

## SUPER 6s REGULATIONS 2023-24 (December 2023)

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### GLOSSARY

In these Regulations:

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

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

**EH Disciplinary Regulations** shall mean the Red Card & Matchday Misconduct Offence Regulations, Disrepute Offence Regulations and such other disciplinary regulations as may time to time be issued by EH.

**EHAP** means the England Hockey Appeal Panel

**EHCD** means the EH Competitions Department

**EHF** means the European Hockey Federation

**FIH** means the International Hockey Federation

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

**Leagues** means the collective term for the outdoor 8 Area Leagues and the National League (England Hockey League)

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

**NDO** means the National Disciplinary Officer

**NDP** means the National Disciplinary Panel

**NGP** means the National Game 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

**Season** means the current hockey season which runs from 1 September to 31 August.

**TAP** means the Technical Appointments Panel

**TD** Tournament Director

**Super 6s** means the EH Indoor League

**Team** is used to differentiate between a Club's different teams, either Men's and/or Women's 1<sup>st</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

**TMS** means the online Tournament Management System designated for use by EH for the Super 6s. For 2023-24 this is Altiusrt.

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

Appendix 1 – Titles and Divisions

Appendix 2 – England Hockey Policies

Appendix 3 – Variances to FIH Rules of Hockey

Appendix 4 – Player Eligibility and Team Selection (Not applicable)

Appendix 5 – Priority List and Calendar (Not applicable)

Appendix 6 – Shoot Out Competition

Appendix 7 – Standard Penalties & Tariffs of Fines

Appendix 8 – Appeal Notice Template

Appendix 9 – Duties and Responsibilities of Tournament Director

Appendix 10 – National Game Panel

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The structure in England will comprise of:

National Indoor League – administered centrally by England Hockey and currently known as the 'Super 6s'.

8 Area Competitions – each administered by their respective Area organisation.

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

1.3 All England Hockey policies will apply to all matches within the Super 6s. (See Appendix 2)

1.4 The Rules of Indoor 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 Super 6s, 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 Super 6s and/or is otherwise concerned in officiating over any match played in the Super 6s, or in the administration of the Super 6s, shall, either directly or indirectly, bet, or instruct, permit or enable any person or body to bet on the result, progress, or, conduct of a Super 6s 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 Super 6s 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 Disciplinary Regulations.

1.7 No team may promote any product or service of a sponsor that EH consider conflicts with the title sponsor.

## **2. MANAGEMENT**

2.1 The operational management of the Super 6s will be by the EHCD. The EHCD may from time to time and when deemed by the EHCD to be necessary and/ or appropriate make decisions in consultation with the NGP in accordance with its terms of reference which are at Appendix 10.

2.2 The Super 6s shall be managed in accordance with these Regulations as issued from time to time by England Hockey.

2.3. Appeals against Super 6s decisions will be heard by the EHAP via the Appeals process (see Reg 17).

2.4 Any Team Admin requiring clarification on Super 6s Regulations should consult directly with EHCD prior to competition or the TD at a competition.

## **3. ENTRY INTO THE SUPER 6s**

### **3.1 Clubs**

3.1.1 Each club may enter one team into each gender of the Super 6s. By its entry into and participation in the Super 6s, and each player by registering to participate in the Super 6s, shall be deemed to have given consent to abide by these Regulations and all EH policies as set out in Appendix 2, including 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 EHCD in relation to these Regulations and any penalty or sanction it may see fit to impose. If any matter arises which is not specifically covered under these Regulations but which has a significant impact on the administration or outcome of the Super 6s including promotion, relegation or entry into any other competition (domestic or international) the EHCD in consultation with the NGP shall have jurisdiction to make a decision on the issue and impose any penalty or sanction it may see fit to impose.

3.1.2 For their teams to be eligible to participate in the Super 6s clubs must, by the due date, have:

3.1.2.1 Completed their membership to England Hockey including any payments;

3.1.2.2 Paid Super 6s 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 Super 6s. (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.

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 Super 6s, and further consents to the EHCD, and any other person or body involved in the proper administration of the Super 6s 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, TAP or TD by the due date.

## **4. THE COMPETITION**

### **4.1 Structure**

#### **The Divisions**

4.1.1 Each gender of the Super 6s will consist of five Divisions: Premier, Division One, Division Two North & South and Division Two. The Premier and Division One shall consist of nine teams Division Two North & South shall each consist of six teams. Division Two shall consist of six teams.

4.1.2 Each team in each Division will play all other teams in its respective Division once at venues and on the dates/times specified by EH.

4.1.3 The formation of Division Two North and South shall be decided annually by EHCD.

4.1.4 Division Two North & South and Division Two will be played over two weekends as follows:

**4.1.4.1 Weekend 1: Division Two North & South**

4.1.4.1.1 Each team in each Division will play all other teams in its respective Division once at venues and on the dates/times specified by EH.

**4.1.4.2 Weekend 2: Division Two**

4.1.4.2.1 The top three teams in Division Two North and the top three teams in Division Two South at the end of Weekend 1 shall play each other once in Division Two at venues and on the dates/times specified by EH.

