



Maitland  
Hockey Association  
2010  
Competition Rules



# COMPETITION RULES

## INDEX

<b>Rule</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Organisation of Competition</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Rules of Hockey</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Attire</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Points Score</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Team Entry</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Fees</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Conditions</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Deferred Fixtures</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Forfeiture</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Code of Conduct</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Judiciary Committee</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Duty of Team Captain/ Club Secretaries</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Umpires Duties</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Competitions Format</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Insurance</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Issue of Cards and Points Score</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>Appeals</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>Right of Appeal of disciplined members</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Representative Selections</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>Carnivals</b>	<b>27</b>
	<b>List of Contacts</b>	<b>27</b>

**These rules apply to all players, umpires, coaches and officials of all Clubs/ Groups and should be read in full.**

**When you read;**

**MHAI - Maitland Hockey Association Inc.**

**HNSW - Hockey New South Wales**

**MHTAI - Maitland Hockey Turf Association Inc.**

# **1. Organisation of Competitions.**

## **A. Senior Competitions.**

**[i] The Senior Competitions are open to all teams, affiliated clubs or groups with a membership of not less than eleven players.**

**[ii] An affiliated player can register with only one club/ team.**

**[iii] Any junior player wishing to play in the senior competition must have attained the age of thirteen [13] years by 1<sup>st</sup> January of that year.**

**[iv] Players must register with one club or group. Any player wishing to transfer to another Club or Group must obtain a written clearance from the present Committee, where applicable, of the Club or group from which they are transferring. This transfer must be obtained prior to taking the field for the first game with the new Club or Group.**

**[v] The transfer must be signed by the appropriate Club or Group officials and provided to the Registrar for approval before the transferring player can take the field.**

**[vi] Players may play across into other teams during the season to make up eleven players.**

**[vii] Play across players cannot be used to substitute players registered in that team. They can only substitute other substitute players.**

**[viii] Players cannot play across during the semi-final and finals games.**

**[viii] A player cannot take the field unless they have completed a MHAI Registration form and paid their registration or affiliation fee.**

**[ix] A team cannot take the field with less than six [6] registered players from their team.**

## **B. Junior Competitions.**

**[i] Junior Competitions shall be conducted for affiliated Clubs or Groups comprised of girls and boys who are under the age of 18 as at the 1<sup>st</sup> January each year.**

**[ii] Players must be registered with one club or group. Any player wishing to transfer to another club or group must obtain a written clearance.**

**[iii] Players may play across into other teams during the season to make up eleven players/ seven players, depending upon the type of competition.**

**[iv] Play across players cannot be used to substitute players registered in that team. They can only substitute other substitute players.**

[v] A player cannot take the field unless they have completed a MHAI Registration form and paid their registration or affiliation fee.

[vi] A team cannot take the field with less than three [3]/ six [6] of their registered players depending on the type of competition full field/ half field.

### **c. Other Hockey Competitions**

[i] Details regarding the administration of any other competitions run by this Association will be advised prior to or during the commencement of competition by the responsible Convener.

## **2. Rules of Hockey**

The competition play shall be conducted according to the current HNSW Rules and subsequent changes of those Rules will automatically apply.

## **3. Attire**

### **A. Club Uniforms**

[i] Player's in the Association's competition matches must wear the uniform of the Club or Group with which they are registered.

[ii] Clubs or Groups upon affiliation shall make application to the Executive and Meeting of MHAI concerning the uniform to be worn by their Club or Group members. These details will be recorded in an appropriate log and be displayed on the website.

[iii] The uniform style and colours shall be approved by the Executive and Meeting of MHAI and thereafter shall not be worn by the members of any other Club or Group. Changes or alterations to the approved uniform must be submitted for approval to the Executive and Meeting of MHAI and may not be worn until approval has been given.

[iv] No player shall take the field wearing any item of jewellery, clothing or non-prescription glasses which is considered dangerous.

[v] It is compulsory for all players to wear shin pads, mouth guards and shoes appropriately designed for the conditions of the playing surface on which you are playing. Goalkeepers must continue to be attired in accordance with the HNSW Rules of Hockey. On-field coaches must wear appropriate footwear.

[vi] Players who are wishing to be exempt from wearing mouth guards are to supply in writing a letter on letter head from their dentist/ doctor stating the fact and this is to be submitted to

the Secretary prior to asking for this to take affect. This will then be marked on the match sheet. Players who do not have this mark represented next to their name are required to wear their mouth guard during the whole match or they shall not be permitted to take the field.

## **B. Compulsory**

[i] No player shall take the field unless she is correctly attired in the uniform of the Club or Group with which she is registered, unless prior approval has been given for temporary variation in uniform. This approval will be given in writing and be signed by a member of the Executive. The goalkeeper is exempt.

### **c. Suitability of Uniform.**

[i] Underwear must be suitable; pants must be full brief and have a fitted leg and not be transparent. They must be the colour of the skirt or dark. Bike shorts or skins may be worn under uniform.

[ii] Umpires may request players to remove jumpers which are [because of colour] making umpiring difficult and any player so requested must comply with the umpire's direction. In addition, umpires may request a team to wear pinnies should the colour of the uniforms make umpiring difficult. When teams are drawn to play and have similar socks, the team named first in the draw is to wear socks of a different colour.

