



Maitland Hockey Inc. 2024 Competition Rules

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COMPETITION RULES

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

Other Policies, Rules and By Laws to be read include:

- ❖ MHI - Competition Rules | Maitland Hockey Inc
- ❖ MHI - Policies and Procedures | Maitland Hockey Inc
- ❖ HHAI - Home - Hunter Hockey Association Inc - revolutioniseSPORT
- ❖ HNSW - Policies & Guidelines | Hockey NSW

1. Organisation of Competitions

1A. 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 may register with only one club/team except for a designated goalkeeper who may play as a goalkeeper with one nominated team and a field player with another team. The player must identify which team is her first registered team. She must identify which team she is playing in goals for and which team she is playing as a field player for. The player must qualify, as per the rules, with each team to be eligible for the final series.

When the player's teams meet in competition rounds and the finals series she must play with her first registered team.

[iii] [a] Any junior player wishing to play in the senior competition must have attained the age of thirteen [13] years by 1st January of that year, with any exceptions subject to approval by the MHI Executive Committee.

[b] Juniors playing in the Junior Competition and have attained the appropriate age or approval from MHI executive committee, may play up into the Senior Competition to bring team numbers up to eleven [11] players.

[iv] Players must register with one club or group, except for designated GK rule. (*See Rule 1A [ii]).

[v] Any player wishing to transfer to another Club, Team or Group must obtain a clearance from 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.

[vi] The transfer must be forwarded to the Registrar for approval before the transferring player can take the field.

[vii] Any player who wishes to transfer to another Club or Group must do so before their fourth game from their registration. (*See also Finals series 15.B[iii])

[viii] Players may play across into other teams during the season to make up eleven players, including Goalkeepers.

[ix] A player can play across for each team within the competition a maximum of three times during the season, with the exception of goal keepers who can play across 5 times, excluding semis and finals (2023). This includes 'designated goalkeepers', as defined in Rule 1A[ii], who can also play across up to 5 times as goalkeeper for the team they are registered with as a field player, excluding semis and finals (2024).

[x] A player must play for more than one quarter of the game for that game to be counted towards their three games.

[xi] Teams using play across player/players must supply the player/players with an appropriate team shirt or the entire team will wear bibs or an alternate strip.

[xii] Play across players cannot be used to substitute players registered in that team. They can only substitute other play-across players.

[xiii] An injured player who cannot continue playing in that game, or subsequent games of the afternoon, can be substituted by a player from another team if no team sub is available. (*See also Rule 14[vi])

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

[xv] A player cannot take the field unless they have completed an online Registration form through HNSW and paid their registration or affiliation fee online.

[xvi] A team cannot take the field with less than seven [7] registered players from their team.

1B. 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 1st 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 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 an online Registration form through HNSW and paid their registration or affiliation fee online.

1C. Other Hockey Competitions

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

2. Rules of Hockey

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

[ii] Players are expected to act responsibly at all times (NB: FIH Section 9) and MHI Code of Conduct. (See Appendix 1)

[iii] Maitland Hockey Assoc Inc has local rules:

1. The reverse stick hit known as a tomahawk is not allowed. (2017)
2. If a penalty stroke is awarded against a team with NO GK, providing the defending team have a facemask behind their goal, then a field player is permitted to face the stroke wearing the facemask (as per FIA rules). However, if there is NO facemask (then due to safety) the attacking team must still play the stroke to an empty goal. (2021)
3. Umpires are not required to blow the whistle to commence a penalty corner. (2023)

3. Attire

3A. Club Uniforms

- [i] Player's in the MHI competition matches must wear the uniform of the Club or Group with which they are registered. (* see also Rule 1A[ix] for those playing across).**
- [ii] Clubs or Groups upon affiliation shall make application to the Executive and Meeting of MHI concerning the uniform to be worn by their Club or Group members. These details will be recorded in an appropriate log.**
- [iii] The uniform style and colours shall be approved by the Executive and Meeting of MHI and thereafter shall not be worn by the members of any other Club or Group.**
- [iv] No player shall take the field unless she/ he is correctly attired in the uniform of the Club or Group with which she/ he 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.**
- [v] Changes or alterations to the approved uniform must be submitted for approval to the Executive and Meeting of MHI and may not be worn until approval has been given.**
- [vi] No player shall take the field wearing any item of jewellery, hard peaked caps and hats, clothing or non-prescription glasses or hair bobby pins which are considered dangerous. (*See also 10[vi] and 11A [ii])**
- [vii] Players may wear suitable prescription glasses but must be responsible for their own and others' safety while doing so. (Nov 2022)**
- [viii] It is compulsory for all players to wear shoes appropriately designed for the conditions of the playing surface on which they are playing. It is recommended that players wear shin, ankle and mouth protection. Any player not wearing such protection is wholly responsible for their own actions and any resulting injury. Goalkeepers must continue to be attired in accordance with the FIH Rules of Hockey. On-field coaches and umpires must wear appropriate footwear.**
- [ix] Each team has either a goalkeeper who wears full protective equipment (headgear, leg guards, kickers, hand protectors) OR plays only with field players.**