**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 Result of the game between the teams concerned;

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 Shootout Competition between the teams involved will be played (See Appendix 6)

**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 Super 6s and all previous results will be void.

**4.4 Super 6s Semi-finals & Finals**

4.4.1 At the end of the Premier Division regular season (i.e. when all scheduled Super 6s fixtures are completed) the top four teams will qualify for the Super 6s Semi-finals and Finals. The competitions shall be run under the conditions below.

Match 1: 1st placed team v 4th placed team

Match 2: 2nd placed team v 3rd placed team

Match 3: Winner of Match 1 v Winner Match 2

Matches will be played on dates and at venues nominated by EH.

4.4.2 Matches in the Super 6s Semi-finals and Final shall be played under these Regulations save that if the scores are still level after full time, the outcome of the match shall be determined by a Shootout competition taken under the conditions shown in Appendix 6

4.4.3 The winners of each competition shall qualify for the following season's European Indoor Club Championships as England's representative. Teams are expected to participate and must advise EHCD if they do not wish to participate by 1 April. If a team does not wish to participate it will be replaced by the highest placed team in the Super 6s that wishes to do so in the following order: loser Match 3 under 4.4.1 above, position in Premier Division after completion of Premier Division in order of finishing positions 1 – 9 respectively.

**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 (B)	Bottom two teams in A relegated Top two teams in B promoted
Division One (B) & Division Two (C)	Bottom two teams in B relegated Top two teams in C promoted
Division Two (C) Division Two North & South (D)	Top three teams in each D qualify for C

4.5.2. The two teams relegated from Division One to Division Two and the teams finishing third and fourth in Division Two will qualify for Division Two North & South for the following season. The teams finishing fifth and sixth in Division Two and those teams who failed to get promotion from Division Two North & South shall be relegated to participate in their relevant Area competition for the subsequent season.

4.5.3 In addition the winners of each of the eight Area competitions will qualify for Division Two North & South in the current season.

4.5.4 Where additional promotion(s) or reprieve(s) from relegation are required due to any variance from the Super 6s structure (Reg 4.1) this will be determined by EHCD with places determined in the order shown below. If this involves parallel Divisions the PPM method will be used to determine any outcome required.

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

4.5.4.2 The highest placed team in the Division below the relevant Division who were not promoted

## **5. FIXTURES**

### **5.1 Fixture Scheduling**

EHCD will issue fixtures with their scheduled dates, times and venues.

## **6. MATCHES**

6.1 All matches shall be played on dates set by EH.

6.2 The first named team shall sit on the bench to the left of the technical table when looking at the pitch and start the match.

6.3 All matches must start at the advertised time; however, Tournament Directors may, at their discretion, allow a delay.

6.4 If one team is ready to start but the other is not, the umpire concerned shall blow the whistle for the game to start and the match shall be awarded 5-0 to the team which is ready to begin as per Reg. 15.1 and subject to Reg. 6.3.

6.5 First named teams must provide a sufficient quantity of good quality hockey balls which must be of the same type and colour and suitable for the surface on which the match is to be played. In the Super 6s Semi-finals and Finals the balls will be provided by the EHCD.

### **6.6 Blood Borne Diseases**

6.6.1 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.

6.6.2 Blood stained clothing must be replaced and equipment cleaned before re-entry to the field of play.

### **6.7 On field Injuries**

6.7.1 If any person from the team bench and/or the on-duty doctor enters the field of play to attend to any player, including a goalkeeper, that player must leave the field of play and return to the team bench area for a minimum of one minute. The one-minute period will be managed by the technical officials on duty.

6.7.2 The player required to leave the field may be substituted within the normal Rules of Indoor Hockey.

### **6.8 Pitches**

6.8.1 All matches are to be played on pitches which are subject to the prior approval of the EHCD and any requirements laid down by the EHCD.

6.8.2 It is the responsibility of the Tournament Director to ensure that pitch facilities, including floor surface boards, markings, goals, goal nets, and lighting are satisfactory and that all the requirements laid down in Regulation 6.8 are met. If the pitch facilities are inadequate, the Tournament Director may direct that the match be postponed or, in consultation with EHCD, the venue changed.

6.8.3 The venue must provide a bench or seating for each team and a table for the Technical Officer and official(s) to be placed outside the pitch. Substitutes and officials on the team-sheet must remain in those areas and no other persons are allowed on the team bench.

## **7. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

### **7.1 General**

To be entitled to play in the Super 6s for a team a player must

7.1.1 be registered on GMS (or its Area League) with that club to play adult league hockey as of 1 November in any one season and, since the time of their registration during that season for that club, not have played for another club or team in any of the following

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

7.1.1.2 Domestic outdoor hockey competition in any another country.

7.1.1.3 Adult Super 6s or Area qualifying competitions

7.1.1.4 Domestic indoor hockey competition in any another country

or

7.1.2 be registered on GMS with that club to play adult league hockey outdoors after 1 November and be otherwise eligible in line with 7.1.1 and be approved by EHCD to play in the Super 6s.

or

7.1.3 be registered to play in the Super 6s for a Single Service side (RAF, Army or Royal Navy) who may only field players who have a service liability for the relevant single service providing they have not played for another club or team in an activity shown in 7.1.1.3 or 7.1.1.4 in any one season.