## **4. Point Score**

### **A. Points will be allocated as follows:**

#### **[i] Senior Competitions:**

**\*Three points for a win.**

**\*Three points for a win by forfeiture.**

**\*One point for a draw.**

**\*Nil points for a loss.**

**[ii] Junior Competitions:**

**\*Three points for a win.**

**\*Three points for a win by forfeiture.**

**\*Two points for a draw.**

**\*One point for a loss.**

**B. If a team plays an unregistered player or ineligible player that team shall forfeit the match and points shall be recorded accordingly.**

**C. A team receiving a forfeit will receive a score 3 goals for. The forfeiting team will receive no goals.**

**D. Should at the end of the round of competition, teams be equal on point score, the placing will be decided in the following manner:**

**\*Goal difference - total goals for, minus total goals against.**

**\*Goal average - total goals for divided by total goals against.**

**\*Applying goal difference then goal average in the games in which the teams played each other.**

**5. Team Entry.**

**A. Number of Players.**

**[i] Open Women**

**\*Eleven [11] players must be registered in each team with a maximum of 20 players.**

**\* Teams do not need to have a fully equipped goal keeper in order to take the field.**

**\*Six [6] registered players from that team must take the field to continue a game.**

**[ii] Open Men's/Mixed**

**\*Six [6] players must be registered for each team with a maximum of 8.**

**\*No goalkeepers will be played.**

**[iii] Under 13 and 18 Competition.**

**\*Seven [7] players must be registered in each team with a maximum of 10.**

**\*Each team must play with a fully equipped goalkeeper.**

**\*Three [3] registered players must take the field for the team to play the game.**

**\*U/13 coaches may be permitted on the field during rounds 1-10 and then from the side of the field which does not adjoin other field.**

**\*U/18 coaches may coach from the sideline, the side of the field which does not adjoin other field.**

**[iv] Under 7 and 10 Competitions.**

**\* At least five [5] players in each team with a maximum of eight [8] players.**

**\* Coaches may coach on the field and interject into the game where appropriate to support the skill development of the players.**

## **B. Team and Player Registration.**

**[i] Club Secretaries or Team Captains must submit a suggested list of players on their team detail sheets to the Fixtures Coordinator and Registrar by Nomination Day.**

**[ii] All team registration and individual membership forms must be submitted on Registration Day which is to be the second Saturday of the Senior Women's Winter competition, in conjunction with registration fee payments or proof of payment.**

**[iii] Failure to submit such completed team details on time will result in a penalty of three game points per team each week that these registration forms are late. These points will be deducted from overall competition's point score either at the end of the season, and prior to the final series, or at any time during the season.**

**[iv] In addition to the team detail sheets, every player, and the parent/ guardian of junior players, must correctly and completely fill in and sign the appropriate membership form.**

**[v] Additional players, not registered on the original forms must submit the official registration form to the Executive of MHAI via the Secretary or Registrar and have it approved prior to taking the field on their first day of play.**

**[vi] Written/ email notification must be submitted to the Secretary, with a copy to the Registrar/ Treasurer advising any changes or alterations to the submitted team sheet.**

**[vii] No team will be accepted after registration day unless special circumstances have arisen and will be reviewed by the Executive of MHAI.**

**[viii] No new registrations will be accepted into the senior competition/s after the 29<sup>th</sup> June.**

### **c. Grading**

- [i] Any player can play into a higher grade to make numbers up in that team.**
- [ii] Any player can play across their grade into any team to make up the number of a full team. These players cannot be used as substitutes for the registered players in that team.**
- [iii] Junior teams do not have to identify a Goalkeeper; however, they must have a goal keeper to take the field for each game.**
- [iv] If a club or group has two or more teams in the same competition, each team's registered players can only play in their team, unless they are playing as a fill in player, as in C[ii].**

### **6. Fees.**

- [i] Registration fees for all players are required to be paid by cheque, cash or direct deposit and received by registration day, which is to be the second Saturday of the Women's Winter Competition.**
- [ii] Failure to comply with the payment of registration fees at the Registration Day held on the second Saturday of the Women's Competition will result in a penalty of three game points per team for each week that the fees are late. These points will be deducted from the overall competition's point score either at the end of the season, and prior to the final series, or at any time during the season.**
- [iii] Additional players registered during the season must pay the required registration fee, lodged with registration papers, prior to their first match/game.**
- [iv] Fees payable in respect of turf fees must be paid directly to MHAI as advised and invoiced by MHAI.**
- [v] Representative fees of \$50 must be paid to the team manager, cheque, money order or cash in a clearly marked envelope, on the first training day. The team manager, if applicable, will advise of other fees due.**
- [vi] All cheques to be made payable to 'Maitland Hockey Association Inc.'**
- [vii] Direct deposit details are:**

**Name of Account: Maitland Hockey Association Inc.**

**Newcastle Permanent Building Society**

**BSB: 650-000**

**Account Number: 959720403**

Please ensure you put your club or team name in the transaction description and advise the Treasurer of MHAI of the deposit by email.

[vii] Fees paid at the field are to be in a clearly marked envelope and placed into the ' Fees locked box' at the field, to be receipted at the Treasurer's convenience.

[vii] Fees other than the Turf fees will be determined and approved by the Executive and Meeting of MHAI.