3B. Suitability of Uniform

- [i] Underwear must be suitable for players not wearing skorts/shorts; pants under skirts 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 the uniform.**
- [ii] Umpires may request players to remove jumpers which [because of colour] make umpiring difficult and any player so requested must comply with the umpire's direction. In addition, umpires may request a team to wear bibs should the colour of the uniforms make umpiring difficult. When teams are drawn to play each other and have similar socks, the team named first in the draw is to wear socks of a different colour.**

[iii] Teams with play across player/players must supply the player/players with a team shirt or similar colour or the whole team must wear 'bibs' or an alternate strip. (* See also rule1A [xi] for those playing across).

4. Point Score

4A. 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.

[iii] If a team plays an unregistered player or ineligible player, that team shall forfeit the match and points shall be recorded accordingly.

[iv] A team receiving a forfeit will receive a score 3 goals for. The forfeiting team will receive no goals.

[v] Should at the end of the round of competition, teams be equal on point score, the placing will be decided in the following order until there is a clear result:

- A Goal difference - total goals for, minus total goals against.
- B Goal average - total goals for divided by total goals against.
- C Applying goal difference then goal average in the games in which the teams played each other.

5. Team Entry

5A 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.
- Seven [7] 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 9.
- No goalkeepers will be played.

[iii] Under 18 Competition

- Eleven [11] players must be registered in each team with a maximum of 20 players for this competition, guidelines will be altered to best cater for the

number of players and needs of those players by the Executive Committee where appropriate.

- Each team must play with a fully equipped goalkeeper.
- U/18 coaches may coach from the sideline.
- If numbers for an eleven a side competition do not eventuate the competition will be altered to best cater for the numbers and need.

[iv] Under 13 Competition.

- Seven [7] players must be registered in each team with a maximum of 10.
- Each team must play with a fully-equipped goalkeeper.
- Four [4] 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 the other field.

[v] Under 6 and 9 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.

5B. Team and Player Registration

[i] Club Secretaries or Team Captains must submit a team sheet or list of players to the Secretary and Registrar by Nomination Day.

[ii] All team sheets must be submitted prior to the first Saturday of the Senior Women's Winter competition, in conjunction with registration. All registrations are completed and paid online.

[iii] Additional players, not on the original form, must complete and pay registration online before taking the field and be added to the Team Sheet prior to taking the field on their first day of play.

[iv] 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.

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

6. Fees

[i] Registration fees for all players are required to be paid online and received by the first day of competition of the Women's and Junior Winter Competitions or before players take the field.

[ii] A player or additional players may register at any time during the season but must not take the field until said registration is completed online prior to their first game.

[iii] Teams with unregistered players taking the field may result in a penalty of three game points per team for each such occurrence. These points may be deducted from the overall competition point score either at the end of the season, and prior to the final series, or at any time during the season.

[iv] Fees payable in respect of turf fees must be paid directly to MHI as advised and invoiced by MHI by direct deposit [Maitland Hockey Inc The Mutual BSB:646000; Acc. No.: 100074578]

[v] Representative fees of \$50 must be paid via direct deposit at time of nomination. The team manager, if applicable, will advise of other fees due.

[vi] Direct deposit details are:

Name of Account: Maitland Hockey Inc.

The Mutual (previously Maitland Mutual)

BSB:646000; Acc. No.: 100074578]

(Please ensure you put your name and team name in the transaction description and advise the Treasurer of MHI of the deposit by email).

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

[viii] A fine of \$50 and/or loss of competition points per occurrence may be charged as penalties for the following:

- Failure by a team to complete their nominated umpiring and duty team 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.