7.1.4 In any one season a team may include a maximum of two players on their team entry form who do not comply with 7.1.1, 7.1.1.1, or 7.1.1.2, 7.1.2 providing they have not played for another club or team in an activity shown in 7.1.1.3 or 7.1.1.4. Players fielded in line with this regulation must provide the consent of the club for which they play adult league hockey outdoors if that club is also playing in the same gender of the Super 6s.

7.1.5 No registration lists will be issued. The onus is on the club concerned to check with EH that all relevant forms have been received and that all players are eligible.

## **7.2 Age**

A player must be aged 15 or above on the day of the match to participate in a Super 6s match in addition to being eligible in line with regulation 7.1.

## **7.3 Gender**

Players shall play in the relevant competition.

## **7.4 Nationality**

### **7.4.1 No Objection Certificate**

A player whose Home National Association is not EH, Scottish Hockey or Welsh Hockey is not eligible for registration in the Super 6s 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 supplied to EHCD by 1200 hrs on Wednesday 3 January 2024.

### **7.4.2 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 during their participation in Super 6s in any one season who do not:

7.4.2.1 hold a UK or RoI Passport, or;

7.4.2.2 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;

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

7.4.2.4 have settled or pre-settled status in line with the EU Settlement Scheme Evidence of this must be supplied to EHCD by 1200 hrs on Wednesday 3 January 2024.

7.4.3 This regulation does not apply to a UK Resident who

7.4.3.1 has no passport and

7.4.3.2 has not previously held a passport for another country, but  
7.4.3.3 is eligible to hold a UK passport

## **7.5 Registration Deadlines**

7.5.1 A completed registration form must be received by EHCD by 1200 hrs on Wednesday 3 January 2024 in respect of any player registered in line with Regs 7.1.4.

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

Not applicable

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

The Super 6s will be managed through the TMS

### **9.1 Team Details**

Teams must enter full details of the following on TMS no later than 1700 hrs Monday 11 December 2023 (or Monday 18 December if they qualify from an Area Tournament played on 16 and/or 17 December) :

- their first and second playing strip;
- 2 different coloured goalkeeper smocks; and
- the name and email address of their team manager.

### **9.2 Registrations**

All players (with shirt number) and team officials must be registered to their team for the Super 6s on TMS by 1200 hrs on Wednesday 3 January 2024. Windows for registration prior to this will be notified to teams. After this time players can only be registered with the approval of EHCD and will not be permitted for anyone requiring a registration form as per 7.1.4 Entry of player details on TMS shall stand as registration for participation in the Super 6s.

### **9.3 Team Entry Form**

9.3.1 Not less than **60** minutes before the start of a team's first match of either weekend that team's club must submit a completed Team Entry Form to the Tournament Director listing in numerical order a squad with a maximum of 14 players taken from the players registered for the competition under regulation 9.2 who will be eligible to play in matches during that weekend. The team manager in so supplying will be deemed to vouch for and confirm that each player listed is eligible to play. Teams must advise the TD of any issues (e.g. medical conditions of any players or the intended use of any playing equipment required for medical purposes) when submitting their team-sheet.

9.3.2 For any Super 6s Semi-finals and Finals matches not less than **60** minutes before the team's first match competing teams must submit a completed team-sheet to the Tournament Director listing a squad with a maximum of 14 players taken from the players registered for the competition under regulation 4.3 who will be eligible to play in matches during that event. The 12 players then nominated to play in any Semi-final or Final and the starting line-up shall subsequently be notified as directed by the Tournament Director.

9.3.3 Once the Team Entry Form has been submitted to the Tournament Director under 9.3.1 or 9.3.2 a team may not replace any player who has been named on the Team Entry Form and subsequently suspended by the Tournament Director.

9.3.4 Each team must have a team manager on the team bench throughout the team's matches and three further officials are entitled to occupy the team bench. If the team does not have a named physiotherapist or first aider, they must also designate one of their permitted bench officials as the "designated first aider" (for the avoidance of doubt this can be the coach or assistant coach). No player named on the team-sheet for a match may act as manager for that match. Any team without a designated manager must nominate a player from their squad list to fulfil this role. The nominated player may not play in that match. A different nominated player may be used from match to match. Additionally, a qualified Medical Doctor, whose name appears on the team-sheet, may sit on the team bench as a fourth team official.

9.3.5 A team shall be entitled to nominate up to 12 players in its squad for each match (excluding any player who has been suspended from playing in the match by the Tournament Director) and only those listed may sit on the team bench and participate in the particular match. If a player(s) has been suspended by the Tournament Director for one or more matches then, for those matches, the number of players the team concerned may use will be reduced by the number of players suspended.

9.3.6 If a team has submitted a squad of more than 12 for a weekend the team manager must, in advance of each match, via TMS indicate the maximum 12 players selected to participate in that match. A player whose name appears on any team-sheet listing those players eligible to play in a match will be deemed to have played in that match.

9.3.7 A team's starting line-up shall be advised to the Technical Officer on duty or entered on TMS as required not later than 10 minutes before the start of a match (or such other time as required by the Tournament Director).