[viii] A fine of \$ 50 per occurrence shall be charged as penalties for the following:

\*Failure by a team to complete their nominated umpiring duties.

\*Failure by a club/team to complete their nominated canteen/BBQ duties.

\*Failure by a team to attend the umpire lecture and examination series. .[ 2 people per team to attend]

[ix] All players and teams must be financial before the commencement of the final series. Unfinancial players and/or teams will be unable to play in the final series. Players and teams will be deemed unfinancial should there be any amounts outstanding to MHAI.

[x] Any person, club or group, aggrieved with the decision of the Executive of MHAI or one of its coordinators or committees, may appeal to the Association by lodging with the Secretary of MHAI a notice to that affect.

## **7. Weather Conditions.**

### **A. Postponements.**

[i] There will be provision for matches to be postponed in light of the prevailing weather conditions, the decision to be made by the Committee of MHTAI, Executive of MHAI, Fixtures Coordinator and/or the Umpires' Coordinator. If none of the above personnel are available, then the decision will be made by the Ground Duty Officer. The decision will be shared through:

All Competitions:- Notice given by MHAI Website and via message by phone.

[ii] In the event of storms with lightning, the Ground Duty Officer will be responsible for calling contact person for the teams scheduled to play. However, if the Ground Duty Officer is unavailable, the Umpires and /or any MHAI Executives, in consultation with each other will contact team organisers by phone. The decision will be made in accordance with the Hockey NSW policy which reads, "The lightning safety code is based on the 30/30 rule which calls for play to be stopped when the Lightning/Thunder ratio reaches 30 seconds or less, i.e. the time between when the lightning is seen and the thunder is heard is 30 seconds or less. This means

that the lightning is 10kms away and the next strike has a 'significant risk' of hitting the people who have seen the lightning and heard the thunder. Play should not commence until 30 minutes after the last lightning strike and thunder."

## **B. Senior Competitions.**

[i] If during a match of the Senior Competition there are weather conditions prevailing that would make the continuation of such match/es dangerous to the participants, the following decisions and results should apply:

[a] If at least 75% of any match has been completed, the remaining time of such match should be abandoned and the score at such time should be treated as the final result of the said match. The time at which the game is abandoned shall be noted on the card and endorsed by the umpires and the team captains.

[b] Any matches commenced and then abandoned prior to the 75% of time being played, and any matches scheduled after the announcement of the abandonment of competition for the day, should be played at a time and on a day designated by the Association with the participating teams being given where possible at least eight [8] days written notice of the scheduling of such a match.

[c] The results of any matches fully completed prior to the decision to abandon matches shall stand as indicated on the scoreboard/ match card at the completion of such matches.

[d] Any full round of competition postponed due to the prevailing weather conditions should be completed after the last scheduled competition match and prior to the semi-final matches, or at such time designated by the Fixtures Coordinator

[e] In extenuating circumstances teams may apply within 7 days for consideration regarding rescheduling matches. The application must be made in writing/ email to the Secretary of MHAI with a copy to the Fixtures Coordinator. The Executive of MHAI will bring down a decision after hearing the recommendations of the Fixtures Coordinator. Such consideration will not be automatic. Notification of the decision will be given in writing.

[ii] The decisions of MHAI will be final.

## **C. Junior Competitions.**

[i] Junior competition matches that are affected by decisions regarding weather conditions as outlined above, etc., the following decisions and results should apply.

[a] Games will be rescheduled using available turf time. If no turf time is available and the postponed matches cannot be played, the score for each team will indicate a draw. [2 points each team]

[b] If at least 75% of any match has been completed, the remaining time of such match should be abandoned and the score at such time should be treated as the final result of the said match. The time at which the game is abandoned shall be noted on the card and endorsed by the umpires, managers/coaches and the team captains.

[c] Any matches commenced and then abandoned prior to the 75% of time being played, and any matches scheduled after the announcement of the abandonment of competition for the day, will be rescheduled.

[ii] The decisions of MHAI will be final.

## **8. Deferred Fixtures.**

[i] Any team asking for a deferment of a fixture must apply to the MHA Executive and meeting in writing. The written application must be received at least 4 weeks prior to the fixture being held.

[ii] Any deferred matches should be played prior to the week commencing the semi finals of that grade will be played and will be arranged by the Fixtures Coordinator only and will be advised in writing to the Club or Team contact person.

## **9. Forfeiture**

[i] Any team intending to forfeit a match must give notice to the Fixtures Coordinator at least seventy-two [72] hours prior to the match. A forfeit before the commencement of the game or at any time during the game will result in the forfeiting team being required to pay for the full hire of the turf and the full payment of the umpires.

[ii] Should a team forfeit prior to the commencement of the game, or during the game, a score of 3-0 will be awarded to the team receiving the forfeit.

[iii] In extenuating circumstances, written application may be made to MHA for consideration of the reasons leading to the forfeiture.

[iv] The decision of MHA will be final.

## **10. Code of Conduct**

This Code of Conduct [the Code] should be read in conjunction with the Hockey NSW code of conduct provisions and the Regulations and the Constitution of the Association and shall apply to all players, members, Officials and Office Bearers of affiliated Clubs and organisations participating

in, or in attendance at, competitions or matches conducted under the control of, or when representing, the Association.