[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 MHI.

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

7. Weather Conditions

7A. 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 MHI, and/or the Umpires' Convenor. If none of the above personnel are available, then the decision will be made by the Duty Officer team. The decision will be shared through:

All Competitions:- Notice given on 'maitlandhockey.org.au' website or Maitland Hockey Facebook page. Contact also made with Team Contacts.

[ii] Lightning Policy: In the event of storms with lightning, the rostered Duty Officer will be responsible for calling contact person for the teams scheduled to play.

However, if the rostered Duty Officer is unavailable, the Umpires and /or any MHI Executives, in consultation with each other will contact team organisers by phone and 'maitlandhockey.org.au' website or Maitland Hockey Association Facebook page. 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."

7B. 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, where possible, at a time and on a day designated by the Association with the participating teams being given where possible seven [7] days minimum 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 where possible, and prior to the semi-final matches, or at such time designated by the Fixtures Convenor.

[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 MHI with a copy to the Fixtures Convenor. The Executive of MHI will make a decision after hearing the recommendations of the Fixtures Convenor. Such consideration will not be automatic. Notification of the decision will be given in writing.

[ii] The decisions of MHI will be final.

7C. Junior Competitions

[i] If Junior competition matches are affected by decisions regarding weather conditions as outlined above, 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 MHI will be final.

8. Deferred Fixtures

[i] Any team asking for a deferment of a fixture must apply to the MHI 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 and will be arranged by the Fixtures Convenor 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 Convenor at least seventy-two [72] hours prior to the match. A forfeit within 72 hours 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 MHI for consideration of the reasons leading to the forfeiture.

[iv] The decision of MHI will be final.

10. Duty of Team Captains / Club Secretaries

[i] The Team Captain and/or Club Secretary must forward to the Secretary of MHI their name, address, telephone contact and email address, and that of their club or Group President and Treasurer if applicable, prior to the February Committee Meeting of the Association. The Secretary of MHI should be notified, in writing of any changes to the above.

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

[iii] The Team Captain or Club Secretary must ensure that all members of the Club, or team, are aware of the rules of MHI competition including Code of Conduct and that they agree to abide by them.

[iv] The Team Captain or Club Secretary must ensure that all players sign the game card prior to taking the field for their game. The card is to be signed by the Team Captain or nominee 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]. Nor will their participation be recognized for the 60% rule (*See finals series 13B[iv] Dispensations) unless they have had the following notation made against their name:

W = work (or representative trials or games)

S = sick or injury

A = absent

If not noted, it will be assumed the player is absent and does not qualify for dispensation. (*See finals series 13B[iv]) February 2023

[v] 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. (*See also Rule 14[v])

[vi] The Team captain should check uniforms for suitability, checking also for jewelry, mouthguards, dangerous clothing, non prescription glasses and dangerous sticks.

[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 fulfils its umpiring duties including the attendance at umpire lectures and information sessions. Failure to perform such duties may result in a monetary fine (*See 6 [viii])

[ix] 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 MHI and the Association, which are intended for circulation to club or team members.

[x] The Team Captain or Club Secretary must ensure that all correspondence being sent to the MHI or the HHAI is forwarded directly to the MHI or HHAI Secretary by email. All correspondence must be received prior to the commencement of the MHI or HHAI Committee meeting held normally on the second Thursday of the month or the second Monday of the month.

11. Umpires and Umpiring Duties.

11A. 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 may request removal of any jewellery, dangerous clothing, non-prescription glasses and dangerous sticks.

[iii] Umpires should 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 (including details of offence eg penalty-dangerous tackle) to the Umpires Convener, or appropriate Official within 48 hours.

11B. Duties of Clubs/Teams

[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] In respect of senior teams, Clubs are to ensure that at least two [2] players from each team attend each umpires lecture/ session and complete the Foundation Support Umpires online course or appropriate umpire qualification when requested. The acknowledgement of this course participation or other effective qualification needs to be shown to the Umpires Convenor. A monetary fine may be levied for each team for non-attendance at the Umpires Sessions.

11C. Testing

[i] Umpires and named players from teams will be required to complete the Foundation Support Umpires course on-line and provide the completion certificate to the Umpires Convenor.

