
GIRLS U16 TIER 1 & TIER 2 AND U18 SCHOOLS TIER 2 & TIER 3 CHAMPIONSHIPS 2021-22 COMPETITION REGULATIONS

1. Authority

- 1.1 The Rules of Hockey, including any experimental rule changes approved by England Hockey (EH) for use in competitions, shall be observed except as herein provided. In line with Rules of Hockey matches are 35 minutes each way.
- 1.2 The Disciplinary Code of EH shall be applied at all matches.

1.3 Binding Force of the Regulations

Each team, by its entry into and participation in the competitions, and each player by participating in any team entered in the competitions, shall be deemed to have given consent to abide by the Rules of EH, these Regulations and the EH Code of Ethics and to any amendments that may be ratified by the EH Board. Each team and/or player shall be deemed to have agreed to abide by the decisions of the England Hockey Competitions Department (EHCD) in relation to these Regulations or any matter not covered in these Regulations and any penalty or sanction that may be imposed.

2. Management

- 2.1 The management of the competition will be under the auspices of the EHCD, based at the EH Head Office, who will oversee the general running of the competition and its publicity and promotion.

3. Liaison

- 3.1 Each participating team must appoint a liaison officer who must be freely available to the EHCD, other participating teams and local umpiring associations at all times by the usual channels of communication. The name, address, telephone number and email address of the liaison officer must be advised to the EHCD.
- 3.2 Any change in liaison officer details must be advised to the EHCD immediately.

4. Eligibility

4.1. Teams

- 4.1.1 The competitions are open to school teams:
- 4.1.2 All teams participating in a competition shall complete and return to the appropriate organiser, by the due date the relevant competition entry form and entry fee.
- 4.1.3 No team may alter its title, nor incorporate any part of a sponsor's name therein, without the prior permission of EH.

4.2 Players

Players shall be eligible to compete if they qualify as follows:

- 4.2.1 by being on the school roll at the school at time of participation. (For the purposes of this competition a player on the school roll must not be attending another school in England or another country at the same time as participation)
- 4.2.2 by being on the school roll at the start of the academic year in which the competition takes place. In exception to this a school may apply to EHCD on behalf of a player who has joined the school since the start of the academic year and they will rule if the circumstances permit the player to be declared eligible.
- 4.2.3 Players shall not represent more than one school in any one season. For the purposes of these regulations a season is defined as from 1 September in any one year to 31 August in the following year, both dates inclusive.
- 4.2.4 Players must be Under 14, Under 16 or Under 18 on 31 August preceding the relevant competition or hold a valid England Hockey Age Dispensation Certificate in respect of the age group that they are participating in.
- 4.2.5 it must be anticipated that participating players be on the school roll for the full 2021-22 academic year.
- 4.3 Players shall not participate in more than one England Hockey Schools Championship competition in any one Season. (ie a player can only play for one team in one age group and at one tier). Save that they may play in the U13 In2Hockey championships and one U14 Championship. For the purpose of these regulations the Girls U16 Tier 1 and Tier 2 Championships shall represent one competition and the Girls U18 Tier 2 and Tier 3 Championships shall represent one competition.
- 4.3.1 In exception to the above a team may field a fully kitted goalkeeper who has played in a different age group if permission has been requested to and approved by EHCD. Approval will be granted where EHCD decide that exceptional circumstances exist.
- 4.4 A player whose name appears on any teamsheet listing those players eligible to play in a match will be considered to have played in that match.
- 4.5 Any team that plays an ineligible or suspended player will be disqualified from the competition they participated in and may be fined.

5. Competition

5.1 U16 Tier 1 Championships

- 5.1.1 The competition is a knockout competition.
- 5.1.2 Prior to the quarter finals (last eight) participating teams will play in defined Area with teams drawn to play each other. The number of rounds required is dependent on the total number of entries and how many rounds are required for two teams per Area to qualify for the quarter finals.
- 5.1.3 The draw for the quarter finals and semi finals will be an open draw
- 5.1.4 The first named team in each match shall be designated the home team except as below
 - 5.1.4.1 For Championship Round 4 and the Quarter Finals home advantage will be allocated by EHCD depending on how many home or away matches teams in a match have played up to that stage in the competition under the following conditions.

In any match if one team (A) has played two or more away games than the other team (B) then that team (A) will be at designated the home team for the match.

