

# EHL REGULATIONS 2021-22 (March 2022 v3)

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## GLOSSARY

In these Regulations:

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

**ALMC** means the Area League Management Committee

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

**Area** means the relevant Area Hockey organisation as defined in their Articles of Association

**BUCS** means British Universities & Colleges Sport

**Club** means the member club that is participating in the League

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

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

**EHAP** means the England Hockey Appeal Panel

**EHCD** means the EH Competitions Department

**EHF** means the European Hockey Federation

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

**FIH** means the International Hockey Federation

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

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

**League** means the England Hockey League

**Leagues** means the collective term for the 8 Area Leagues and the National League

**Liaison Officer** means the main contact at a team for the EHCD

**MO** means Match Official see Appendix 8 for detail of role

**NDO** means the National Disciplinary Officer

**NDP** means the National Disciplinary Panel

**NPUA** means the National Programme Umpiring Association

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

**Principles** means Principles of Fair Selection

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

**TAP** means the Technical Appointments Panel

**Team** is used to differentiate between a Club's different teams, either Men's or Women's and/or 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> teams that participate in the Leagues

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

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

## **APPENDICES** (Click on to go to relevant Appendix)

Appendix 1 – Leagues Titles and Divisions

Appendix 2 – England Hockey Policies

Appendix 3 – Variances to FIH Rules of Hockey

Appendix 4 – Player Eligibility and Team Selection

Appendix 5 – Priority List and Calendar

Appendix 6 – Standard Penalties & Tariffs of Fines

Appendix 7 – Appeal Notice Template

Appendix 8 – Duties and Responsibilities of Appointed Match Officials

Appendix 9 – Covid Regulations

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The Leagues structure in England will comprise of:

National League – administered centrally by England Hockey and currently known as the 'England Hockey League.'

8 Area Leagues – each administered by their respective Area organisation

All Divisions with the Leagues are allocated a Grade in line with the table below

<b>Grade 1</b>	England Hockey League (Premier Division, Division 1's North / South, 4 Conferences)
<b>Grade 2</b>	Area Premier Divisions and Any Divisions at the next Step
<b>Grade 3</b>	Area mid-level Divisions – Approximately the highest 50% of all Divisions below Grade 2 and above Grade 5.
<b>Grade 4</b>	Area lower divisions – Approximately the lowest 50% of all Divisions below Grade 2 and above Grade 5.
<b>Grade 5</b>	i. Area lowest divisions – The division(s) at the lowest Step in any Area League pyramid (i.e. where there is no further Division that promotes teams to it); and ii. Any other Divisions, in addition to above, as designated by the ALMC

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

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

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

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

## **1.6 Betting**

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

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

1.6.3 Any breach of Regulations 1.6.1 and/or 1.6.2 shall be considered a Disrepute Offence under the EH Code of Ethics.

## **2. MANAGEMENT**

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

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

2.3. Appeals against League decisions will be heard by the NDP via the Appeals process (see Reg 17).

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

## **3. ENTRY INTO THE League**

### **3.1 Clubs**

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

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

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

3.1.2.2 Paid League entry fees;

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

3.1.3 Each participating club must appoint a Liaison Officer and 2<sup>nd</sup> contact for each gender of team participating in the League. (An individual may cover both roles). The Liaison Officer and 2<sup>nd</sup> contact should be available to the EHCD, and other teams as required by the usual channels of communication. The name, e-mail address and telephone number(s) of the Liaison Officer and 2<sup>nd</sup> contact must be advised to the EHCD, via or for use in the GMS and by the date specified. Any change in details of any of the above must be advised via or for use in the GMS.

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

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

## 4. THE COMPETITION

### 4.1 Structure

#### The Divisions

4.1.1 Each gender of the League will consist of seven Divisions: Premier, Division One North & South (collectively referred to as 'Division One'), Conference East, Conference Midlands, Conference North and Conference West (collectively referred to as the 'Conferences'). Each Division shall consist of ten teams except that the Premier Division shall, for the 2021/22 season only, consist of 11 teams.

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

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

4.1.4 The Premier Division will be played in two Phases - Phase 1 and Phase 2 as follows:

#### 4.1.4.1 Phase 1:

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

#### 4.1.4.2 Phase 2:

4.1.4.2.1 All points, deductions, goals scored and goal differences from Phase 1 will carry forward to Phase 2 as per 4.2 below;

4.1.4.2.2 Teams ranked 1-6 (referred to as Tier 1) at the end of Phase 1 shall play each other twice on a home and away basis on the dates specified by EH.

4.1.4.2.3 Teams ranked 7-11 (referred to as Tier 2) at the end of Phase 1 shall play each other twice on a home and away basis on the dates specified by EH.