Persons subject to this code shall not:

[a] Assault or attempt to assault, lay a hand upon, shove or strike an Umpire, an Official, another player or a spectator;

[b] Abuse, either verbally or physically, an Umpire, an Official, another player or a spectator;

[c] Dispute, as distinct from question, an Umpire's decision;

[d] Use crude and/or abusive language, or engage in any form of conduct detrimental to the spirit of the game, or likely to bring the game into disrepute;

[f] Appear on the field of play at any time intoxicated or under the influence of drugs, or be in the possession of alcohol or drugs on the field of play;

[g] Refuse to supply their full name and registered address, if required to by an Umpire or Official for any reason;

[h] Comment publicly, either verbally or in writing, with a member of the media or with a person knowing that it may be reported in the media, on any matter considered likely to bring the game into disrepute;

[i] Engage in any other conduct, either on or in the vicinity of the field of play considered prejudicial to the best interests of hockey or in contravention of the Constitution and Regulations of this Association.

[j] The Captain of a team may be held responsible for any continuing breaches of the Code by a player or coach and her team under one of the sub-sections above and may accordingly be reported for failure to control his/her team.

Where the Code or behaviour of any person referred to in Section 10 is to be the subject of a report by an Umpire or Official, the Umpire or Official shall:

[k] Verbally inform that person at the ground on the day of the alleged conduct or behavior that he/ she is to be the subject of a report to the Association;

[l] Verbally inform both, the Captain or the persons acting in the capacity as Captain [where this is the Captain that is the subject of the report, then another player on her team] on the day of the alleged conduct or behaviour that the person is to be the subject of such a report;

**[m] Verbally inform the Association's President as soon as practicable after the alleged conduct or behaviour that a report is to be submitted;**

**[n] Submit to the Secretary of the Association within forty-eight [48] hours of the incident, a written report containing details of the alleged conduct or behaviour, including the names of the persons informed;**

**[o] Attend the meeting of the Judiciary Committee when required;**

**Where the conduct or behaviour of any person referred is the subject of a report by an Affiliated Club, the Secretary of such club shall:**

**[p] Verbally inform the Association as soon as practicable after the alleged conduct or behaviour that a report is to be submitted;**

**[q] Submit to the Secretary of the Association with forty-eight [48] hours of the incident, a written report containing details of the alleged conduct or behaviour;**

**[r] Attend the meeting of the Judiciary Committee when required;**

**Where the conduct or behaviour of any person referred to in Section 10 is to be the subject of a report by a person other than an Umpire, Official or by an Affiliated Club, the person shall submit a written statement to the Secretary of the Association containing details of the alleged conduct or behaviour:**

**[s] The Executive of MHA shall have the power to initiate Judiciary proceedings against the Club official, team or player or other person wherever it considers necessary;**

**[t] Incidences of misconduct shall be heard by a Judiciary Committee;**

**[u] The Association Secretary shall, summon the transgressor, an Official of the Club with which the transgressor is registered, the Umpire[s] [if involved] and Official[s] [if involved] to attend the next meeting of the Judiciary Committee. Such notification shall include details of the charges listed for hearing;**

**[v] The Judiciary Committee shall ensure that the party summoned to appear is granted a fair hearing, provided that nothing contained in the Association's rules shall grant a right of legal representation to a party at a hearing, unless the other party is also legally represented and then only at the discretion of the Committee Chair.**

**[w] The Judiciary Committee shall impose a penalty considered appropriate to the circumstances and their decision shall be final, subject to an appeal being lodged in accordance**

with Section 18 of the Rules of Competition or the Constitution of the Association. [for off field events];

[x] The Chair of the Judiciary Committee shall confirm in writing, the Judiciary Committee's decision to the parties involved on the night/day the Judiciary's decision was made;

[y] The Judiciary matters involving players and/or Clubs of other Associations, the Judiciary Committee of such Associations shall meet together to hear evidence but in making their decision, each Committee shall do so regarding its own representative Association.

## **11. Judiciary Committee**

### **A. Hearings**

[i] The Judiciary Committee will convene a meeting on the Wednesday following notification of an alleged offence or complaint from any player, official and including a complaint in regard to a breach of the Code of Conduct in accordance in Rule 10. If the player is unable to attend on the appointed date they must then give the Judiciary Committee three days notice to reconvene. All complaints are to be heard at the next specified sitting of the Judiciary Committee. Provisions can be made for extension of these times in exceptional circumstances.

[ii] The Judiciary Committee may after hearing the matter:

[a] Issue a warning in the nature of a reprimand to the person appearing before it;

[b] Suspend or disqualify the person for a specified time as specified in the guidelines set out in Rule 11D;

[c] Any combination of [a] and [b];

[d] Expel such person from the Association; or

[e] Otherwise deal with the person.

[iii] Any penalty imposed upon a person by the Judiciary Committee shall have effect immediately upon its imposition, notwithstanding the person's right to appeal or further appeal under these rules, and will be notified to Hockey NSW.