The Semi Finals and Finals will be played at a neutral venue as determined by EHCD

5.2 U16 Tier 2 Championships.

5.2.1 The competition is a knockout competition for teams who enter the Tier 1 Championships and who play and lose a match in the Preliminary, Round One or Round Two of the Championships (Nb teams who forfeit games in the Preliminary, Round One or Round Two of the Tier 1 Championships may not be eligible to participate in the Tier 2 Championships).

5.2.2 Prior to the semi finals (last four) participating teams will play in defined Areas with teams drawn to play each other. The number of rounds required is dependent on the total number of entries and how many rounds are required for one team per Area to qualify for the semi finals.

5.2.3 The draw for the semi finals will be an open draw

5.2.4 The first named team in each match shall be designated the home team except as below

5.2.4.1 For Tier 2 Round 3 and the Quarter Finals home advantage will be allocated by EHCD depending on how many home or away matches teams in a match have played up to that stage in both the Tier 1 & Tier 2 Championships under the following conditions.

In any match if one team (A) has played two or more away games than the other team (B) then that team (A) will be at designated the home team for the match.

The Semi Finals and Finals will be played at neutral venues as determined by EHCD

5.3 U18 Tier 2 Championships

5.3.1 The competition is a knockout competition.

5.3.2 Prior to the semi finals (last four) participating teams will play in defined Areas with teams drawn to play each other. The number of rounds required is dependent on the total number of entries and how many rounds are required for one team per Area to qualify for the semi finals.

5.3.3 The draw for the semi finals will be an open draw

5.3.4 The first named team in each match shall be designated the home team except as below

5.3.4.1 For Championship Round 4 and the Quarter Finals home advantage will be allocated by EHCD depending on how many home or away matches teams in a match have played up to that stage in the competition under the following conditions.

In any match if one team (A) has played two or more away games than the other team (B) then that team (A) will be at designated the home team for the match.

The Semi Finals and Finals will be played at a neutral venue as determined by EHCD

5.4 U18 Tier 3 Championships.

- 5.4.1 The competition is a knockout competition for teams who enter the Tier 2 Championships and who play and lose a match in the Preliminary, Round One or Round Two of the Championships (Nb teams who forfeit games in the Preliminary, Round One or Round Two of the Tier 2 Championships may not be eligible to participate in the Tier 3 Championships).
- 5.4.2 Prior to the semi finals (last four) participating teams will play in defined Areas with teams drawn to play each other. The number of rounds required is dependent on the total number of entries and how many rounds are required for one team per Area to qualify for the semi finals.
- 5.4.3 The draw for the semi finals will be an open draw
- 5.4.4 The first named team in each match shall be designated the home team except as below
- 5.4.4.1 For Tier 3 Round 3 and the Quarter Finals home advantage will be allocated by EHCD depending on how many home or away matches teams in a match have played up to that stage in both the Tier 2 & Tier 3 Championships under the following conditions.
- In any match if one team (A) has played two or more away games than the other team (B) then that team (A) will be at designated the home team for the match.
- The Semi Finals and Finals will be played at neutral venues as determined by EHCD
- 5.5 If the scores are level at the end of full time in any matches the outcome of the match shall be determined by a series of penalty strokes taken under the conditions detailed in Appendix I.
- 5.6 In any match if the winning margin exceeds 8 goals the match can be ended at that stage.

6. Competition Administration

- 6.1 The competition will be administered through the England Hockey Competitions Management System (CMS). All teams will be required to have team administrator on the CMS to enter results and match details.
- 6.2 All matches must be played on a midweek day and by the dates set by EHCD (for further information see the full Information Pack).
- 6.3 Matches can only be played after the scheduled date if agreed in advance of the tie by both teams and approved by the EHCD. Failure to comply with this may lead to disqualification.
- 6.4 The date, venue and start time of each match must be uploaded by the home team directly onto the CMS once agreed by the teams.
- 6.5 The result of each match must be uploaded by the home team directly onto the CMS by 9.00am on the day following the match.