#### 4.1.5.3 Final ranking after Phase 2:

4.1.5.3.1 Tier 1: the team finishing top of Tier 1 shall be champions and the other teams shall be ranked second to sixth respectively;

4.1.5.3.2 Tier 2: the team finishing top of Tier 2 shall be ranked seventh and the other teams shall be ranked eighth to eleventh respectively.

### 4.2 Scoring Systems

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

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

4.2.2.1 Highest goal difference;

4.2.2.2 Highest number of goals scored;

4.2.2.3 Highest number of matches won;

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

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

### 4.3 Walkovers

4.3.1 A team that fails to honour more than the one match during the season will be withdrawn from the League and all previous results will be void. The EHCD will consider the circumstances before implementing the sanction.

### 4.4 Teams from the same club and Divisions

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

### 4.5 Promotion & Relegation

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

Premier Division (A) & Division One North (B1) and South (B2)	Bottom two teams in A relegated Top team in both B1 and B2 promoted
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Division One North (B1) and South (B2) & Conference East (C1), Midlands (C2), North (C3), West (C4)	Bottom two teams in both B1 and B2 relegated Top team in each of C1, C2, C3, C4 promoted
Conference East (C1), Midlands (C2), North (C3), West (C4) & 8 Area Premier Divisions	Bottom two teams in each of C1, C2, C3, C4 relegated Top team in each of the 8 Area Premier Divisions promoted

4.5.2 If the relegation of a team means there would be more than the maximum number of teams from the same club in a Division (see Reg 4.4 above), the team with the lowest ranking from the club in the lower Division will be relegated irrespective of finishing position.

Any additional place will be filled by the highest placed team in the relevant Division who would otherwise have been relegated

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

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

4.5.4.1 the highest placed team in the relevant Division who would otherwise have been relegated

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

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

#### 4.6 EHF European Club Competitions Qualification

EH will have a designated number of places in the EHF European Club Competitions (EHFECC) and the ranking of teams for participation in EHFECC for the following season will be as per Regulation 4.2, with 1, 2 or 3 teams qualifying as per EHF's designation

## 5. FIXTURES

### 5.1 Fixture Scheduling

5.1.1 EHCD will issue fixtures with their scheduled dates

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

### 5.2 Fixture Management

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

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

5.2.3 Any changes within these number of days is by exception only and must be agreed by both teams and all match officials and notified to the EHCD as above. In this event any changes must be communicated to opponents and match officials AND confirmed back by email or message no later than 2000hrs on the Wednesday prior to the match.

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

5.2.5 The Home team must contact their opponents, both Umpires and the Match Official to confirm arrangements by 8.00 pm five days prior to the match.

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

## 6. MATCHDAY ADMINISTRATION

### 6.1 Pitches & facilities

6.1.1 All League matches must be played on artificial turf pitches suitable for hockey. EHCD, reserve the right to not allow a specific

pitch to be used for League matches if it deems it unsuitable.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## 6.2 Pitch bookings

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

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

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

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

## 6.3 Start times and floodlights

6.3.1 Match start times shall be between the following times:

Time – Sep & Oct, Mar & Apr	Time – Nov-Feb	Under floodlights at 350 lux
1130 – 1500 hrs	1130 – 1430 hrs	1800 hrs at the latest

6.3.1.1 Consideration should be given to opposition travel when scheduling fixtures

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

6.3.3 The home team may set a start time in a window between 1430 hrs to 1800 hrs on a Saturday without the agreement of the away team, provided that:

6.3.3.1 The home club's floodlights exceed an average maintained output of 350 lux

6.3.3.2 The distance the away team is travelling is less than 100 miles one way; and/or,

6.3.3.3 The away team is not involved in a League or EH T1 Championship match or has players participating in EH Performance or NAGS activity the following day.

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

## 6.4 Starting the Match

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

## 6.5 Changing Facilities

6.5.1 Home teams must provide the following.

Toilet on site

Separate changing for both teams and for umpires at pitch venue (teams and umpires to have exclusive use for 1 hour prior to and after match)\*

(\*Subject to dispensation from EHCD in exceptional circumstances)

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

## **6.6 Hospitality**

6.6.1 Requirement for home teams is for Pre- and post-match hospitality to be made available to visiting teams, umpires and match officials including a hot post-match meal\* (\*Subject to dispensation from EHCD in exceptional circumstances)

6.6.2 Away team must confirm if they do not wish to receive any offered hospitality by 2000 hrs on the Wednesday prior to the match. Away team is liable for any costs incurred if they notify they do not require hospitality after this time or if it is not taken on the day.

## **6.7 Balls**

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

## **6.8 Stewards**

Home teams must provide stewards, or have an official responsible for spectator control, for all home matches.