9.3.8 If a registered team official has been suspended by the Tournament Director from participating in a particular match(es) then that official may not sit on the team bench for the match(es) under suspension and shall not participate in the match(es) in any way from any part of the competition venue (which includes making any audible comments from the spectator or any other viewing area). If the team manager, the suspended official must be replaced by another listed official or player. For the purposes of a suspension the match shall be deemed to include any period of warm up or cool down before and/or after a match.

## **10. DRESS & EQUIPMENT**

10.1.1 The two teams must wear shirts and knee length socks that distinguish them from each other and the umpires, in accordance with publicised team colours.

10.1.2 Field players shall wear shorts, skirts or skorts in accordance with team colours shown on the team sheet (NB: players from the same team do not have to wear the same type of item as other players in their team).

10.1.3 If teams' shirt and/or sock colours clash then the away team must wear alternative colours. Teams must wear alternative colours if instructed to do so by the Tournament Director.

10.1.4 Additional Clothing - 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

10.1.5 Goalkeepers must wear shirts that distinguish them from both teams' field players and the umpires, and must wear protective equipment as specified in the current Rules of Hockey.

10.1.6 Players must 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. A player's number must be the same for both sets of kit.

10.1.7 Turbans, Hijabs (or other agreed head coverings) should be plain or match the shirt in line with club colours on the team sheet.

For all head coverings, they must not

- be attached to the playing shirt
- have any protruding items from the surface
- have any metal fastenings or pins
- cause a danger to the player, or other players
- have the potential to be inadvertently pulled or unravelled

10.2 The team captain must be identifiable on the pitch by a band or similar distinguishing article worn on the upper arm or shoulder or over the upper part of a sock.

10.3 When warming up during a match, substitutes must wear bibs or some other form of clothing in a colour different to both teams.

10.4 It is the responsibility of the team manager to ensure that players adhere to **all** dress requirements under this regulation and co-operate with requests from the Tournament Director for players so to do. Breaches of regulation 10 may be deemed an act of misconduct and acted upon accordingly by the Tournament Director. Furthermore, if a player or team manager fails to comply with a request by the Tournament Director (or any technical official acting on behalf of the Tournament Director) to comply with regulation 10, such failure shall be reported to EHCD who may impose a penalty in accordance with Reg 16

## **11 UMPIRES**

11.1 Umpires will be appointed by the NPUA.

11.2. Should an umpire fail to fulfil an appointment the Tournament Director in consultation with the Umpire Manager shall endeavour to find another umpire to enable the match to be played. Any replacement umpire must be an active indoor umpire.

11.3 No person shall umpire and play in the same division of the Super 6s during the same season.

11.4 Umpires shall have the authority temporarily (green or yellow card) or permanently (red card) to suspend any player or official from the team bench for ill-discipline. This will require the relevant team to withdraw a player from the pitch for the duration of the suspension.

11.5. Issue of a red card under sanction of regulation 6.3 of the Red Card and MMO Regulations. The following shall apply to all matches in the Super 6s:

11.5.1 Where an umpire issues a red card that they decide should be subject to sanction under regulation 6.3 of the Red Card and MMO Regulations the umpire should inform the offender of this at the time that the red card is issued.

11.5.2 For the avoidance of doubt an umpire who has awarded a red card under sanction of regulation 6.3 of the Red Card and MMO Regulations may, in the event of further misconduct by the player, upgrade the penalty to a red card carrying sanction under regulation

6.2 of the Red Card and MMO Regulations. If the umpire decides to do this, they should inform the offender (or at least the team manager for the player concerned) that this has been done.

11.5.3 The umpire issuing a red card under sanction of regulation 6.3 of the Red Card and MMO Regulations shall provide written reasons for the card to the Tournament Director who shall then consider what, if any, further action shall be taken against the offender under section 3 of Appendix 9 of these Regulations.

11.6 Any player who receives a red card under sanction of regulation 6.3 of the Red Card and MMO Regulations must immediately leave the playing area until the end of the match and may not participate any further in the match (which includes making any audible comments from the spectator or any other viewing area).

11.7 For the avoidance of doubt any player who receives a red card under sanction of regulation 6.2 of the Red Card and MMO Regulations must immediately leave the playing area and may not participate in this or any further matches (which includes making any audible comments from the spectator or any other viewing area) over the weekend of the incident and for any further period operational under the Red Card and MMO Regulations.

11.8 There can be no appeal or complaint against any decision (or non-decision) of an umpire or technical official on the field of play or a tournament official during a match or separately held shoot out competition.

## **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 Super 6s 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 Super 6s match either in person or on social media. This extends to behaviour toward Super 6s officials.

12.1.2 The team manager is responsible for the proper conduct of all players and officials named on the team-sheet.

12.1.3 The Coach on the team bench, unless the designated first aider, may not enter the field of play during playing time under any circumstances but may do so during a shoot-out competition. If the coach/ assistant coach enters the field of play as designated first aider they must not offer any coaching advice whilst on the field of play.

12.1.4 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 technical officials.

12.1.5 There is to be no audible communication from the videographer overlooking the field of play.

12.1.6 The timing of suspensions shall be controlled by the technical officials on duty. The timing of suspensions takes place in game time only - if the umpire stops and restarts time for any reason during the period of suspension, then the suspension time is also stopped and restarted.