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

12. Duties of Technical Officials / Duty Officer

(See also information located in Tech/ office area and Appendix 3)

A Duty Officer/team is nominated by the competition draw. They are responsible for the efficient, effective and safe operation and conduct of MHI matches at the Maitland Hockey Centre. Nominated Duty Officers must be familiar with and abide by the duties and requirements of the position, details of which are available in the Technical area at the Centre. These include but are not limited to ensuring:

[i] 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] That players are substituting at the halfway mark.

[iii] That all team officials remain in appropriate positions such as dugout; centre of sideline in half field games, etc.. at all times.

[iv] That all team equipment is inside the dugout at all times to ensure safety of players and officials.

[v] That the duty Officer(s) are aware when umpires have called for player suspension and note who is controlling the time.

[vi] 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 Duty Officer/technical official.

[vii] In "extra time with drop-off" ensure that only players who have taken the field during the normal time are a part of the drop-off team.

[viii] Time is kept and the scoreboard is operated to the best of ability.

[ix] That all parts of the card are completed and signed at the completion of the game.

[x] That all documents and scorecards are attached and returned to the Assoc. plastic file box. Scorecards are to be photographed and a copy sent to the Point Score Coordinator.

Failure to complete the designated duty period may result in the loss of two competition points for the designated team.

13. Competition Format / Game Times / Finals / Dispensation

Format:

12.00 Start Game 1	1 st Quarter
12.15	drink break 2 mins
12.17	2 nd Quarter re start
12.32	Half time 5 mins
12.37	3 rd Quarter re start
12.52	Drink break 2 mins
12.54	4 th Quarter re start
1.09	End of game
1.20 Start Game 2	1 st Quarter
1.35	drink break 2 mins
1.37	2 nd Quarter re start
1.52	Half time 5 mins
1.57	3 rd Quarter re start
2.12	Drink break 2 mins
2.14	4 th Quarter re start
2.29	End of game
2.40 Start Game 3	1 st Quarter
2.55	drink break 2 mins
2.57	2 nd Quarter re start
3.12	Half time 5 mins
3.17	3 rd Quarter re start
3.32	Drink break 2 mins
3.34	4 th Quarter re start
3.49	End of game
4.00 Start Game 4	1 st Quarter
4.15	drink break 2 mins
4.17	2 nd Quarter re start
4.32	Half time 5 mins
4.37	3 rd Quarter re start
4.52	Drink break 2 mins
4.54	4 th Quarter re start
5.09	End of game

13A. Preliminary Games.

[i] Juniors:

[a] U/6 - U/9'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 four 15-minute quarters with a break of 2 minutes between quarters one and two, and quarters three and four and 5 minutes 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.

13B. Finals Series

[i] [a] 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 4A (v).

[b] If 8 or more teams in the Women's Competition, when the final series is reached the top four [4] teams will play the A Division final series and the teams placed 5th to 8th will play in the B Division final series. Positions will be decided as stated in B[i][a].

[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 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. The requirement to have played 60% of the team's scheduled games will be from the player's first game regardless of when the player is registered. 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.

[iv] Dispensation: When a player misses a game or games due to extenuating circumstances such as due to illness/injury (S), work or hockey representative commitments (W), it is to be marked on the game card as per Rule12 [iv]. An application for extenuating circumstances beyond those reasons may be made in writing and should be submitted to executive committee for consideration at the next MHI meeting following the game(s) missed.

[v] 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 premiership shall be awarded as detailed in Rule 4A[v].

[vi] The Major Semi-Final will be played between the first and second placed teams in the competition. 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,

[vii] The Minor Semi-Final will be played by the third and fourth placed teams in the competition. 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.

[viii] The Final shall be played between the winner of the Minor Semi-Final and the loser of the Major Semi-Final.

[ix] Standard time for the Semi-Finals, Final and Grand Final and any play-offs required depending upon the grade; U/13 & U/16 - 25 minute halves; Women- 15-minute quarters with 2 minute break between quarters, with a five minute half time period.

[x] 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.

[xi] Should the scores be level at the end of standard time in Semi finals and Finals, extra time with drop-off and golden goal rule apply as for the Grand Final (see 13B[xii]). There will be a two-minute break at the end of standard time, before extra time is started. (There is no extra time given between change of ends) If the score is still even at the completion of extra time drop off, the team with the higher position on the table from the preliminary rounds will move forward to the next game.