## **6.9 Injury, pitch cleaning**

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

## **6.10 Banners**

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

## **6.11 Programmes**

Mandatory for Premier Division and Division One. Recommended for Conferences - Home teams must produce a programme for each match. This can be on-line or hard copy. Adverts supplied by EHCD must be included in the programme. The programme must also include accurate team lists.

## **6.12 Conduct**

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

## **6.13 On field Injuries**

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

## **6.14 Ball Patrol**

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

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



## **6.15 Video Analysis for the purposes of performance analysis**

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

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

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

## **7. PLAYER REGISTRATION**

### **7.1 General**

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

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

7.1.1.2 Domestic competition in any another country.

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

7.1.3 Registration must comply with the Regulations as set out below.

### **7.2 Photo**

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

### **7.3 Age**

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

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

### **7.4 Gender**

Players shall play in the relevant competition

### **7.5 Nationality**

#### **7.5.1 No Objection Certificate**

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

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

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

7.5.2.1 hold a UK or RoI Passport, or;

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

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

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

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

7.5.3 This regulation does not apply to a UK Resident who

7.5.3.1 has no passport and

7.5.3.2 has not previously held a passport for another country  
7.5.3.3 is eligible to hold a UK passport

## **7.6 Registration Deadlines & Transfers**

### **7.6.1 Week by week**

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

### **7.6.2 Transfers**

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

Premier Division - 9<sup>th</sup> November  
Division One and Conferences - 1<sup>st</sup> February.

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

### **7.6.3 Transfers between Clubs (in England and Wales only)**

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

7.6.3.2 The new club must approve the move

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

7.6.3.4 The previous club can decline a move (e.g. on the basis of unpaid fees to the existing club, outstanding disciplinary issues or club assets or permissions held by the player that may need to be returned prior to transfer.) and must notify EHCD of this. In the event of an objection the 10-day period can be extended to 17-days.

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

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

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

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

7.6.4.2 Their existing club must approve the move.

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

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

## **8. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY - TEAM SELECTION**

8.1 On any date a club's teams for its matches must be selected in line with the Principles of Fair Selection (Appendix 4).

8.2 The GMS provides for the management of a club's teams selection in line with the Principles, however the EHCD reserve the right to determine at any time:

8.2.1 if a club is in breach of the Principles; or

8.2.2 if the requirements as shown in the should be overridden in specific scenarios to ensure the Principles can be met.

## **9. TEAMS, MATCH SHEETS & RESULTS**

### **9.1 Match Sheets**

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

### **9.2 Players**

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

### 9.3 Team Officials

Each team must have a manager and may have a maximum of three team officials who are permitted to be in the bench area and a qualified medical doctor if available. In addition a team with a qualified physiotherapist may include an additional official. The role of any official is to be included within the match sheet.

### 9.4 Deadline for submission of information

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

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

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

## 10. DRESS

10.1 Field players must wear uniform shirts and knee length socks.

Women's matches - Field players shall wear uniform shorts, skirts or skorts.

Men's matches - Field players shall wear uniform shorts.

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

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

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

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

## 11. UMPIRES & MATCH OFFICIALS

11.1 The NPUA is responsible for the appointment of Umpires to League matches. TAP is responsible for the appointment of Match Officials and their duties and responsibilities in relation to these Regulations are shown in Appendix 8.

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

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

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

11.5 Any issues regarding umpire conduct shall be dealt with by the appointing body

## 12. DISCIPLINE

### 12.1 Conduct

12.1.1 It is the primary responsibility of clubs to regulate the behaviour of their players, officials, members and spectators. By participating in the League clubs confirm that they have established an internal disciplinary procedure to deal with serious disorderly,

abusive, offensive or improper behaviour by players, officials, members and spectators prior to, during and after any League match either in person or on social media. This extends to behaviour toward League officials.

12.1.2 Any behaviour deemed to meet the criteria as shown above, may be the subject of a Disrepute Complaint and dealt with pursuant to the Disrepute Offence Regulations, or will be dealt with by the EHCD.

## **12.2 Yellow Cards**

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

12.2.2 The following suspensions shall apply to each individual:

Four yellow cards in a season = 1 match suspension;

Two further yellow cards in the same season (i.e. six in total) = 1 further match suspension;

For each further yellow card thereafter in the same season = 1 further match suspension.

12.2.3 The suspension is to be applied for matches involving the team a player has played most matches for (if this is equal the player will be suspended from the higher ranked team) unless advised otherwise by EHCD.

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

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

12.2.6 If a player or team official from the bench is issued with a yellow card the on-field captain is removed from play for the duration of the suspension. If a player or team official from the bench is issued with a red card the team has to withdraw a player from the field of play for the remainder of the match.