12.1.7 The technical officer on duty, after warning a team manager of acts of misconduct by a person or persons on that team bench, is empowered, should misconduct continue, to order the person or persons involved to go and stay in the team changing room – or, in any case, outside the hall in which the game is being played – for the remainder of the match. Any such action by the technical officer (as opposed to the umpires) against an official or player on the bench will not result in a consequential reduction in the number of players on the pitch. Further disciplinary action may be taken by the Tournament Director after the match, depending upon the circumstances.

12.2 Any behaviour deemed to meet the criteria as shown above, may be dealt with by the TD under the powers included in Appendix 9 paragraph 3, or the subject of a Disrepute Complaint and dealt with pursuant to the Disrepute Offence Regulations, or will be dealt with by the EHCD.

## **13 POSTPONEMENT OR ABANDONMENT**

13.1 At any time prior to the commencement of a match, the decision on whether or not the pitch is fit for play shall be the responsibility of the appointed Tournament Director. Once a game has started, a decision on whether it should be interrupted shall be made by the Tournament Director in consultation with the umpires and Technical Officer on duty.

13.2 If a match is interrupted under 13.1, this match must be resumed as soon as possible (not necessarily on the same field of play or on the same day), under the following conditions:

13.2.1 the match must be completed up to the regulation full time the score on the resumption being that at the time the interruption took place;

13.2.2 on resumption, rule 2.3 of the FIH Rules of Indoor Hockey relating to the substitution of players shall apply as though there had been no interruption to the match.

13.3 In the event of a match or the tournament in part or wholly, having to be abandoned as a result of a serious injury to a player, adverse weather conditions or a decision of the Tournament Director in such circumstances that it has not been possible to complete the match or tournament in accordance with 13.1 above, the EHCD will decide on the action to be taken after receiving a report from the Tournament Director. Such a decision may necessitate a replay of the match or the tournament in part or wholly, dependent on the circumstances at the time of the abandonment.

## **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. The 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 game, 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 game 5-0.

15.2 If a team fails to honour more than one fixture, its playing record will be expunged.

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 or the Disciplinary Regulations, 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 or Disciplinary Regulations, the EHCD shall, apply the standard tariff of penalties set out in the regulations and Appendix 7 save that, in exceptional circumstances, or when there is no standard tariff provided for, the EHCD may, acting in consultation with the NGP, impose any penalty, including, but not exclusively, the deduction of points, fines and suspension of players. These may be applied within the current and/or subsequent season(s).

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 any of the provisions of the Disciplinary Regulation.

## **17 APPEAL PROCEDURE**

17.1 There can be no appeal against the decision of an Umpire or EH-appointed Tournament 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 8) 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 7 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 7 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 The parties to the Appeal are the Appellant and EHCD, to be represented by a member of EHCD.

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 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, which may include inviting or permitting any club that may be affected by the Appeal to submit written evidence and/or submissions in support or against the Appellant.

17.3 Every Appeal will be limited to a review of the decision of the EHCD unless the EHAP considers that in the circumstances of the individual Appeal it would be in the interests of justice to treat the Appeal as a re-hearing of the matter (whether or not an oral hearing has been directed, and whether or not there is additional evidence available to the EHAP than was before the EHCD).

17.4 The EHAP will allow an Appeal where the decision of the EHCD was (a) wrong; or (b) unjust because of a serious procedural or other irregularity in the procedure followed by the EHCD in reaching the decision.

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

17.6 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.

17.7 The decision of the EHAP shall be notified in writing to the parties to the Appeal within 48 hours of the decision. Succinct reasons for the decision shall be sent to the parties to the Appeal and the EHCD within 7 days of the decision. The Chair of the EHAP may extend this timetable.

17.8 The decision of the EHAP shall be final.

## **APPENDICES**

### **APPENDIX 1 – LEAGUES TITLES AND DIVISIONS**

Super 6s Women's Premier Division  
Super 6s Women's Division One,  
Super 6s Women's Division Two North & Super 6s Women's Division Two South  
Super 6s Women's Division Two.

Super 6s Men's Premier Division  
Super 6s Men's Division One,  
Super 6s Men's Division Two North & Super 6s Women's Division Two South  
Super 6s Men's Division Two

### **APPENDIX 2 – ENGLAND HOCKEY POLICIES**

All England Hockey policies shall apply to matches in the Super 6s. 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 Disciplinary 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 INDOOR HOCKEY (Updated November 2022)**

### **Rule 5.1 Match duration**

Matches will be of four quarters of 10 minutes, an interval of 1 minute between quarters 1 and 2 and between quarters 3 and 4, and a half time interval of 3 minutes .

### **Penalty corner countdown clock**

Rule 13.3: Time and play is stopped after a penalty corner is awarded and re-started when the teams are ready. Teams must take the minimum time to take their positions and put on protective equipment (as a guide 20 seconds) and play is re-started when the teams are ready.

Regulation: Time and play is stopped after a penalty corner is awarded and re-started when the teams are ready. Teams must take the minimum time to take their positions and put on protective equipment (as a guide 20 seconds) and play is re-started when the teams are ready.

Note: This regulation will apply only to the initial award of a Penalty Corner and not to any retake, or to any subsequent Penalty Corner awarded before the ball has travelled more than 3 metres outside the circle.