## **B. Reference of Matter to the Judiciary Committee**

**[i] All umpires referring matters to the Judiciary Committee must forward a written report within forty-eight [48] hours of the occurrence, addressed to the Umpires' Convener;**

**[ii] Any player charged with misconduct prior to, during or subsequent to the progress of a match, shall be liable to disqualification from taking part in any match played under the auspices of the Association for such time as may be decided. The player so charged shall appear before the Judiciary Committee, which shall have the power to interview such player. Any charge shall be in writing and must be provided to the Secretary within forty-eight [48] hours following the date of the hearing.**

**[iii] For any on field event to be heard by the Judiciary Committee the Umpires' Convener must gain a written report from both umpire stating what they saw/ heard in relation to the event being heard by the Judiciary Committee;**

## **c. Regulations of Judiciary Committee Procedures**

**[i] The judiciary Committee shall ensure that the party appearing before the Judiciary Committee is granted a fair hearing provided that nothing contained in these Rules, the Constitution or the Regulations shall grant right of legal representation to a party at a Judiciary Committee hearing. An Official of their Club or team of which the person is a member provided such representation does not hold legal qualifications may accompany a person;**

**[ii] A Judiciary Committee Member shall not take part in any hearing, which may involve a player or Official of a Club or Team with which he or she holds office as a Committee Member or with which he or she is associated;**

**[iii] The umpires involved in the matter being heard by the Judiciary Committee shall not take part in the hearing. They shall only be allowed to give evidence if so required by the Committee.**

**[iv] The proceedings before the Judiciary Committee shall be recorded on the standard Judiciary Committee Hearing Agenda/ Minutes form by a member of the Judiciary Committee specified by the Chair. These recordings shall be the official record of the Association. Any person summonsed to appear before the Judiciary Committee who neglects to appear without proper explanation to the Chair shall be dealt with in terms of suspension or reprimand or a combination thereof as the Judiciary Committee sees fit.**

**[v] Any player who does not appear before the Judiciary Committee when ordered will be suspended by the Judiciary Committee until such time as the person appears before it.**

**[vi] In the exercise of their function, the Judiciary Committee shall do all things as maybe necessary to ensure:**

**[a] That all matters are set down for hearing with as much expedition as is reasonably possible;**

**[b] That all hearings are conducted within as short a period as is reasonably possible;**

**[c] All persons shall be excluded from the proceedings of the Judiciary Committee except when each individual is required to give evidence;**

**[d] All charges for a single incident be heard by the Judiciary Committee.**

**[vii] At a hearing of the Judiciary Committee, the case of the parties shall be presented in the order of decided by the Chair but nothing herein removes from any person the onus of providing any ground on which he or she relies. The standard of proof to be applied by the Judiciary Committee shall be that of the balance of probabilities.**

**[viii] In relation to any hearing the Chair of the Judiciary Committee by instruction in writing or verbally:**

**[a] May require any person to be present at a sitting of the Judiciary Committee for the purposes of the hearing to produce, on or before the date as is specified in the instructions, the inspection of any other such persons so specified, any document or exhibit relevant to the hearing and which is so specified;**

**[b] May require a person referred to in paragraph one above to do either or any of the following:**

**-Lodge with the Judiciary Committee on or before such date as is specified in the instructions a written case setting out the arguments on which the person relies in relation to the offence or complaint.**

**-To serve on or before such date as is specified in the instructions on any other person so specified a copy of a written case referred to in the sub-paragraph above.**

**[c] May require the persons referred to in paragraph one above to lodge with the Judiciary Committee on or before the date specified in the instructions a statement of facts or matters agreed upon between them in relation to the offence or complaint;**

**[d] May require any person to produce before the Judiciary Committee any document or exhibit relevant to the offence or complaint;**

**[e] May require any person to appear before the Judiciary Committee to give evidence.**

[ix] Any person who fails or neglects to comply with the requirements made to him or her under sub-clause [vii] above shall be deemed to be guilty of misconduct and shall be liable to such penalty as the Judiciary Committee determines.

#### D. Guidelines on Penalties Imposed by the Judiciary Committee

Offences Against Players	Minimum Penalty	Maximum Penalty
Assault/ attempt to assault		
Push	2	4
Shove	2	4
Kick	3	6
Hit	6	20
Spit	6	20
Verbal abuse	1	4
Dangerous Tackle	6	20
Charging Tackle	6	20
Repeated Minor Offences	1	
Refuse to comply with reasonable request from Umpire/Official	2	4
Stick abuse [stick throwing, etc.]	4	10
Intoxicated / under the influence of drugs	6	20
Behaviour bringing the game into disrepute	1	20

Offences Against Umpire /Official	Minimum Penalty	Maximum Penalty
Assault/ attempt to assault		
Touching	6	20
Shove /striking	10 years	
Verbal abuse	1	4
Dispute decision	1	4
Crude or abusive hand gestures /signals	1	4

Offences by Spectator to Umpire / Player	Minimum Penalty	Maximum Penalty
Assault/ attempt to assault	1	20
Verbal abuse	1	4

\*Unless otherwise specified, the minimum and maximum penalties refer to the number of competition games in the winter competition games organised by MHA and other competitions administered under the auspices of Hockey NSW. Penalties will carry over seasons where the penalty has not been completed within the relevant winter season. MHA Inc is obliged to notify HNSW of all penalties imposed by the Judiciary Committee.

