

To: All Teams & Umpires
From: Sally Rolfe, Umpires Co-Ordinator
Date: 15th May 2021
Subject: No Penalty goals/ Stokes & Rule clarifications

All Team & Umpires,

I am wanting to clarify a number issues which have been raised recently by both umpires and teams.

Teams who play with NO GK.

With the international rules allowing 11 field players (you are permitted to take the field without a GK). If a penalty stroke is awarded against a team with NO GK; providing the defending team have a GK facemask behind their goal, then a field player is permitted to face the stroke wearing the facemask (as per the FIA rules). However, if there is NO facemask (then due to safety) then the attacking team must still play the stroke to an empty goal.

FIA Rules 2021 – Chapter 13 Procedures for taking penalties, section 13.7 e) the defender may only use their stick to make a save.

*Each team may play with: – a goalkeeper wearing a different colour shirt and protective equipment comprising at least headgear, leg guards and kickers; this player is referred to in these Rules as a goalkeeper; 14 or – only field players; no player has goalkeeping privileges or wears a different colour shirt; no player may wear protective headgear **except a face mask** when defending a penalty corner or a penalty stroke; all team players wear the same colour shirt.*

- **Umpire Signals** – All umpires please ensure when you blow your whistle you signal clearly & verbally communicate your decision.

General rule clarification:

- **Danger Balls**, as per the rules - A ball is dangerous if it causes **legitimate evasive action**.
- **Playing Advantage** - Umpires – Please ensure you signal to indicate you have seen the offence. If a clear “opportunity” has been created (i.e., shot on goal = advantage is over)
No clear opportunity is created? Then bring play back to the point of infringement using the whistle, voice & arm signals to indicate location.

I am in the process of creating a Facebook page dedicated to Maitland Women’s competition umpires, whereby rule clarification, questions, training, general info will be posted. I will also be conducting a review of all umpires to highlight areas required for additional training.

Please note full competition rules are available in the Duty office & online at

<https://maitlandhockey.org.au/>

[fih-rules-of-hockey-jan2021-update.pdf](#)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me,