliminated)

Qualifying Final 1 (QF1): First ranked team v Fourth ranked team
Qualifying Final 2 (QF2): Second ranked team v Third ranked team
Elimination Final 1 (EF1): Fifth ranked team v Eighth ranked team
Elimination Final 2 (EF2): Sixth ranked team v Seventh ranked team

In the event that scores are equal at full time a Penalty Shoot-Out Competition shall be played in accordance with Regulation 6.4.1 to determine a winner.

(b) Week 2 Semi Finals

(Winner SF1 and SF2 advance to Week 3 Preliminary Final)
(Loser SF1 and SF2 are eliminated)

Semi Final 1 (SF1): Loser QF1 v Winner EF1
Semi Final 2 (SF2): Loser QF2 v Winner EF2

In the event that scores are equal at full time a Penalty Shoot-Out Competition shall be played in accordance with Regulation 6.4.1 to determine a winner.

(c) Week 3 Preliminary Finals

(Winner PF1 and PF2 advance to the Grand Final)
(Loser of PF1 and PF2 is eliminated)

Preliminary Final 1 (PF1): Winner QF1 v Winner SF2
Preliminary Final 2 (PF2): Winner QF2 v Winner SF1

In the event that scores are equal at full time a Penalty Shoot-Out Competition shall be played in accordance with Regulation 6.4.1 to determine a winner.



(d) Week 4 Grand Final

*(Winner is awarded the Major Premiership)
(Loser is declared the Runner Up)*

Grand Final: Winner PF1 v Winner PF2

In the event that scores are equal at full time a Penalty Shoot-Out Competition shall be played in accordance with Regulation 6.4.1 to determine a winner.

6.3.4 Method Four – Junior Finals

(a) Week 1 Semi Final

(Winners advance to the Grand Final and the loser are eliminated)

Semi Final 1 (SF1): First ranked team v Fourth ranked team

Semi Finals 2 (SF2): Second ranked team v Third ranked team

In the event that scores are equal at full time a Penalty Shoot-Out Competition shall be played in accordance with Regulation 6.4.1 to determine a winner.

(b) Week 2 Grand Final

*(Winner is awarded the Major Premiership)
(Loser is declared the Runner Up)*

In the event that scores are equal at full time a Penalty Shoot-Out Competition shall be played in accordance with Regulation 6.4.1 to determine a winner.

6.4 Definitions

6.4.1 Penalty Shoot-Out Competition

In matches that HV has determined must produce a single winning team and that match remains tied after the conclusion of regular time, a Penalty Shoot-Out Competition shall be played.

Rules and procedures of a penalty shoot-out will be:

- (a) Provided on the HV website,
- (b) Provided to clubs; and
- (c) Provided to rostered umpires.



7. Result Recording and Notification

7.1 Written Team Sheet (WTS)

7.1.1 Each team shall provide a team sheet in the manner required by HV from time to time and ensure that it is completed accurately and contains all required information and signatures and that the following procedure has been completed:

(a) the original fully completed written team sheet should be retained by each team for entry of the match result and the team list in ERS.

(b) the duplicate copy of the fully completed written sheet should be handed to the opposing team at the conclusion of the match.

It is the responsibility of each team to ensure that:

- (i) each of its players is eligible to play in the match, and
- (ii) each of its players are in compliance with the provisions of Regulation 8 hereof, and
- (iii) their written team list is accurate and, as far as is possible to discern, that the opposing team's list is also accurate, and
- (iv) only players who take the field shall be recorded on the team sheet. Interchange players who do not take the field are not deemed to have played and shall not be recorded on the team list. Such players should be deleted from the written team sheet by placing a single line through the player's name, and
- (v) each unused row in the team sheet to be crossed out by placing a single line through the row.

7.1.2 An Affiliate shall have the right to dispute the information contained in an opposing team's match result or team list from the time the written team sheets are exchanged in accordance with the conditions contained in Regulation 7.4 hereof.

7.1.3 The original written team sheet shall be considered the primary document until the Team List Final Deadline specified in Regulation 7.3, at which time the team list entered in ERS shall be deemed the document of record save that in dealing with a dispute under the terms of Regulation 7.4, HV may rely on the original team sheet of the match in question in making a determination in relation to the dispute.