## 12. Duty of Team Captains/ Club Secretaries

[i] The Team Captain or Club Secretary must forward to the Secretary of MHA their name and address, telephone contact and email address, and also that of their club or Group President and Treasurer of MHA prior to the March Committee Meeting of the Association. The Secretary of

**MHA must be notified, in writing [including email], of any changes to the above, [including periods absences].**

**[ii] The Team Captain or Club Secretary must forward to the Fixtures Convener a preliminary Team Player List for each Club or team on nomination day.**

**[iii] The Team Captain or Club Secretary must forward to the Registrar a final Team detail sheet for each Club or team by Registration Day, which is the Second Saturday of the senior winter competition. In addition, the Team Captain or Club Secretary must ensure that all player membership forms are completed and provided to the Registrar by Registration Day which is the Second Saturday of the senior winter competition.**

**[iv] The Team Captain or Club Secretary must ensure the timely payment of all fees due and payable to the Association.**

**[v] The Team Captain or Club Secretary must ensure that all members of the Club, or team, are aware of the rules of MHA competition and that they agree to abide by them. All members signing the approved player membership form before taking the field in their first game will ensure this. Failure for teams to comply with the rules of MHA Competition will result in a penalty of three points for each breach of the rules.**

**[vi] The Team Captain or Club Secretary must ensure that all players sign the game card prior to taking the field prior to commencement of the game and that the card is signed by the Team Captain after the completion of the game. Players who have failed to sign the card will be deemed not to have participated and therefore not covered by player accident insurance [PAI].**

**Players refusing to sign the card will be considered to be not abiding by the rules of MHA and the penalty detailed in Rule 12[v] shall apply.**

**[vii] The Team Captain or Club Secretary is responsible for ensuring that the Umpires are paid prior to the commencement of the game. This includes the finals series and if games are discontinued due to inclement weather.**

**[viii] The Team Captain or Club Secretary is responsible for ensuring that the team meet their umpiring duties including the attendance at annual umpire lectures and information sessions. Failure to perform such duties will result in a monetary fine (Rule 6 [viii] )**

**[ix] The Team Captain or Club Secretary must submit to the Secretary of MHA a list of non-financial playing and non-playing members of the Club or team, seven [7] days prior to the Annual General Meeting of the Association.**

[x] The Team Captain or Club Secretary must bring to the attention of all members of the Club or team, and make available to them, all communications from the Association, which are intended for circulation to club or team members.

[xi] The Team Captain or Club Secretary must ensure that all correspondence being sent to the Association is forwarded directly to the Association's Secretary at the Association's postal address or emailed to the Association Secretary's email address. All correspondence must be received prior to the commencement of the Association Committee meeting held on the third Monday of the month.

[xii] If a player is injured during a match, it is the responsibility of the player or team captain to ensure the injury is clearly recorded on the score card.

### **13. Umpires and Umpiring Duties.**

#### **A. Duties of Umpires**

[i] Umpires must check that players are listed on the score card each match and ask teams to indicate the Captain before play commences.

[ii] Umpires must check uniforms for suitability and conformity with these rules. Also request removal of jewellery, dangerous clothing, non prescription glasses and dangerous sticks.

[iii] Umpires shall see that substitutes are listed on the score card before taking the field.

[iv] Umpires shall ensure that all cards issued to players/ coaches or officials are recorded clearly on the score card and lodged in writing to the Umpires Convener within 48 hours.

[v] Where individuals nominated for umpiring duty do not perform their duties on three occasions during the year the individual will be counseled.

#### **B. Duties of Clubs**

[i] If a player is unable to umpire a match she/he has been set down, it is her club's responsibility to find a suitable alternative and/or contact the Umpire's Convener for assistance.

[ii] In the event of a Team failing to provide an Umpire for any given match for that Team will receive a monetary fine as detailed in Rule 6 [viii].

[iii] In the event of the same Team failing to provide Umpires on a second and subsequent time a loss of three [3] competition points and a fine will be imposed. Clubs should notify the Association Executive in writing within seven [7] days of any extenuating circumstances.

[iv] Each team must submit the names of two [2] players who can be called upon to Umpire.

[v] In respect of senior teams, Clubs are to ensure that at least two [2] players from each team attend each umpires lecture/ session and to attempt the HNSW theory paper. A monetary fine will be levied for each team for non-attendance at the Umpires Sessions.

### **C. Testing**

[i] Umpires and named players from teams will be required to complete the Community Umpires Paper on-line and produce the completion form.

[ii] Higher levels for Umpiring Qualifications set out on HNSW development site will be subsidized by the Association.

### **D. Duties of Technical Officials**

[i] Ensure that games are commenced on time, therefore making sure teams are ready to commence on time, if not the time starts irrelevant of their preparedness.

[ii] Ensure that all players have signed the card before taking the field.

[iii] Check that all persons are wearing at all times their mouth guard except those noted on the match sheet.

[iv] Ensure that players are substituting at the half way mark.

[v] Ensure that all team officials remain in appropriate positions depending upon the grade playing; [dugout; centre of sideline in half field games, etc.] at all times.

[vi] Ensure that all team equipment is inside the dugout at all times to ensure safety of players and officials.

[vii] Ensure that you are aware of when umpires have called for player suspension and note who is controlling the time.

[viii] Suspended players are to return to the field of play at the centre line and at a time which does not advantage or disadvantage either team as advised by the technical official.

[ix] In sudden death drop off ensure that only players who have taken the field during the normal time are a part of the drop off team.