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

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

## **13. POSTPONEMENT OR ABANDONMENT**

### **13.1 Priority**

Unless postponed due to weather or travel as below a team may only postpone a match if they are playing a higher priority fixture on the date of the match which includes EHF Club competition. (See Appendix 5 for link to Priority list for coming season). Re-arrangements of fixtures will be made by EHCD

### **13.2 General**

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

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

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

13.2.3.1 In the first half of the season - the match must be replayed on or before the first designated slip date when both teams do not have a higher priority fixture, unless otherwise agreed by both teams and the EHCD (see Appendix 5 for slip dates for the current season).

13.2.3.2 In the second half of the season - the match must be replayed on or before the first designated slip date when both teams do not have a higher priority fixture or may be played prior to the slip date if agreed by both teams (see Appendix 5 for slip dates for the current season).

13.2.3.3 The agreement of both teams and EHCD is required before a match can be postponed. If teams disagree the EHCD shall make a ruling whether to postpone or not.

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

### **13.3 Procedure for Bad Weather & Associated Travel**

#### **13.3.1 Pitch**

13.3.1.1 The home team should use the following procedures.

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

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

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

13.3.1.4 Once the teams and umpires if appointed have arrived, Regulation 13.2 above shall apply.

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

#### **13.3.2 Travel**

13.3.2.1 The away team should use the following procedures.

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

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

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

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

## **14. TROPHIES**

14.1 Any club that wins a perpetual trophy must arrange for it to be engraved and returned at the club's cost to EHCD by 1 February, uThe cost of any additional engraving or a replacement if a trophy is misplaced by a club will be invoiced to the relevant club.

## **15. FAILURE TO HONOUR A FIXTURE OR FORFEITURE OF A MATCH**

15.1 If a team fails to honour a fixture, or forfeits a match, it shall be deemed to have lost 0-5 and the opposing team shall be awarded three points and be deemed to have won the match 5-0. This is subject to any remission or further penalty, for example points

deduction, revision of score or fine, requirement that the fixture be played, that the EHCD may impose in line with Breach of Regulations & Penalties.

## **16. BREACH OF REGULATIONS & PENALTIES**

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

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

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

16.4 Appendix 6 gives details of the standard tariff of penalties for breaches of these Regulations.

## **17. APPEAL PROCEDURE**

17.1 There can be no appeal against the decision of an umpire or appointed Match Official.

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

17.2.1 The Appeal to the England Hockey Appeal Panel (EHAP) must be commenced by an Appeal Notice (Appendix 7) marked for the attention of the England Hockey Appeal Panel sent to and received by EHCD not later than 3 days after the Appellant has been notified of the decision to be appealed against. The full Appeal, including copies of all documents and the written statements of any witnesses upon which the Appellant intends to rely in the Appeal must be sent to and received by the Appeal Panel not later than 14 days after the Appellant has been notified of the decision to be appealed against.

17.2.2 The Appeal Notice should be sent by email to the EHCD. A deposit of £100 must be sent within 14 days after the Appellant has been notified of the decision to be appealed against. This will be returned, all or in part, if the Appeal is successful. As soon as reasonably practical after receipt of the Appeal Notice, the Chair of the EHAP shall give directions for the further conduct of the Appeal.

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

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

17.2.5 As soon as reasonably practical after the receipt of the Appeal Notice, the Chair of the EHAP shall give directions for the further conduct of the Appeal.

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

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

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

17.2.9 The decision of the EHAP shall be final.

## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX 1 – LEAGUES TITLES AND DIVISIONS

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

### APPENDIX 2 – ENGLAND HOCKEY POLICIES

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

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

### APPENDIX 3 – VARIANCES TO FIH RULES OF HOCKEY

The Rules of Hockey 2019 including all experimental rules shall apply with the exception of Rules 1.9, 5.1 and 13.3 which shall be varied as follows:

**Rule 1.9** Flag-posts between 1.20 and 1.50 metres in height are placed at each corner of the field. (these are not required)

#### **Rule 5.1**

##### **a. Grade 1 & Adult Tier 1 Championships**

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

##### **b. All other activity**

A match consists of two halves of **35 minutes** with a half-time interval of 5-10 minutes (to be agreed before the match starts).

#### **Rule 13.3**

Time is **not** stopped after a penalty corner is awarded (unless stopped by the umpire). Note that this may affect the return to the pitch of a suspended player.

#### **Rule 14**

- The management of temporarily suspended players once they have left the field of play is undertaken by a Match Official if appointed.
- A temporarily suspended player cannot resume play during a penalty corner, only when it has been completed or another penalty corner is awarded.
- If a temporarily suspended player is a goalkeeper, the Match Official notifies the Umpires when the period of suspension has been completed. The Umpires stop the time at the next stoppage of play to enable that player to resume play.