7.1.4 Affiliates shall retain the original written team sheet until the time provided in Schedule 1 as the Dispute Team List Deadline immediately following the completion of the relevant season and be prepared to provide the original team sheet to HV upon request at any time.

7.1.5 The information that should be included on the written team sheet includes:



- (a) round number;
- (b) date of the match;
- (c) starting time of the match;
- (d) age group (where relevant);
- (e) grade;
- (f) venue;
- (g) your team's name (Affiliate);
- (h) opposing team's name (Affiliate);
- (i) each player's shirt no (when worn);
- (j) notations of:
 - A. GK (goalkeeper);
 - B. C (captain);
 - C. A (Age Permit Player – U18 & Masters only);
 - D. ETS (Elite Team Substitute).
- (k) each player's surname and first name;
- (l) all goals scored (in the appropriate column alongside the name of the goal scorer);
- (m) all green, yellow & red cards (in the appropriate column alongside the name of the player who received the card);
- (n) match result;
- (o) signature of both umpires and your team's captain;

7.1.6 The only variance to Regulation 7.1.1 to 7.1.5 exists in Premier League and Vic League 1 matches where there will be a Technical Bench appointed to each Regular Round and Final Round match. Premier League and Vic League 1 teams will be required to complete these requirements on AltiusRT.

7.2 Alterations

No team sheet may be altered without the written agreement of the opposing captain and the umpires. Affiliates are responsible for accurately entering information from the team sheet in the ERS. The alteration of team sheets and/or inaccurate entries in ERS shall be considered serious breaches of the competition rules and regulations and penalties of match forfeitures and/or fines will be imposed by HV commensurate with such breaches.

7.3 Electronic Result System (ERS)

- (a) The Affiliate of the first named team in any match shall ensure that the following information from their match is entered into the ERS:
 - (i) the final match score and
 - (ii) the result of the match (eg win/loss/walkover/cancellation)

The Affiliate of each team in any match shall ensure that the following additional information from their match is entered into the ERS, where applicable:



- (iii) the complete team list;
- (iv) the Assigned Player Roles as follows:
 - A. GK (Goalkeeper)
 - B. C (Captain)
 - C. P incl. PIN (Permit and Permit PIN as provided by HV)
 - D. A (Age Permit Player; U18 & Masters Comp)
 - E. ETS (Elite Team Substitute).
- (v) the goal scorers, and
- (vi) all green, yellow and red cards issued to their players during the match.

The above details shall be lodged as soon as possible after the conclusion of the match but no later than the times provided in Schedule Section 1, 2.1 Critical Path, Deadlines and Procedures.

- (b) Failure to comply with 7.3 (a) hereof will incur penalties as outlined in Schedule Section 1, 2.1.

If it is determined at any stage during the Regular Season that an Affiliate has failed to comply with 7.3 (a) (iv), (v) or (vi) hereof by the time provided in Schedule Section 1, 2.1 Critical Path, Deadlines and Procedures as the Initial Team List Deadline, the Affiliate will also incur a financial penalty.

Furthermore, Team Lists for subsequent matches from the first failure to comply with 7.3(a) hereof will not be accepted until all missing team lists are entered in ERS.

- (c) Each Affiliate shall ensure that all the required information for each of their registered members is entered into ERS.

Any player who wishes to play in the HV Regular Season competition must lodge a player registration application for each Regular Season into ERS as follows:

- (i) New player to an Affiliate:
A player registration for the Senior, Masters or Junior competition must be lodged into ERS by the Affiliate prior to the commencement of the match for which the registration is required.
- (ii) An existing player of an Affiliate:
A player registration for the Senior, Masters or Junior competition must be lodged into ERS no later than the Results Deadline and Initial Team List Deadline of the match for which the registration is required.

Refer to the HV Schedule document, Section 1 Clause 2.1 Critical Path, Deadlines and Procedures.



- (d) The minimum information required by HV to consider the registration of any player is wholly at the discretion of HV and shall be in accordance with the information contained from time to time in the HV Schedule, Section 2, Clause 9 Player Registration Process.

7.4 Match Result Disputes

In respect of a match in which the team of an Affiliate was a participant, an Affiliate may dispute a match result and team list entered by the opposing team in ERS. Any dispute must be based on fact, able to be proven and shall be subject to the following conditions.