[x] Check that all parts of the card are completed and signed at the completion of the game.

[xi] Ensure that all documents are attached and returned to the relevant posting box for collation by the Fixtures Convener.

## **14. Competitions - Format**

### **A. Preliminary Games.**

#### **[i] Juniors:**

**[a] U/7 - U/10's games will be played for 20 minute halves with a break of 5 minutes for half-time. Depending upon weather conditions this time may be broken into thirds or quarters for health reasons.**

**[b] U/13 - U/18's games will be played for 25 minute halves with a break of 5 minutes for half-time.**

#### **[ii] Seniors:**

**[a] Open Women's Division games will be played for 30 minute halves with a break of 5 minutes for half-time.**

**[b] Open men's/ mixed games will be played for 25 minute halves with a break of 5 minutes for half-time.**

**[iii] The umpire will be responsible for signaling the commencement and completion of the game.**

### **B. Finals Series**

**[i] The four leading teams on the point score table in each grade shall compete in the Semi-Finals. In the event of a tied point score table, the positions shall be as detailed in Rule 4D.**

**[ii] Teams involved in the final series must be financial. Unfinancial teams or players will be unable to take part in the final series. Any team playing an unregistered or ineligible player in the play-offs, Semi-Final, Final or Grand Final will be automatically disqualified from any further participation in the competition.**

**[iii] Players are not eligible to play in play-offs, Semi-Final, Final or Grand Final unless they have played with their registered team for 60% of the team's scheduled games. If the team forfeits a game, the registered players will not be credited for playing the match for qualifying purposes. The registered players of the team receiving the forfeit will be credited for qualifying purposes. In extenuating circumstances, application in writing may be submitted to the Executive for consideration at the next Association committee meeting.**

**[iv] The team leading on points shall be the Minor Premier. Should there be two or more teams on the same leading points score, the minor premierships shall be awarded as detailed in Rule 4D.**

- [v] The Major Semi-Final will be played between the first and second place getters. The winner of the major Semi-Final will proceed directly to the Grand Final. The loser of the major Semi-Final will proceed to the Final,
- [vi] The Minor Semi-Final will be played by the third and fourth place getters. The winner of the minor Semi-Final will proceed to the Final and the loser of the minor Semi-Final will take no further part in the final series.
- [vii] The Final shall be played between the winner of the Minor Semi-Final and the loser of the Major Semi-Final.
- [viii] Standard time for the Semi-Finals, Final and Grand Final and any play-offs required depending upon the grade; U/13 & U/18 - 25 minute halves; Women & Men - 30 minute halves with time out.
- [ix] In order for players to be eligible to play in 'extra time' they must have taken the field as part of the game during the standard playing time.
- [x] Should the scores be level at the end of standard time an additional five minutes extra time each way will be played.
- [xi] During the Semi-Finals and Finals, if after the completion of the two lots of 5 minutes extra time, the score is still even, the team with the higher position on the table from the preliminary rounds will move forward to the next round.
- [xii] If at the completion of the extra time for Grand Finals for all grades the score is still even, a penalty stroke competition will determine the outcome, except in the Under 13 Grade, where the Grand Finalists will be declared joint premiers.

## **15. Insurance**

- [i] The Association will organise Insurance for all members, per Hockey NSW policy. Cost of such insurance will be included in fees.
- [ii] The Association will not be responsible for any death or injury to any Association members or spectators, or any other person whatsoever, whether injured on or off the field.
- [iii] The Association takes no responsibility for any player who takes the field during any stage of pregnancy who sustains any injury or medical problems related to that pregnancy.
- [iv] Any player returning to the game after illness or injury, which has kept them out of the game for at least six weeks, will be required to supply, to MHA, a medical clearance form from an appropriate medical personnel.

[v] If any player is injured during the match, it is the responsibility of the player and/or the Team Captain to ensure the injury is noted on the card.

[vi] If an insurance claim is made, it is the player's responsibility to notify MHA and obtain information to access claim forms.

## **16. Issue of Card and Point System**

### **A. Recording**

[i] All cards issued to senior or junior players, Coaches or Officials are to be recorded by the umpire as follows:

[a] On the back of the scorecard for the game.

[b] The umpire is to advise the Umpire's Convener immediately following the game of any cards issued, lodged in writing within 48 hours.

### **B. Points Allocation**

1 green card [warning] = 5 points

1 yellow card [suspended for a minimum of 5minutes] = 10 points

1 red card [suspended for the rest of the match] = 21 points

[i] Upon the accumulation of 21 or more points that player, coach or official will serve an automatic one match suspension plus whatever additional penalty that may be imposed by the Judiciary Committee and or the Executive of MHA.

[ii] Any player, Coach or Official who has accumulated 21 or more points must appear before the Judiciary Committee.

[iii] Any player. Coach or Official accumulating 21 or more points is not permitted to take part in any further matches until such time as they appear before the Judiciary Committee and/ or the Executive Committee.

[iv] The Umpire is to submit a written report to the Judiciary Committee in relation to the issuing of any red card within forty-eight hours of completion of the applicable match. Reports are to be forwarded to the Umpire's Convener.

## **17. Appeals**

[i] The game shall be controlled by the official umpires; their decision shall be final in all matters.

[ii] No member of a team, other than the Captain may question a decision of the umpire.