## APPENDIX 4 – PLAYER ELIGIBILITY & TEAM SELECTION

### 1. PRINCIPLES

1.1. For clubs to have reasonable flexibility in managing player selection.

1.2. For teams in a competition to be selected in hierarchical order and comprise of players who reflect their level of ability within their clubs, based on availability on any one day and are not selected at a level lower than their usual level to strengthen a lower team.

1.3. To ensure that all clubs feel competition is 'fair' and that large or small clubs are not disadvantaged by the application of these Regulations.

1.4. For Players to be able to play and not be 'unselectable' due to Leagues Regulations.

### 1.5. Enabling simpler administration

1.5.1 Electronic Match Sheets are mandatory at all levels to support simpler administration

- To provide clarity and simplicity, including building logic into the GMS to maximise compliance;
- To eliminate subjective administrative intervention wherever possible;
- Initially to focus on flagging potential breaches rather than blocking selection to team sheets;
- For the GMS to provide the data to improve systems and Regulations over time;

### 1.6 Grades

The new Area adult hockey leagues pyramids and the National League are aligned to a number of Grades. The application of Regulations will be different at different Grades to ensure that the expectations are commensurate to the standard of play.

### 2. FAIR SELECTION SUMMARY

2.1. Movement down teams in a club is subject to some control. Movement up teams in a club is unrestricted.

2.2 Players 'doubling up' is permitted at lower Grades as a last resort to get matches played if clubs have insufficient available players to field a team without doing so.

2.3 Movements are more restricted at higher Grades than lower grades.

2.4 In a team's last 4 matches of the season restrictions vary to ensure fair conclusion of Leagues competition.

### 3. FAIR SELECTION SUMMARY TABLE

PLAYERS SELECTION SUMMARY TABLE					
Grade	Movement of a player between a club's teams selected from one match to the next.		Doubling up on same day (these are the maximum number of players for a club, not for a team)		A team's last 4 matches of season
	Up	Down	Field Player	GK	
1	Unrestricted	Max 2 teams	Not permitted	Not permitted	A player must have played minimum of 50% of their matches for the selected team or lower teams
2			Not permitted	Not permitted	
3		Max 3 teams	Not permitted <i>(unless a club's lowest team is at Grade 3 – max 2 players)</i>	Yes (or as GK and outfield player)	
4			Max 3 players*		
5					

(\*or unlimited if a designated Development team in Grade 5)

### 4. DOUBLING UP

4.1 Doubling-up is where a player plays for two teams from their club on the same day. It is permitted at the Grades as shown above under the following conditions:

4.1.1 Clubs may include players who are doubling-up in more than one team. However, this must be in the lowest or second lowest ranked team, and any subsequent teams doubling-up must be in ascending team order unless otherwise agreed by EHCD

4.1.2 The lower ranked team that includes a player doubling up as an outfield player may not have more than 12 players selected for the match.

4.1.3 The ranking between teams that a player doubles up for can be no more than two unless otherwise agreed by EHCD



4.1.4 Any player who is doubling up may not have played for a team the previous weekend that is higher ranked than both the teams they play for when doubling up.

## 5. WALKOVERS

5.1 Where a club has insufficient players available to fulfil all its fixtures on any one day it must forfeit matches starting with the lowest ranked team, followed by the next lowest ranked team unless agreed by EHCD.

## 6. LAST 4 FIXTURES OF THE COMPETITION

6.1 For a team's last four matches in any Division in the Leagues season as well as complying with the above a player playing for a team lower than a club's 1<sup>st</sup> XI must have played a minimum of 50% of the Leagues matches they have played in that season for the team they are selected for, or a lower team.

## 7. MATCH DATES

7.1 Fixtures are issued on scheduled dates on weekends. Where a fixture is moved to another date within 5 days of the original date, or where NL matches are scheduled on a different day, then for the purposes of these Regulations the match will be treated as if it was on the relevant Saturday.

## 8. TEAMS WITHOUT A MATCH ON A DATE.

8.1 On a date where a team does not have a match but other teams in their club do, e.g. a spare week or a rescheduled match, a player must have played a minimum of 50% of the Leagues matches they have played in that season for the team they are selected for, or a lower team.

## 9. SELECTION EXEMPTION PASS (SEP)

9.1 In order to meet the Principles it will be necessary to override the system. This is provided by a Selection Exemption pass from the ALM or ALDS issued at their discretion in line with a nationally agreed framework and process. There will be a process to request this in advance. This can be provided to manage specific scenarios as shown below and can be issued for a specific time period.