- (a) A Club may only lodge a Dispute about the validity of a Match result based on the eligibility of a Player/s.
- (b) To avoid doubt, the decisions of the umpires regarding any matters connected with play are final and cannot be protested or appealed by any party.
- (c) Disputes may only be lodged by the Club President, Club Secretary or Club Treasurer of the Affiliate no later than the Dispute Team List Deadline as provided in Schedule Section 1, 2.1 Critical Path, Deadlines and Procedures.
- (d) Disputes must be lodged in writing and must outline the facts of the dispute and must include the evidence available to the Affiliate that supports the claims of the dispute.
- (e) No party other than HV or the two Affiliates involved in the match shall have the right to dispute a match result and or a team list.
- (f) A Match Dispute fee of \$200.00 must be paid to HV each time a Match Dispute is lodged. The fee can be paid via any one of the following methods:
 - (i) cheque;
 - (ii) money order;
 - (iii) cash; or
 - (iv) electronic funds transfer.

The fee must be paid, or the required evidence be supplied to HV that the fee has been paid, no later than the Dispute Team List Deadline as provided in Schedule Section 1, 2.1 Critical Path, Deadlines and Procedures.

- (g) The fee, paid in accordance with Rule 7.4(f), may be refunded in part or in full at HV's determination. A full refund will be made in all cases where HV finds in favour of the Affiliate that lodged the match dispute.



- (h) As soon as practicable HV shall provide written notice of a dispute to the two Affiliates through their respective Secretaries email address last identified to HV by it or them.
- (i) HV shall maintain a list of all disputes.
- (j) As soon as practicable HV shall provide written notice of a dispute to all other Affiliates with teams competing in the same grade through their respective Secretaries email address last identified to HV by it or them.
- (k) As soon as practicable HV shall notify all affected Affiliates of the outcome of the Match Dispute.
- (l) If, through investigation of a match dispute by HV, it is found that ineligible player/s have been fielded in previous matches and this was not disputed by the other team in the match in which the ineligible player participated prior to the Dispute Team List Deadline as provided in Schedule Section 1, 2.1, then HV may apply penalties including but not limited to HV Schedule Section 1, 3.3 Fines and Penalties (g).

7.5 Team List Audits

- 7.5.1** HV may, at its discretion, audit all or any team lists in ERS and shall have the right to require Affiliates to satisfactorily explain any irregularities in those team lists.
- 7.5.2** HV shall be entitled to rely on the information contained in the team lists to validate player eligibility and apply such penalties as are prescribed in the Rules and Regulations including but not limited to match forfeit.
- 7.5.3** If a penalty in terms of this Regulation, is likely to affect a match result, HV shall, as soon as practicable, directly advise the Affiliate of the opposing team and also notify all other Affiliates with teams competing in the same grade in writing via their respective Secretaries email address last identified to HV by it or them.
- 7.5.4** If, through the completion of a team sheet audit by HV, it is found that ineligible players have been fielded in matches and it was not disputed by the opposition in the match in which the ineligible player participated prior to the Dispute Team List Deadline as provided in Schedule Section 1, 2.1, then HV may apply penalties including but not limited to HV Schedule Section 1, 3.3 Fines and Penalties (g).
- 7.5.5** In any appeal against such penalties as may be applied in terms of this Regulation, the only parties with rights to be heard shall be the Affiliates of the two teams involved in the match which is subject to penalty.



8. Match Play Eligibility

8.1 General Principles

In the Regular Rounds, Affiliates shall have the power to select in any team any player who meets the Player Eligibility Criteria and the requirements of the HV Rules, Regulations and Schedule documents that apply to the competition section in which the team is entered.

The HV Rules and Regulations provide various opportunities for a player to be eligible to play in more than one team in any one round in a competition section, however, it should be noted that the maximum number of matches that a player is eligible to play is limited to a total of two (2) matches in any competition section in the same round regardless of when the matches are played.

8.2 Grade & Team Rankings

8.2.1 Ranking of Grades

Ranking of Senior, Masters, Mid Weekand Junior grades/teams for the purposes of these Regulations shall be determined by HV from time to time and shall be detailed in HV Schedule Section 1.