7. Matchday Administration

7.1 Pitches

- 7.1.1 All matches must be played on artificial turf suitable for competitive hockey in line with EH guidance (visit www.englishockey.co.uk/facilities for more information). It is the responsibility of the home team to ensure that pitch facilities, including markings, goals and goal nets are satisfactory. Home teams are responsible for pitch costs

- 7.1.2 All pitch bookings must enable teams to have sufficient familiarisation and warm up time.
- 7.1.3 Every effort must be made to find a suitable replacement pitch should a scheduled venue be unfit.
- 7.2 Home teams must provide a sufficient quantity of good quality hockey balls that must be of the same type and colour and suitable for the surface on which the match is to be played.
- 7.3 Home teams should endeavour to provide sufficient seating for each team and this should be situated on the side of the pitch (preferably away from any spectator area) at a point between the centre and 23 metre lines. Substitutes and officials on the teamsheet must remain in that area and no other persons are allowed on the team bench.
- 7.4 Home teams must ensure a supply of ice at pitchside for use by both teams

7.6 Teamsheets

Not less than 30 minutes before the start of a match each team must complete the team details section of the match report form. Each team must have a manager and two further officials are entitled to occupy the team bench. Additionally a qualified Medical Doctor, whose name appears on the teamsheet, may sit on the team bench. A team shall be entitled to nominate up to 16 players in its squad for each match and only those listed may sit on the team bench. The match report form must be signed by the manager who in so signing will be deemed to vouch for and confirm that each player listed is eligible to play. A player whose name appears on any teamsheet listing those players eligible to play in a match will be deemed to have played in that match.

7.7 Blood Borne Diseases

Any player sustaining an injury that bleeds or any player with an open wound must leave the pitch immediately to receive treatment and have the wound covered prior to returning.

- 7.8 Home teams must provide post-match hospitality for visiting teams and officials and appoint suitable liaison officers to ensure that guests are met on arrival and looked after for the duration of their visit.
- 7.9 Home teams must provide adequate showers and changing facilities for umpires and teams.

8. Dress

- 8.1 Field players must wear uniform shirts, skirts/skorts/shorts and knee length socks.
- 8.2 Any additional clothing (eg cycle shorts or long sleeved tee-shirts) must be of the same colour as the corresponding item of clothing shown on the teamsheet.
- 8.3 Home teams must liaise with their opposition to agree teams' colours in advance. The second named team will change if there is a clash. In addition all teams shall always take alternative colour shirts and socks to a match and, if required by the umpires to do so, the second named team shall wear them.
- 8.4 Goalkeepers must wear shirts contrasting with those of both teams.
- 8.5 Players shall wear on the back of their shirts the numbers allocated on the teamsheet.
- 8.6 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.

- 8.7 The captain must be identifiable on the pitch by a distinguishable band.
- 8.8 It is strongly recommended that all outfield players wear shinguards and mouthguards.
- 8.9 All goalkeepers must be fully kitted as to the rules of hockey.

9. Umpires

- 9.1 Umpire appointments in all rounds up until the quarter finals of the Tier 1 Championships and semi finals of the Tier 2 and Tier 3 Championships are the responsibility of the participating teams. Each team shall provide its own Umpire who shall be minimum Level One Umpire Award accredited and registered as active. However, if agreed by both teams, teams may make alternative arrangements to the satisfaction of both parties including the sourcing of neutral umpires from their local Umpiring Association by the home team at their cost.
- 9.2 Umpire appointments in the quarter finals of the Tier 1 Championships, the semi finals of the Tier 2 and Tier 3 Championships and subsequent rounds will be made by England Hockey via NPUA.
- 9.3 No person who appears on the teamsheet may umpire at a match.

10. Postponement or Abandonment

- 10.1 At any time the decision on whether the match should be abandoned rests with the umpires.
- 10.2 In the event of a match having to be abandoned as a result of a serious injury to a player, adverse weather conditions or the decision of the umpires, EHCD will decide on the action to be taken after receiving a report from the umpires and teams. Such a decision may necessitate a replay of the fixture, depending on the circumstances at the time of the abandonment.
- 10.3 In the event of a postponement and a replay of an abandoned match, the match must be replayed as directed by EHCD

11. Failure to Honour a Fixture

- 11.1 A team who fail to honour a fixture shall forfeit any entry fee and shall not be eligible for any further participation in the Tier 1, Tier 2 or Tier 3 Championships

12. Breach of Regulations

- 12.1 The provisions contained in these Regulations are without prejudice to anything contained in the England Hockey Code of Ethics, and any team or individual found to be in breach of these Regulations may be subject to such penalty as the EHCD may decide in addition to any penalty that may be imposed by any Disciplinary Body authorised by England Hockey.
- 12.2 EHCD will make decisions in relation to these Regulations or any matter not covered in these Regulations and any penalty or sanction that may be imposed.