[iii] If not satisfied, the Captain may make a protest in writing to the Judiciary Committee within three [3] days of the incident.

[iv] Decision regarding appeals shall be provided in writing and mailed to the Secretary.

[v] Team coaches will be cautioned in the same manner as a playing team member. Any further misconduct will result in the team captain receiving a yellow or red card penalty.

## **18. Right of Appeal of Disciplined Member**

[i] A person aggrieved with a decision of a Judiciary Committee, within 3 working days of notice being served, may appeal to the Association by lodging with the secretary a notice to that effect.

[ii] Upon receipt of a notice from a member under sub-paragraph [i] the secretary shall notify the Executive of MHA. The Executive of MHA will organize and convene an Appeal Hearing Committee to be held within fourteen [14] days after the date on which the Secretary received the notice. The Appeal Hearing Committee shall consist of at least three Association Committee Members from other Women's Hockey Associations that are not registered with MHA.

[iii] At the Appeal Hearing Committee meeting convened under sub-paragraph [ii] :

[a] No business other than the question of the appeal shall be transacted;

[b] The Judiciary Committee and the member shall be given the opportunity to state their respective cases verbally or in writing, or both; and

[c] The Appeal Hearing Committee shall vote by secret ballot on the question of whether the resolution should be confirmed or revoked. Simple majority shall pass the appeal;

[d] Should the Appeal Hearing Committee confirm the decision, this does not limit their ability to increase or reduce the sentence handed down by the Judiciary.

## **19. Representative Selections**

[i] MHA representative selections will be in accordance with HNSW rules of competition for representative teams.

- [ii] Players wishing to be selected for any MHA representative team must be a financial member of MHA.
- [iii] In the event of formal selection trial players must nominate at least 48 hours [2days] prior to selections and must attend selection trials in order to be selected, unless the player can provide details in writing to the selection Convener at least 48 hours prior to selections. Extenuating circumstances will be considered by written application to MHA Inc. Committee meeting lodged with the secretary no later than 72 hours after the final selection. A written application for extenuating circumstances will only be accepted if the Selection Convener or panel is informed by phone prior to the conclusion of selections. If in the event of selections taking place from competition games, players should nominate 7 days prior to selections commencing. The selection panel/ committee may approach players who have not nominated.
- [iv] The Selection Committee will select players in teams based on their skills and abilities. Finalised selected teams will be submitted to the Executive and Committee for ratification and notified by the Secretary.
- [v] All representatives of MHA Inc will be required to stay in and pay for accommodation organized by MHA Inc. Exceptions will only be granted by written request to a MHA Association Committee meeting. Representative players under the age of 18 will be required to be accommodated with a parent or carer.
- [vi] No player registered with MHA Inc will be released to play with another Association without approval from a MHA Association Committee Meeting or Executive Meeting. The request must be lodged in writing at least one month prior to the requirement of the release. No verbal requests or releases will be granted.
- [vii] The number of teams selected to represent MHA Inc. will be in accordance with 19 [i] and be based upon the skill and number of players nominating each year.
- [viii] Any player, umpire, coach or manager attaining HNSW National Championship team, State or Australian hockey team selections will be eligible to receive one donation of up to \$150 during the year from the Association.
- [ix] The selection panel must be filled with members whom have no affiliation to any person standing in that selected age bracket, in respect of self or family.
- [x] Should the Selection Convener come under the above rule then an executive appointed person from the Association Committee of MHA will replace them in the instance of holding final and overriding decisions.

## 20. Carnivals

From time to time the Association is requested to run senior and junior hockey tournaments for HNSW or Hunter Conference. When these tournaments are to be run all Clubs/ Groups will be required to assist wherever necessary. Failure to fulfill reasonable requests will result in a fine of \$55.

### MHA Contacts for 2010 Winter Season:

President	R. Sherlock	: <a href="mailto:ROSSLYN.SHERLOCK@det.nsw.edu.au">ROSSLYN.SHERLOCK@det.nsw.edu.au</a>
Secretary	K. Goodwin	: <a href="mailto:kylie-goodwin@bigpond.com">kylie-goodwin@bigpond.com</a>
Treasurer	J. Hart	: <a href="mailto:joan@nobbys.net.au">joan@nobbys.net.au</a>
Registrar	J. Hart	: <a href="mailto:joan@nobbys.net.au">joan@nobbys.net.au</a>
Fixtures	H. Wilcher	: <a href="mailto:hwilcher@bigpond.com">hwilcher@bigpond.com</a>
Umpires Convener	G. Noronha	: <a href="mailto:gabriel@noronha.id.au">gabriel@noronha.id.au</a>
Junior Development Officer	S. Orchard	: <a href="mailto:stix@hunterlink.net.au">stix@hunterlink.net.au</a>
Indoor Convener	S. Rainbow	: <a href="mailto:srainbow@exemail.com.au">srainbow@exemail.com.au</a>
Junior Representative Convener	R. Sherlock	: <a href="mailto:ROSSLYN.SHERLOCK@det.nsw.edu.au">ROSSLYN.SHERLOCK@det.nsw.edu.au</a>
Publicity Officer	L. Blunden	: <a href="mailto:lorrae.blunden@defence.gov.au">lorrae.blunden@defence.gov.au</a>