8.2.2 Equal Ranking Grade Priority

For the purposes of this Regulation 8, any Affiliate that has entered more than one team in an equally ranked grade shall nominate to HV a ranking priority for all teams in that grade. The ranking priority nominated by the Affiliate shall then be notified by HV to all other teams in the respective grade by appellation of a number in the ERS. The higher the ranking number, the lower the ranking. This regulation is subject to the following conditions:

- (a) The Affiliate must provide HV with the ranking priority nominations in a form determined by HV and in accordance with clause (c) hereof.
- (b) The priority ranking shall take the form of the nomination by the Affiliate of a number against each team where the higher the number indicates the lower the ranking of the team for the purposes of applying this Regulation 8.
- (c) Affiliates must nominate a ranking priority for all teams it has entered in any equally ranked grade and advise HV of their preferred rankings at least 48 business hours prior to the first competition match of the relevant grade/division in the Current Year's winter Regular Season. Where an Affiliate has failed to rank its teams by the required date as determined in clause (c) hereof, or the Affiliate has provided an invalid nomination in terms of this regulation, the ranking priority shall be



determined by HV and advised to the Affiliate prior to the first competition match of the relevant grade/division in the Current Year's Regular Season.

- (d) All priority rankings shall apply to all matches in the Regular Season and Finals Matches of the competition for which the nomination applies.
- (e) A priority ranking nomination is not enduring and applies only to one Regular Season and Finals Matches of one competition.

8.3 Player Eligibility

The following By-Laws advise the circumstances under which an eligible player may play two (2) matches in the same round in a competition section.

It should be noted that regardless of which By-Law the player plays a second match they can only play a maximum of two (2) matches per round in a competition section (Junior, Senior and Masters).

8.3.1 Double Up Players (All Competition Sections)

Subject to the Anti-Stacking Provision (Reg 8.4) any Eligible Player may play up to two (2) games each Regular Round per competition section. All games played are considered as part of the player's record and will count when considering the player's eligibility to play in any further matches, including Finals Matches and eligibility under the Anti-Stacking regulation.

It should be noted that players defined and approved as Overseas Players (see Rule 3.2.1) are **not** eligible to play two (2) matches in any one (1) round.

Refer to the Anti-Stacking Regulation (8.4) which advises the conditions and restrictions of the use of this regulation.

Highlighting the Double Up match is not required when entering match details to the ERS system. All matches and correct details are still required to be entered to the ERS system.

Junior Matches Played by Females

- 8.3.1.1 Female players playing in a mixed gender grade in the Junior competition may also play in a grade for which they are eligible, in a grade restricted to Female players.

Under this allowance it should be noted that the maximum number of matches that a junior Female player can play per round is restricted to a **total** of two (2) matches in the Junior competition, (as per Regulation 8.3), i.e. the Female player is restricted to



playing no more than two (2) matches **in total** in the girls and mixed competitions combined.

8.3.2 Elite Team Substitutes

An Affiliate is permitted to select a player or players to participate in two games in the same fixtured round where one of those games is as a substitute for a player who is unavailable for selection as a result of their selection in an HV sanctioned or recognised National or State event either as an official or player provided that the player meets the criteria of an Elite Team Substitute which are:

- (a) the team in which the Elite Team Substitute(s) plays in that round is the team in which the absent player(s) Usually Plays (Rule 2 Definitions), and
- (b) the other team in which the Elite Team Substitute(s) plays in the same round is the team in which that Elite Team Substitute Usually Plays and is a team that competes in a lower ranked grade. However, should scheduling reasonably prevent the Elite Team Substitute from playing in the team for which they Usually Play the Affiliate may apply for an Elite Team Permit to allow the player to play in another team competing in a lower ranked grade.

Matches played under this regulation will not be counted as part of player's playing record when determining their eligibility in terms of the Anti-Stacking and Finals Eligibility Regulations.

The penalty for breach of this regulation will be the forfeiture of the match in which the player is ineligible under these Regulations.

Whilst a permit application is not required to play an Elite Team Substitute player, Affiliates should ensure that the Elite Team Substitute player satisfies the above requirements.

8.3.3 Double Up Players (Goalkeeper)

It should be noted that players defined and approved as "Overseas Players" (see Rule 3.2.1) are eligible to play only one (1) match in any one (1) round.

8.3.3.1 Regular Rounds

Whilst at all times observing the age criteria of grades, an Affiliate may play an eligible player in two (2) different teams in a competition section in the same round of matches during the Regular Rounds ("Goalkeeper Double Up") in the Junior, Senior and Masters competitions, subject to the following provisions and regardless of the Anti-Stacking provision:



- (a) That the player plays solely as a fully kitted goalkeeper in one match, and solely as a field player in the other match, and
- (b) The two (2) matches subject to this provision are in the same round.