If the delay in taking the Penalty Corner is more than 30 seconds and in the opinion of the umpire an undue delay is occurring, then the umpire should identify and award a personal penalty to the player who is responsible for the delay (i.e. a green card), with an increased personal penalty (i.e. a yellow card) for repeated offences. If this player is a defender, the defending team defends the particular Penalty Corner with one player fewer. For any offence of this rule by a defending goalkeeper, the defending team defends the penalty corner with one fewer player: ie the corner is defended by one fewer player than before this incident. The defending team nominates which defender will be subject to a personal penalty.

#### **APPENDIX 4 – PLAYER ELIGIBILITY & TEAM SELECTION**

Not applicable

#### **APPENDIX 5 – PRIORITY LIST & CALENDAR**

Not applicable

## APPENDIX 6 – SHOOTOUT COMPETITION

Three players from each team take a one-on-one shoot-out alternately against a defender from the other team as set out in this Appendix. The shoot-out competition comprises all series of shoot-outs required to determine a result. The following sets out both the playing Rules and the procedures to be followed.

1. The respective team managers provide three players to take and one player to defend the shoot-outs from those on the match report form except as excluded below. A player nominated to defend the shoot-outs can also be nominated to take a shoot-out. No substitutions/replacements are permitted during the shoot-out competition other than as specified below.
2. If the shoot-out competition takes place after the end of a match, the first shoot-out shall take place within four (4) minutes of the end of the match.
3. A player who is still serving a disciplinary suspension by the Tournament Director at the time the shoot-out competition takes place or has been excluded permanently (red card) during the match which leads to the shoot-out competition, cannot take part in that shoot-out competition. A player who has been warned (green card) or temporarily suspended (yellow card) may take part in the shoot-out competition even if the period of their suspension has not been completed at the end of the match.
4. The Tournament Director will specify in advance the goal to be used.
5. The Tournament Director will brief teams, umpires and officials in the method of timing shoot-outs taking account of the facilities available and the need to control time accurately.
6. A coin is tossed; the team which wins the toss has the choice to take or defend the first shoot-out.
7. All persons listed on the match report form, other than any player who is still serving a disciplinary suspension by the Tournament Director at the time the shoot-out competition takes place, or has been excluded permanently (red card) during the match which leads to the shoot-out competition, are permitted to enter the field of play outside the half used for the shoot-out.
8. The goalkeeper/defending player of the team taking a shoot-out may be on the back-line outside the circle.
9. A player taking or defending a shoot-out may enter the half used for the shoot-out for that purpose.
10. Players taking a shoot-out and also defending the shoot-outs taken by opponents are allowed reasonable time to take off their protective equipment to take their shoot-out and subsequently to put back on their protective equipment.
13. Three players from each team take a shoot-out alternately against the goalkeeper/defending player of the other team making a total of 6 shoot-outs.
12. Taking a shoot-out:
  - 12.1 the goalkeeper/defending player starts on or behind the goal-line between the goal posts;
  - 12.2 the ball is placed 3 metres outside the circle opposite the centre of the goal;
  - 12.3 an attacker stands behind but near the ball;
  - 12.4 the Umpire blows the whistle to start time;
  - 12.5 an official at the technical table starts the clock;
  - 12.6 the attacker and the goalkeeper/defending player may then move in any direction;
  - 12.7 the shoot-out is completed when:
    - 12.7.1 6 seconds has elapsed since the starting signal;
    - 12.7.2 a goal is scored;
    - 12.7.3 the attacker commits an offence;
    - 12.7.4 the goalkeeper/defending player commits an unintentional offence inside or outside the circle in which case the shoot-out is re-taken by the same player against the same goalkeeper/defending player;
    - 12.7.5 the goalkeeper/defending player commits an intentional offence inside or outside the circle, in which case a penalty stroke is awarded and taken;