13. Appeals

- 13.1 Schools have the right to appeal against a decision of the EHCD as set out in this Regulation.
- 13.2 In any case where the EHCD has made a decision in respect of any matter that is or has been the subject of a decision by a relevant Disciplinary Body pursuant to the provisions of the Red Card & MMO Regulations or the

Disrepute Offence Regulations, a club affected by the decision has the right to appeal the decision of the EHCD to the EH Appeal Panel.

- 13.2.1 Any Appeal to the EH Appeal Panel must be commenced by an Appeal Notice marked for the attention of the EH Appeal Panel sent to and received by the NDO not later than 7 days after the Appellant has been notified of the decision to be appealed against. There must be annexed to the Appeal Notice copies of all documents, including the written statements of any witnesses, that the Appellant intends to rely on in the Appeal.
- 13.2.2 Regulations 7.3.1, 7.3.2, 7.3.3, 7.3.7, 7.4(b)[deposit of £150] and 7.5 of the Red Card & MMO Regulations shall apply for the purposes of any Appeal to the EH Appeal Panel and, as soon as reasonably practical after receipt of the Appeal Notice, the Chairman of the EH Appeal Panel shall give directions for the further conduct of the Appeal.
- 13.2.3 The decision of the EH Appeal Panel shall be final.
- 13.3 In any case not covered by the provisions in Regulation 13.2 a club affected by the decision of the EHCD have a right to appeal to the EH Appeal Panel in the manner set out below.
 - 13.3.1 The Appeal to the EH Appeal Panel must be commenced by an Appeal Notice marked for the attention of the EH Appeal Panel sent to and received by the EHCD not later than 3 days after the Appellant has been notified of the decision to be appealed against. There must be annexed to the Appeal Notice copies of all documents, including the written statements of any witnesses, that the Appellant intends to rely on in the Appeal
 - 13.3.2 The Appeal Notice should be sent by ordinary first class post, fax, email or recorded delivery or hand delivered to the EHCD at the EH Offices. A deposit of £150 must be sent within 7 days of the date of the sending of the Appeal Notice. 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 Chairman of the EH Appeal Panel shall give directions for the further conduct of the Appeal.
 - 13.3.3 The Chairman of the EH Appeal Panel 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 Chairman may think fit. The decision of the Chairman shall be final.
 - 13.3.4 Save where the Chairman of the EH Appeal Panel directs otherwise, all Appeals will be dealt with in writing by electronic communication unless the Appellant requests an oral hearing. in which case the Chairman of the EH Appeal Panel may direct an oral hearing
 - 13.3.5 As soon as reasonably practical after the receipt of the Appeal Notice, the Chairman of the EH Appeal Panel shall give directions for the further conduct of the Appeal.
 - 13.3.6 Any other team 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.
 - 13.3.7 Where there has been an oral hearing of an Appeal the decision of the EH Appeal Panel may include a direction that the Appellant shall pay all or part of the costs of the Appeal to be summarily assessed by the EH Appeal Panel.
 - 13.3.8 If an Appeal is not allowed in full, the EH Appeal Panel may impose any sanction that the EHLC could have imposed.
 - 13.3.9 The decision of the EH Appeal Panel shall be final.

14. Appendix I – Penalty Stroke Procedures

1. The umpires shall together choose the goal to be used and the captains shall toss to decide which team shall take the first penalty stroke.
2. Five different players from each of the teams, chosen from the players listed on the teamsheet, but excluding any player who has been permanently suspended from the game (red card), shall take a penalty stroke alternately against one and the same goalkeeper of the other team. Only if that goalkeeper is, in the opinion of the umpires, incapacitated through injury, or is suspended, shall a team be permitted to substitute the goalkeeper during the course of a particular series in the stroke competition. The team which has been awarded the higher number of goals shall be the winner.
3. In the event of an equal number of goals having been awarded, another series of penalty strokes shall be taken under the above conditions and with the same five players (subject to any incapacitated player being replaced or a suspended goalkeeper being substituted) but on a sudden death basis, that is, the team having been awarded the most goals after an equal number of strokes have been taken shall be the winner. The sequence in which the players take the strokes for their team need not be the same as in the previous series. The team manager has freedom of choice at the time of each stroke as to which of the five nominated players will take the stroke although must use all five nominated players per round. The team which has taken the first penalty stroke of a series shall not take the first penalty stroke of the following series (if any).