The player subject to this provision may be selected by the Affiliate to play either the field player match or the goalkeeper match in the higher ranked team.

The name of the Double Up GK should be clearly identified on the written team sheet of the match where the player plays as a goalkeeper in with the initials “DGK”. The written team sheet of the match where the DGK player plays as a field player should be left unmarked.

A Double Up Goalkeeper who is marked on the written team sheet and/or on ERS with the initials “GK” instead of “DGK” will not cause the player to be deemed an ineligible player, however it should be noted that a financial penalty (in terms of Schedule Section 1, Clause 3.3 Fines and Penalties) may apply for an incorrect written team sheet and/or an incorrect team list in ERS may apply.

Matches played as DGK under this regulation will not be counted as part of a player’s field playing record when determining their eligibility in terms of the Anti-Stacking and Finals Eligibility Regulations.

The player’s record on ERS will be used to determine the player’s Eligibility under this provision as follows:

- (i) All matches played during the Regular Rounds where the player has been assigned the role of DGK or GK on ERS shall be counted when determining the player’s eligibility to play as a DGK in any match.
- (ii) All matches played during the Regular Rounds where the player has not been assigned the role of either DGK or GK on ERS shall be counted as field player matches when determining the player’s eligibility to play as a field player in any match.

The penalty for breach of this regulation will be the forfeiture of the match in which the player is ineligible under these Regulations.

8.3.3.2 Finals Matches

A player may qualify to play a finals match as a DGK in one team and as a field player in another team.

Refer to Regulation 8.5.2 Finals Eligibility for further information.



8.4 Anti-Stacking Provision

8.4.1 In terms of Regulation 8.1 the following conditions and restrictions shall apply:

- (a) For all 19 Round Competitions (Premier League Reserve):
An eligible Player who has played a total of 11 (eleven) or more matches in Premier League is ineligible to play in any team ranked lower than Premier League for the remainder of the Regular Season matches.
- (b) For all 18 Round Competitions (Seniors and Masters):
An eligible Player who has played a total of 11 (eleven) or more matches in any higher ranked team(s) (regardless of whether those matches are in 19 Round and/or 18 Round Competitions) is ineligible to play in any lower ranked team for the remainder of the Regular Season.
- (c) For all 14 Round Competitions (Juniors & Under 18):
An eligible Player who has played a total of 9 (nine) or more matches in a higher ranked team(s) is ineligible to play in any lower ranked team for the remainder of the Regular Season.

8.4.2 HV shall, at any time during the Regular Rounds of the Regular Season, have the discretion to declare a match forfeit against the team of an Affiliate where HV deems that the Affiliate, without an explanation satisfactory to HV, is deemed to have fielded a team designed to gain an unfair advantage or to distort the rankings of the lower ranked grade.

8.4.3 Whilst at all times adhering to Regulation 8.4.1 hereof, any Eligible Player may play up to two (2) matches in each Regular Round per competition. The second match in the same round may be in one of the following;

- (a) Any higher ranked team for the Affiliate than the team in which the eligible player Usually Plays; or
- (b) The team for the Affiliate ranked immediately below the team in which the eligible player Usually Plays.

8.4.4 A club may field up to three (3) players per team in a Regular Round in Reserve grades, and up to three (3) players per team in a Regular Round in all other grades to play in a team ranked lower than where the player is deemed eligible to play as defined by Reg 8.4 under the following conditions:

Ineligible players:

- (i) May only play in a team ranked one (1) team lower than the team in which the player Usually Plays.
- ~~(ii) May only play that one (1) match in that particular round.~~

8.5 Finals Eligibility



The player's record on ERS will be used to determine the player's Finals Eligibility under this provision as follows:

8.5.1 A player shall be eligible to play in a Finals Match with a team of an Affiliate when at the completion of the Regular Rounds the player's record on ERS shows:

- (a) In that competition section, during the Regular Rounds the player has played:
 - (i) a minimum of thirty-three and a third ($33 \frac{1}{3}$) per cent of the total number of Rounds in that team (excluding byes) and/or in lower ranked team(s) excluding:
 - all Elite Team Substitute matches; and/or
 - all DGK matches (unless determining eligibility to play in a Finals Match as a goalkeeper under Regulation 8.5.2(b);and
 - (ii) a simple mathematical majority of the total number of all their matches in that team and/or in a team(s) in a lower ranked team(s) excluding only:
 - all Elite Team Substitute matches; and/or
 - all DGK matches (unless determining eligibility to play in a Finals Match as a goalkeeper under Regulation 8.5.2(b))