- 12.7.6 the ball goes out of play over the back-line or side-boards; this includes the goalkeeper/defending player intentionally playing the ball over the back-line;
  - 12.7.7 if the ball rebounds off a goalkeeper/defending player over the side-boards, the shoot-out is completed; if the ball is propelled by a goalkeeper/defending player over the side-boards, the shoot-out is retaken by the same player against the same goalkeeper/defending player.
13. If a penalty stroke is awarded as specified above, it can be taken and defended by any eligible player on the match report form, subject to the provisions of clauses 16, 17 and 18 of this Appendix.
  14. The team scoring the most goals (or ahead by more goals than the other team has untaken shoot-outs available) is the winner.
  15. A player may be suspended by a yellow or a red card, but not by a green card during the shoot-out competition.
  16. If during a shoot-out competition (including during any penalty stroke which is awarded) a player is suspended by a yellow or red card:
    - 16.1 that player takes no further part in that shoot-out competition and, unless a goalkeeper/defending player, cannot be replaced;
    - 16.2 the replacement for a suspended goalkeeper/defending player can only come from the three players of that team nominated to take part in the shoot-out competition:
      - 16.2.1 the replacement goalkeeper/defending player is allowed reasonable time to put on protective equipment similar to that which the goalkeeper/defending player they are replacing was wearing;
      - 16.2.2 for taking their own shoot-out, this player is allowed reasonable time to take off their protective equipment to take their shoot-out and subsequently to put it on again.
      - 16.2.3 any shoot-out due to be taken by a suspended player is forfeited; any goals scored by this player before being suspended count as a goal.
  17. If during a shoot-out competition, a defending goalkeeper/defending player is incapacitated:
    - 17.1 that goalkeeper/defending player may be replaced by another player from among the players listed on the match report form for that particular match, except as excluded in this Appendix or unless suspended by an umpire during the shoot-out competition;
    - 17.2 the replacement goalkeeper:
      - 17.2.1 is allowed reasonable time to put on protective equipment similar to that which the incapacitated goalkeeper/defending player was wearing;
      - 17.2.2 if this replacement is also nominated to take a shoot-out, this player is allowed reasonable time to take off his/her protective equipment to take their shoot-out and subsequently to put it on again.
  18. If during a shoot-out competition, an attacker is incapacitated, that attacker may be replaced by another player from among the players listed on the match report form for that particular match, except as excluded above or unless suspended by an umpire during the shoot-out competition.
  19. If an equal number of goals are scored after each team has taken three shoot-outs:
    - 19.1 a second series of shoot-outs is taken with the same players, subject to the conditions specified in this Appendix;
    - 19.2 the sequence in which the attackers take the shoot-outs need not be the same as in the first series;
    - 19.3 the team whose player took the first shoot-out in a series defends the first shoot-out of the next series;
    - 19.4 when one team has scored or been awarded one more goal than the opposing team after each team has taken the same number of shoot-outs, that team is the winner.
  20. If an equal number of goals are scored after a second or subsequent series of three shoot-outs, an additional series of shoot-outs is taken with the same players subject to the conditions specified in this Appendix:
    - 20.1 the sequence in which the attackers take the shoot-outs need not be the same in any subsequent series;
    - 20.2 the team which starts each shoot-out series alternates for each series.
  21. Unless varied by this Appendix the Rules of Indoor Hockey apply during a shoot-out.

## APPENDIX 7 - 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. 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> OCCURENCE	STAGE 2 or 2 <sup>nd</sup> OCCURENCE	STAGE 3 or 3 <sup>rd</sup> OCCURENCE	
<b>3. Entry into the Super 6s</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>4.4.3 European qualification</b>	Notification before 1 April by the winning team that it does not wish to participate in the following season's European Indoor Club Championship .	Team to be not eligible to participate in the Super 6s semi-finals and final or qualify for European Indoor Club Championships in the following season.			

	Notification after 1 April by the winning team that it does not wish to participate in the following season's European Indoor Club Championship .	Team to be not eligible to participate in the Super 6s semi-finals and final or qualify for European Indoor Club Championships in the following season			£500
<b>7. Player Registration</b>	7 & 8. Fielding an ineligible player in a match	<i>Match recorded as 5-0 loss. Possible points deduction and score increase. Fine</i>			<i>T1</i>
<b>9. Team, Matchsheets &amp; Results</b>	Information provided after deadline	<i>Discretionary Fine</i>			<i>T1</i>
	Falsifying player information	<i>Match recorded as 5-0 loss. 1 point deduction and possible score increase. Further discretionary penalties Fine</i>			<i>T3</i>
	Playing without a manager	<i>Match recorded as 5-0 loss. 1 point deduction and possible score increase. Further discretionary penalties Fine</i>			
<b>10. Dress &amp; Equipment</b>	Uniform kit, additional clothing, numbers, under kit	<i>Fine</i>			<i>T1</i>
	Deliberately playing with an illegal stick	<i>Match recorded as 5-0 loss. Possible points deduction and score increase. Fine</i>			
<b>12. Discipline</b>	Misconduct	As determined by TD, EHCD or by the EH Disrepute Regulations			<i>T1</i>

<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	If a team fails to honour more than one fixture, its playing record will be expunged.		T3 plus additional costs to opposition if applicable
<b>Any regulations not covered above</b>		As determined by EHCD			

## APPENDIX 8 – APPEAL NOTICE TEMPLATE

### ENGLAND HOCKEY APPEAL NOTICE

To be sent to EHCD 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 9 – DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