## 10. HOW WILL ISSUES BE MANAGED CONSISTENTLY ACROSS THE COUNTRY?

10.1 Representatives from the eight Area Leagues and England Hockey will meet regularly and share issues to work towards a consistent approach to these. We will issue updated Scenarios to include any new issues.

## 11. SCENARIOS WHERE, IN GENUINE CASES, EXEMPTIONS WOULD APPLY

### 11.1 Player returning from injury

For example if a regular 1st team player at Grade 1 is injured for a number of weeks and wants to return with a match in the 3rd team

### 11.2 Player who has not played for a number of weeks

If a player has played early in the season and then does not play until the last four weeks of the season and has not played 50% of matches for a team they wish to play for or a lower team.

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

This may be required if the lowest teams are both away from home or match times clash and players from these teams are unable to double up.

### 11.4 England Hockey League matches not on Saturday

In principle NL matches not on a Saturday are seen as part of the same round of matches. Therefore players cannot double up, in genuine cases where a player is playing a peripheral role in an NL match then an exemption to play may be permitted.

Examples of where this is fair would be this would be a goalkeeper who is benching and would only play due to injury, a young player gaining experience and playing only a small part in the NL match (indicatively less than 15 minutes), or a genuine 2<sup>nd</sup> team player (or 3<sup>rd</sup> in the case of 2<sup>nd</sup> teams in NL) who is taking part in the NL match to ensure a squad can travel to a match.

Examples of where this is not fair would be where the player is a regular outfield player NL player for the team (playing more than 50% of matches for the NL team), where it's a NL team player returning from an absence (e.g. holiday, short injury), where it's a player that starts a match on the bench but is expected to play a significant part in the NL match (20 minutes or more).

### **11.5 Emergency issue**

For example where a Club's 1<sup>st</sup> XI goalkeeper is injured in a warm-up and their 4<sup>th</sup> XI keeper is available but has played earlier in the day. A club can request a retrospective exemption. Also to allow player to return to their normal level the week afterwards

## **12 FAIR SELECTION FAQs**

### **12.1 Why are we moving away starred players systems?**

We know from the feedback from clubs via the survey that we did in 2020 that clubs feel that starred player regulations are too restrictive and do not always support clubs trying to select teams fairly. The new GMS gives us a chance to try something different. We can analyse data from each match to see what matches an individual plays in – in effect a dynamic starring system and this data determines what level a player is at, rather than \* applied at set points in a season.

Also the further you go down a club's teams the harder it would be for starring to be effective as players will move between teams week by week.

Starring can also lead to some players being unable to play if they are dropped or unable to travel to an away match

There are also always "floating" players in higher teams' squads, not starred but who would be free to move between teams.

Generally clubs will pick players for the "correct" team.. If clubs are not doing this then it will be clear from the data and EHCD can take action. Regulations also exist to prevent any artificial strengthening of teams at the end of the season or for rearranged matches.

### **12.2 Why isn't there any restriction on players playing for a higher team one week and a lower team the next?**

We know that a club's availability can vary very significantly week by week. If there is a high unavailability in a higher team one week players need to be able to go up to play for that team and then return to their usual team the week after.

If a higher team doesn't have a match on any date or at the end of the season there are restrictions to prevent a lower team being artificially strengthened with other players.

If a club decided that as its 1<sup>st</sup> team was playing a weak team one week they would swap a number of players from their 2<sup>nd</sup> team and strengthen that team this would be seen on the report of the match and the EHCD could take action

### **12.3 Do you plan future developments?**

Yes, We will continue to review and revise based on our knowledge and experience. However we will be able to do this with rich data. In time it is envisaged that we can apply players ratings based on the team they play for within a club, e.g. if they play all their matches in the 1<sup>st</sup> XI their rating would be 1, or half in the 1<sup>st</sup> XI and half in the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI their rating would be 1.5. We may be able to use this data in order to set parameters to select teams fairly. Outside of the actual match this could be further developed for further engagement opportunities.

## APPENDIX 5 – PRIORITY LIST AND CALENDAR

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

**The 2021-22 England Hockey League Calendar including Slip Dates is below.**

If slip date required for EHL fixture on a Tiered Champs date. The Tiered Champs fixture will move to the Sunday of that weekend.