Where a player has played an equal number of games between two or more teams at the conclusion of the Regular Rounds, then the majority of games shall be considered as the higher ranked of those two teams.

or

- (b) the player:
 - (i) has a playing record during a previous season with the Affiliate they wish to play finals with, and
 - (ii) is a Registered Player with the Affiliate for the Current Year of the HV competition, and
 - (iii) is required to be in Perth purely for the purpose of fulfilling Daily Training Environment requirements as advised to HV by HA High Performance Unit), and/or
 - (iv) is required to be absent from part of the HV Winter Competition purely due to National Team and/or National Development Team duties and
 - (v) is only seeking to play the finals in the highest ranked team of the Affiliate.



The period of time that the player is either required to be in Perth or absent on National Team duties, should be directly responsible for the player being unable to qualify to play finals as required under Regulation 8.5.1 (a).

or

- (c) they have been granted a Playing Permit in terms of 8.6 hereof.

For the purpose of this Regulation:

- (d) where the mathematical majority referred to in Regulation 8.5.1(a) (ii) results in a fractional number, then HV shall round up that number to the next highest whole number and that whole number shall be the number of games to be taken into account for the purpose of finals eligibility.
- (e) any matches played by a Junior Female player in a mixed gender grade or a boys grade shall not count in determining eligibility to participate in a Finals Match in a grade restricted to Female players.

8.5.2 A player shall be eligible to play in more than one Finals Match but no more than two (2) Finals Matches in the same finals round in a competition section, in the following circumstances:

- (a) as an Elite Team Substitute (refer to Regulation 8.3.2);
- (b) when HV has issued a Playing Permit (Regulation 8.6);
- (c) as provided for under Regulation 8.4.3 provided the player is eligible to participate in Finals Series in each team as outlined in Regulation 8.5.1;
- (d) as a Double Up Goalkeeper (subject to Regulation 8.3.3) as follows:

A player shall be eligible to play two Finals Matches in the same finals round, when one of those matches is as a DGK and the other match is as a field player in another team, subject to the following:

- (i) the player must satisfy the requirements of HV Regulation 8.5 (a) (i) & (ii) Finals Eligibility, solely as a goalkeeper for the match in which they wish to play as a DGK, and solely as a field player for the match in which they wish to play as a field player.
- (ii) the player must play solely as a goalkeeper in the finals match where the player qualifies to play finals as a DGK; and
- (iii) the player must play solely as a field player in the finals match where the player qualifies to play finals as a field player.



- (iv) The purpose of this regulation is to allow a player who has qualified through the DGK regulation to be able to participate in finals regardless of whether one or both teams are participating in any Finals Match.

The player's record on ERS will be used to determine the player's Finals Eligibility under this provision as follows:

- (v) All matches played during the Regular Rounds where the player has been assigned the role of DGK or GK on ERS shall be counted when determining the player's eligibility to play as a DGK in a finals match.
- (vi) All matches played during the Regular Rounds where the player has not been assigned the role of either DGK or GK on ERS shall be counted as field player matches when determining the player's eligibility to play as a field player in a finals match.

8.5.3 Conditional GK

To be eligible to be listed as a 17th player (second GK) in a finals match, the player must have qualified to play finals (in accordance with Regulation 8.5.1) in that team. (This negates the requirement for a permit to be issued as was the process previously). Refer to Regulation 2.3 for further detail.

8.6 Playing Permits

Any Affiliate that wishes to play a player who would otherwise be ineligible to play in any match may only field that player in that match if it has received a Playing Permit in respect of that player.

8.6.1 Application

Application for a permit must be received by HV by 9am on the last business day prior to the match for which the permit is sought.

The permit application shall be on the form provided by HV from time to time and shall include:

- (i) name of the Affiliate seeking the permit
- (ii) full name and date of birth of the applicant player
- (iii) the recent playing record of the player where the player has not been playing in a competition that requires entries in ERS
- (iv) the circumstances that require the permit
- (v) reasons why HV should consider the granting of the permit

HV at its sole discretion may require a statutory declaration in regard to statements being made in support of a permit application.