1. Tournament Directors shall be appointed to all Divisions by the EH Technical Appointments Panel
2. Tournament Directors are empowered to apply these Regulations at their discretion and their ruling on any matter shall be final. The Tournament Director may delegate the exercise of their powers and authorities, in whole or in part and for such duration as the Tournament Director deems necessary to a Technical Officer.
3. Tournament Directors shall be empowered to suspend any player, or named official, for one or more matches for misconduct on or off the field of play during the Super 6s. For the avoidance of doubt the definition of misconduct shall include but not be limited to a breach of the Code of Ethics and Behaviour. If a team manager, coach or other team official is suspended by the Tournament Director it is not necessary for a player to be removed from the field of play for the period of suspension. The Tournament Director's power to suspend shall extend to any player who has received an accumulation of yellow cards (2 or more) within the competition and/or a red card under sanction of regulation 6.3 of the Red Card and MMO Regulations. Suspended persons may not participate in any way nor enter the field of play, or the technical facility areas (including the team bench) surrounding the same during the match(es) of suspension until the match(es) is/are finished and any period of cool down on the field of play has been completed.
4. Tournament Directors shall be responsible for ensuring that all sticks and other playing equipment (including goalkeepers' headgear, hand protectors, leg guards and kickers together with any protective equipment such as face masks, hand and knee protectors intended to be worn by field players) to be used in the Super 6s are checked prior to clubs' first matches on each weekend of the Super 6s to ensure they comply with the Rules of Indoor Hockey. This will include a full check of hand protectors in accordance with the guidance to Rule 4.2.
5. If a team wishes to lodge a protest at the end of a match, or at the end of a shoot-out competition the team manager must:
  - 5.1 declare the intention to do so immediately in writing below their signature when signing the match report form or Shootout competition form; and
  - 5.2 provide written grounds for the protest to the Tournament Director within 30 minutes of the end of the match or shoot-out competition which are to be accompanied by a cash payment of £100 which will only be returned in the event of the protest being upheld.
6. A failure by a team to comply with the procedure in point 5 above will result in the dismissal of the protest.
7. For the avoidance of doubt, a protest concerning a decision of an umpire or a technical official during a match or shoot-out competition may not be made to or considered by the Tournament Director.
8. The Tournament Director is empowered to determine any protest received that complies with the requirements of point 5 and does not fall within the prohibition under point 7. The Tournament Director will consider the protest and the decision on such a protest will be given to the teams involved within two hours of receipt of such a protest. The team manager(s) must make arrangements with the Tournament Director to be available to receive the decision.
9. The Tournament Director shall be entitled to request such video, written or oral evidence as they consider necessary to make any decision under consideration.
10. The Tournament Director shall ensure that all match results are properly recorded and publicly accessible via TMS.

## APPENDIX 10 – NATIONAL GAME PANEL

### Introduction

1. **Purpose.** The National Game Panel (NGP) is a committee of the Board of England Hockey (EH Board) with delegated authority to deal with the administration and operation of the national game.
2. **Scope.** The national game is defined as the England Hockey Leagues (both men and women) and the national domestic competitions directly organised and delivered by England Hockey. It also includes elements of officiating and national policy that will need to be considered in conjunction with the Areas Standing Committee such as rules or standard regulations changes.
3. **Effective from.** The NGP is effective from September 2023 and will assume the responsibilities as set in these Terms of Reference.

### Aims and Responsibilities

4. **Aims.** The aims of the NGP are to bring together all those bodies responsible for delivering the national game to ensure that the rules and regulations of England Hockey (EH) are implemented and updated regularly, to provide insight and advice in order to address operational issues affecting the national game and to facilitate consistent implementation of EH Board strategic direction in operational delivery.
5. **Responsibilities.** Subject to Regulations made from time to time by the EH Board and any other reasonable requests by the EH Board, the responsibilities of the NGP include:
  - a. meet as required to consider those matters concerning the operational delivery and administration of the national game as directed by the members or by EH, reporting in writing the outcomes of such meetings to the EH Board, to the members through open and transparent reporting,
  - b. act as the body responsible for considering proposals for regulatory and policy amendments by member bodies and EH staff. Make recommendations to EH for the developing of rules and regulations that support the consistent delivery of the national game for approval by EH and communicate and implement any agreed changes.
  - c. support England Hockey Competitions Department (EHCD) in determining rulings relating to the national game.
  - d. engage with the Area Standing Committee (ASC) on those matters and considerations affecting the entirety of the domestic game,
  - e. promote, champion, and encourage Equality, Diversity and Inclusion across the sport.
  - f. other such activities as the EH Board may from time to time decide within the remit of the NGP.

### Membership

6. **Membership.** The Membership of the NGP will be as follows:
  - a. The Chair of the Technical Appointing Panel ('TAP') or agreed alternate.
  - b. The Chair of the National Programme Umpiring Association ('NPUA') or agreed alternate.
  - c. A representative of the England Hockey Competitions Department ('EHCD');
  - d. Four Club Representatives from clubs who play in the England Hockey League ('EHL'), England Hockey Championships, England Hockey Masters' and/or Junior Championships.
  - e. EH Disciplinary Lead or agreed alternate.
  - f. A permanently appointed secretary from within EH staff.
7. The Executive Team of EH shall appoint a Chair for the NGP.
8. Four Club Representatives from those clubs performing within the EHL will be appointed by the EH Board annually at the end of the season following two existing Club Representatives stepping down via an application process as directed by the Chair of the NGP.

## Meetings

9. **Frequency.** The NGP will meet twice a year, either virtually or in person as and when required.
10. **Agenda.** The agenda will be circulated to all members by the Secretary (as appointed by EH) following consultation from members on Agenda items circulated five days in advance.
11. **Minutes.** A synopsis of the minutes, noted by the Secretary, will be published on the EH website under the NGP once approved by the Chair as soon as reasonably practicable.
12. **Actions arising from minutes of any associated Committees or Functional Working Groups.** During the meeting, the NGP will consider the minutes of any associated committees or functional working groups and address any actions arising.

## Revisions

13. The NGP can review and amend these Terms of Reference subject to the approval of the EH Board as and when is necessary and appropriate to do so.