DATE	DATE	SLIP DATE
Sat 18 Sep	WPrem 1	
Sun 19 Sep	MPrem 1	
Sat 25 Sep	WPrem2 WDI&C1	
Sun 26 Sep	MPrem2 MDI&C1	
Sat 02 Oct	WPrem3 WDI&C2	MPrem 1
Sun 03 Oct	MPrem3 MDI&C2	WPrem 1
Sat 09 Oct	WPrem4 WDI&C3	MPrem2 MDI&C1
Sun 10 Oct	MPrem4 MDI&C3	WPrem2 WDI&C1
Sat 16 Oct	WPrem5 WDI&C4	MPrem3 MDI&C2
Sun 17 Oct	MPrem5 MDI&C4	WPrem3 WDI&C2
Sat 23 Oct	WPrem6 WDI&C5	MPrem4 MDI&C3
Sun 24 Oct	MPrem6 MDI&C5	WPrem4 WDI&C3
Sat 30 Oct	WPrem7 WDI&C6	MPrem5 MDI&C4
Sun 31 Oct	MPrem7 MDI&C6	WPrem5 WDI&C4
Sat 06 Nov	WPrem8 WDI&C7	MPrem6 MDI&C5
Sun 07 Nov	MPrem8 MDI&C7	WPrem6 WDI&C5
Sat 13 Nov	WPrem9 WDI&C8	MPrem7 MDI&C6
Sun 14 Nov	MPrem9 MDI&C8	WPrem7 WDI&C6
Sat 20 Nov	WPrem10 WDI&C9	MPrem8 MDI&C7
Sun 21 Nov	MPrem10 MDI&C9	WPrem8 WDI&C7
Sat 27 Nov	WPrem11 Tiered Champs 1	MPrem9&10 WMDI&C8&9
Sun 28 Nov	MPrem11	WPrem9&10 WDI&C8&9
Sat 04 Dec	Tiered Champs 2	WMPrem11 WMDI&C9
Sun 05 Dec		
Sat 28 Jan	1. Super6s Final prep 2 Tiered Champs 3	
Sun 29 Jan	Super6s Final	
Sat 05 Feb	WPrem12 WDI&C10	
Sun 06 Feb	MPrem12 MDI&C10	
Sat 12 Feb	WPrem13 WDI&C11	
Sun 13 Feb	MPrem13 MDI&C11	
Sat 19 Feb	WPrem14 WDI&C12	MPrem12 MDI&C10
Sun 20 Feb	MPrem14 MDI&C12	WPrem12 WDI&C10
Sat 26 Feb	WPrem15 WDI&C13	MPrem13 MDI&C11
Sun 06 Feb	MPrem15 MDI&C13	WPrem13 WDI&C11
Sat 05 Mar	WPrem16 WDI&C14	MPrem14 MDI&C12
Sun 06 Mar	MPrem16 MDI&C14	WPrem14 WDI&C12
Sat 12 Mar	WPrem17 WDI&C15	MPrem15 MDI&C13
Sun 13 Feb	MPrem17 MDI&C15	WPrem15 WDI&C13
Sat 19 Mar	WPrem18 WDI&C16	MPrem16 MDI&C14
Sun 20 Mar	MPrem18 MDI&C16	WPrem16 WDI&C14
Sat 26 Mar	WPrem19 WDI&C17	MPrem17 MDI&C15
Sun 27 Mar	MPrem19 MDI&C17	WPrem17 WDI&C15
Sat 02 Apr	WPrem20 WDI&C18	MPrem18 MDI&C16&17
Sun 03 Apr	MPrem20 MDI&C18	WPrem18 WDI&C16&17
Sat 09 Apr	WPrem21 Tiered Champs 4	MPrem19&20 WMDI&C18
Sun 10 Apr	MPrem21	WPrem19&20
Sat 16 Apr	EASTER	EASTER
Sat 23 April	Tiered Champs 5	WPrem21
Sun 24 April		
Sat 30 Apr	Tiered Champs 6	
Sat 07 May	Tiered Champs finals	

## APPENDIX 6 - STANDARD PENALTIES & TARIFFS OF FINES.

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

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

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

### 4. Breaches

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

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

### 5. Fines

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

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

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

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

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

	5.2.3 Late notification of change of details	Fine			T1
<b>6 Matchday Administration</b>	6.1 6.5 Provision of Pitch & Facilities and Changing facilities in line with Regulation and no effort to mitigate				T3
	6.6 Failure to supply hospitality	<i>Warning</i>	<i>Fine</i>		<i>T2</i>
	6.6 Hospitality requested and not taken	<i>Reimburse opposition</i>	<i>Reimburse opposition. Fine</i>	<i>Reimburse opposition. Fine</i>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> occurrence - T1 Reimburse opposition. League only involved if non-compliance</i>
<b>7. Player Registration &amp; 8. Fair Selection</b>	7 & 8. Fielding an ineligible player in a match or not complying with principles of fair selection	<i>Match recorded as 5-0 loss (or higher score as determined). Plus 1 point deduction. Fine</i>	<i>Match recorded as 5-0 loss (or higher score as determined). Plus 2 point deduction. Fine</i>	<i>Match recorded as 5-0 loss (or higher score as determined). Plus 4 point deduction, Fine.</i>	<i>T1</i>
<b>9. Team, Matchsheets &amp; Results</b>	9.4.1 Team late in uploading all players and any team officials participating in a match onto the matchsheet on the GMS by specified time.	<i>Warning</i>	<i>Fine</i>	<i>Fine</i>	T1
	9.4.3 Team late to confirm score on the GMS by specified time.	<i>Warning</i>	<i>Fine</i>	<i>Fine</i>	T1
	9.4.4 Team late to confirm details of goals, cards and injuries on the GMS by specified time.	<i>Warning</i>	<i>Fine</i>	<i>Fine</i>	T1
	9. Falsifying player information on matchsheet	Match recorded as 5-0 loss (or higher score as determined) Fine. Plus 1 point deduction. EHCD to determine if team to be relegated at end of season.			T3