8.6.2 Criteria and Permit Types

HV considers that the Rules and Regulations allow Affiliate's considerable scope to select and manage their playing lists and therefore Playing Permits shall only be issued in exceptional circumstances as below.

Furthermore, the disadvantage to opposing teams in the granting of such a permit shall be a major consideration particularly in respect to Finals Matches.

8.6.2.1 Finals Permits

(a) Consecutive Team Permits:

A "Consecutive Team Permit" will be considered when a club has consecutive teams playing the same finals round. The granting of a "Consecutive Team Permit" allows a player that has not qualified for "that" grade to play for that week in that grade. To be eligible for consideration for this type of permit a player must have played a minimum of 33% of games during the Regular Rounds of the season in that team or team from a lower grade. This type of permit would be valid for one week only.

Where the team immediately above the one for which the permit is being sought is in finals but has a bye for that finals round, a Consecutive Team Permit will only be considered where:

- (i) the player was granted this permit in the previous finals round; and
- (ii) no player who played in any higher ranked team in the previous finals round plays/will play in the team for which the permit is being sought (except where they played as a Conditional Goalkeeper, or with a separate finals record under the Double Up Goalkeeper regulation).
- (iii) the player can only participate in one match for that finals round

8.6.2.2 Long Term Injury Permits (Finals only)

8.6.2.1 Long Term Injury Permit:

A "Long Term Injury Permit" will be considered where a player is seeking to play finals in the highest ranked team of their affiliate, but has not met the finals eligibility requirement of Reg 8.5.1(a)(i) (the 'minimum rounds played in that team and/or lower'), and where to HV's comfortable satisfaction:

- (i) the player would have met this requirement if not for injury/injuries; and
- (ii) the player was registered for the Current Year no later than the start of the Regular Season, or that the relevant injury/injuries occurred after the player became registered for the Current Year.



A player with this permit is only eligible to play finals for the highest ranked team of their Affiliate (and only then only if that team is in finals). This type of permit would be valid for all Finals Matches in that grade.

8.6.2.3 Exceptional Circumstances Permits

An "Exceptional Circumstances Permit" should be applied for where there are exceptional circumstances regarding the player and/or the team other than those covered by the above permit types.

Hockey Victoria classifies an 'exceptional circumstance' as an issue outside the norm that prevents a club being able to manage their player lists in accordance with HV rules and regulations. The HV rules and regulations provide clubs with significant flexibility when selecting players each round, including for managing playing unavailability.

Hockey Victoria classifies player unavailability, including but not limited to the following, as issues that a club should manage without the need for such a permit:

- Injury
- Work Commitments
- Player Vacations
- Retirements
- Suspension

8.6.3 Approval

HV's approval or denial of a Playing Permit shall be advised to the Affiliate by means of publishing on the HV website or by such other method that HV may determine. Each Playing Permit shall have a unique identifier.

HV shall have the discretion to reconsider, cancel or revoke a previously approved permit in situations where the circumstances may have changed or on the basis of additional information.

All Regular Round matches played with a playing Permit will be included as part of the Permit player's playing record for that season. The player's playing record will be used to determine the player's eligibility to participate in any match for that season.

8.6.4 Notification

Any team playing a player under this Regulation is required to clearly indicate on the team sheet and the ERS that the player is eligible to play in terms of a Playing Permit and to clearly identify that permit.



8.7 Age Eligibility

For the purposes of determining age-based player eligibility the following shall apply for the 2022 HV winter competition:

(a) Junior Competition

Under 10 competition	Born on or after 1 January 2012
Under 12 competition	Born on or after 1 January 2010
Under 14 competition	Born on or after 1 January 2008
Under 16 competition	Born on or after 1 January 2006

(b) Masters Competition

35 & Over	Born on or before 31 December 1987
45 & Over	Born on or before 31 December 1977
50 & Over	Born on or before 31 December 1972
60 & Over	Born on or before 31 December 1962

Please refer to HV Schedule Section 1 Clause 1.3 for information regarding age eligibility exemptions in the Men's Masters 45+ Women's Masters 35+ competitions.

(c) Under 18 Competition

Under 18	Born on or after 1 January 2004
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9. Officiating

9.1 Umpires

9.1.1 Rules of Hockey

Umpires shall umpire matches in accordance with the Playing Rules defined in Regulation 2.1 hereof.

9.1.2 Local Rules

Umpires shall ensure that the Rules and Regulations of HV regarding uniform, match play, equipment, written team sheets and substitution and interchange are carried out correctly.

9.1.3 Match Conduct

During the match, an umpire may request that players, Team Management and spectators modify their behaviour, or that spectators and/or Team Management to change their position on or around the field to enable the match to be played safely and fairly.

Such requests may be made directly to the person(s) involved or through the team captain(s).

If such requests are not met, the umpire may:

- (a) take action in accordance with the Rules of Hockey,
- (b) stop the game until such time as the request(s) is complied with, or
- (c) terminate the game, and in that event shall submit a written report to HV, who shall act at their discretion.

Such action should be reported to HV, and may be followed by an Investigation.

9.1.4 Umpire Precedence

Rostered Umpires shall have precedence. If no umpires are rostered or the Rostered Umpires fail to appear in time to start the match the two competing teams shall be responsible for the provision of one umpire.

If only one Rostered Umpire is rostered to a game, or where only one (1) of the two (2) HV Rostered Umpires is present to officiate at the match the first named team shall be responsible for the provision of an umpire, (and any associated payment that may be due).



9.1.5 Rostered Umpires Fail to Arrive

Where the HV Rostered Umpire(s) fail to attend a match by the scheduled starting time HV Regulation 2.6 (d) shall apply.

9.1.6 Replacement Umpires

Umpires who commence the match shall not be replaced except:

- (a) upon agreement between the captains or in the respect of Junior teams the team managers, where a Rostered umpire(s) arrives after commencement of the match.
- (b) if an umpire becomes incapacitated, the captains shall agree on a replacement umpire.
- (c) in exceptional circumstances and in the interests of proper control of a Junior match, an Accredited Umpire who has been rostered as a tester or tutor may take control of the match.

9.1.7 Requirement for Umpires

Each person reporting for umpiring duties shall comply with the requirements detailed in a Schedule from time to time.

9.1.8 Payment of Umpires

Where an Accredited Umpire/s has been rostered by HV to officiate at a competition match, such Accredited Umpire/s are entitled to payment from the competing teams as follows:

- (a) Where two (2) HV rostered Accredited Umpires are present to officiate at a match, each competing team should pay one (1) Accredited Umpire the full scheduled amount due for the match.
- (b) Where one (1) Accredited Umpire has been rostered by HV, or where only one (1) of the two (2) HV Rostered Accredited Umpires is present to officiate at the match, the away team (second named team) shall be solely responsible for the payment of the attending HV rostered Accredited Umpire.

In accordance with HV Reg 9.1.4 the home team (first named team) is responsible for the provision of the second umpire (and any associated payment that may be due).

Payment should be made prior to the start of the match but must be made no later than at the time the Accredited Umpire is required to sign the match report.



The total payment for each Accredited Umpire shall be in accordance with the amounts determined by HV from time to time. Refer to Schedule Section 2 Clause 6.3.

The failure of a team of an Affiliate to pay an umpire on match day as required, will incur a fine.

In such instances where HV is required to process the umpire payment on behalf of an Affiliate, an HV Administration Fee will also apply.

Where a game is cancelled prior to starting but after the arrival of any rostered umpires the umpires shall be entitled to 50% of their match fee.

Where a game is abandoned after the start of play the umpires are entitled to full payment.

Refer HV Schedule Section 1, Clause 3.3 for further details.

9.2 Technical Officials

Where an Accredited official has been rostered by HV to officiate at a competition match, such technical officials are entitled to payment from the competing teams as follows:

The home team (first named team) is responsible for the payment of the Technical official as rostered by HV

Payment should be made prior to the start of the match but must be made no later than at the time the official is required to sign the match report.

The total payment for the official shall be in accordance with the amounts determined by HV from time to time. Refer to Schedule Section 2 Clause 6.3.

The failure of a team of an Affiliate to pay an umpire on match day as required, will incur a fine.

In such instances where HV is required to process the umpire payment on behalf of an Affiliate, an HV Administration Fee will also apply.

Where a game is cancelled prior to starting but after the arrival of any rostered officials shall be entitled to 50% of their match fee.

Where a game is abandoned after the start of play the officials are entitled to full payment.

For information regarding Technical Officials refer to Schedule Section 2, Clause 7.