<b>10. Dress</b>	19. Uniform kit, additional clothing, numbers	<i>Warning</i>	<i>Fine</i>	<i>Fine</i>	T1
<b>12. Discipline</b>	12.2.4 Fielding an ineligible player in a match (e.g. due to suspension)	Match recorded as 5-0 loss (or higher score as determined). Plus 1 point deduction.			T1
<b>12. Discipline</b>	12.2.3 Suspended player missing incorrect match	Match recorded as 5-0 loss (or higher score as determined). Player to miss 1 further match for appropriate team			T1
<b>13. Postponement or Abandonment</b>	13. Failure to comply with regulation	Match recorded as 5-0 loss for deliberate/negligent failure. Fine and/or reimbursement of opposition expenses			T1 plus opposition expenses
<b>14. Trophies</b>	14. Failure to return and not engraved (if specified)	Fine plus any additional costs incurred if returned late	Additional fine if lost or not returned in time for presentation		T1 plus additional costs
<b>15. Failure to honour a fixture</b>	15. Failure to honour a fixture	Conceded, 0-5 loss (unless EHCD require match to be played). Plus 1 point deduction. Score and point deduction may be increased from 1 point and 0-5 as determined. Fine			T3 plus additional costs to opposition if applicable
<b>Any regulations not covered above</b>		As determined by EHCD			

## APPENDIX 7 – APPEAL NOTICE TEMPLATE

### ENGLAND HOCKEY APPEAL NOTICE

To be sent to relevant ALM pursuant to Reg 17

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

The club/team confirms that

1. it wishes to Appeal the decision above and is doing so within 3 days of the date of notification of decision.
2. it agrees to pay the deposit of £100 within 7 days of the date of notification of decision
3. it agrees to submit the full details of its appeal within 14 days of the date of notification of decision
4. it understands it will forfeit the right to Appeal if it does not comply with 2. Or 3.
5. it may withdraw its appeal prior to submission of the full details and the deposit will be returned.

Signed	
Print Name	
Position with Club	
Date	

## **APPENDIX 8 – DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF APPOINTED MATCH OFFICIALS**

### **1. TAP may appoint a Match Official (MO) to league matches with duties and responsibilities as below**

#### **2. Matchday Administration**

2.1 The MO shall check that players and team officials present correspond with information listed on a clubs' teamsheet and officials are in line with Reg 9. Only those listed may enter the designated bench area.

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

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

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

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

#### **3. Powers of Suspension**

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

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

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

#### **4. Reporting**

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

#### **5. Club Appointed Match Officials**

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



## **APPENDIX 9 – COVID SPECIFIC REGULATIONS**

1. EHCD reserve the right to revise competition regulations to ensure that they take into account the possible impact of Covid-19 and are compliant with any Government legislation and any associated England Hockey requirements relating to Covid-19.

### **2. Requests for postponements**

2.1 EHCD will form an emergency group to consider any evidence in relation to a request to postpone a fixture due to the impact of Covid-19 and may approve this or decline this and determine the fixture must be played or forfeited. If a request to postpone a fixture is approved, it shall be rearranged in line with slip date regulations.

2.2. In reviewing any request to postpone EHCD will consider the availability or otherwise the number of players unavailable due to a positive test for Covid and the frequency of their playing record up to the date of the relevant fixture during the season.

### **3. Completion of Competition**

3.1 The league season may be extended to Sunday 8 May if matches are suspended due to the impact of Covid.

3.2 If it is not possible to complete a season by that date and all teams in a Division have played each other once and all teams have played 80% or more of their scheduled matches then the final table will be decided on a PPM basis. If teams are level on points the existing regulations for determining final positions shall apply.

3.3 Where it has not been possible to implement Reg 3.2 a Division will be declared null and void.

3.4 Promotion and Relegation regulations will apply to all Divisions at adjoining steps which are completed under the method shown in 3.2