[xii] Grand Finals:

If at the completion of standard time for Grand Finals for all grades the score is still even, the drop-off rule to 9 players commences for 5 minutes, then to 7 players for 5 minutes, unless a goal is scored as per the golden goal rule. (There will be a two-minute break before teams begin playing the drop-off rule but no time between change of ends).

If it is still a draw at the conclusion of the two periods of extra time drop off, then the "penalty shoot-out 8 seconds competition" will determine the outcome, except in the Under 13 and below Grades, where the Grand Finalists will be declared Joint Premiers.

14. Injuries and Insurance

[i] All players must be registered with Hockey NSW and so covered by Insurance via Hockey Australia, as per Hockey NSW policy. Cost of such insurance is included in fees.

[ii] MHI 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] MHI 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 MHI, a medical clearance form from 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 and the Duty Officer needs to record the injury into the MHI Injury Book. (*See also Rule 10[v])

[vi] An injured player who cannot continue playing in that game, or subsequent games of the afternoon, can be substituted by a player from another team if no team sub is available. (*See also Rule 1A [viii])

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

[viii] Head injuries: In the event of a player sustaining a head injury, the detailed Hockey Australia Concussion Policy should be followed. (See also MHI Concussion Head Injury policy MHI-Concussion-and-Head-Injury-Policy) If a head injury occurs, the player must not be allowed to continue playing nor return to play during the same game or another game in the afternoon. If concussion has occurred, a clearance from a doctor should be obtained before the player resumes training or playing matches.

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

15. Issue of Cards and Point System

15A. 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/ or appropriate Official immediately following the game of any cards issued, lodged in writing within 48 hours.

15B. Points Allocation

1 green card [suspended for a period of 2 minutes]	= 5 points
1 yellow card [suspended for a period of 5 to 10 minutes]	= 10 points
1 red card [suspended for the rest of the match]	= 21 points

[i] Upon the accumulation of 21 or more points during a season, 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 MHI.

[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.

16. Appeals

[i] The official umpires shall control the game; 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. (*See also 10 [iii])

[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 emailed 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.

17. 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 MHI 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 MHI. The Executive of MHI 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 Committee Members from other Women's Hockey Associations that are not registered with MHI.

[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.

18. Representative Selections

[i] MHI and Hunter Hockey Association Inc representative selections will be in accordance with HNSW rules of competition for representative teams.

[ii] Players wishing to be selected for any MHI and HHAI representative team must be a financial member of HHAI and MHI.

[iii] In the event of formal selection trial players must nominate at least 7 days prior to selections and must attend selection trials 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 HHAI's and MHI's 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 MHI or HHAI will be required to stay in and pay for accommodation organized by MHI or HHAI. Exceptions will only be granted by written request to a MHI or HHAI Committee meeting. Representative players under the age of 18 will be required to be accommodated with a parent or carer.

[vi] The number of teams selected to represent MHI and HHAI will be in accordance with 18 [i] and be based upon the skill and number of players nominating each year.

[vii] 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 MHI.

[viii] The selection panel must be filled with members who have no affiliation with any person standing in that selected age bracket, in respect of self or family.

[ix] Should the Selection Convener come under the above rule then an executive appointed person from the Committee of MHI will replace them in the instance of holding final and overriding decisions.

19. Carnivals and fundraising

From time to time the MHI may organise senior and junior hockey tournaments for HNSW or MHI Junior Carnival, as well as various fundraising events. When these tournaments/events are to be run, all Clubs/ Groups will be asked to assist wherever possible.

20. List of Contacts

Women's Teams 2024:

Bluebees	Karen Barry Margie Mainey
Blues	Sarah Donohoe Samantha Doyle
Hornets	Sally Rolfe
Northern District	Ros Sherlock
Scorchers	Sonia Sharpe Joan Hart Nicky Craig
Rams	Damien Schweinberger
Rebels	Janelle Endacott Naomi Dockrill
Royals	Sally Carratt
Rustlers	Jeanette Gaylard Lucy Bambach

Junior Contacts 2024:

Ros Sherlock ros.s@me.com Kymberly Noronha kymberly@noronha.id.au	U/6, U/9 and U/13 Teams
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MHI Contacts for 2024 Winter Season:

President	Janelle Endacott
Vice President	Belinda Saridis
Secretary	Naomi Dockrill
Treasurer	Karen Barry
Game Day Officer	Kayla Crow
Junior Development Officer	Ros Sherlock
Public Officer	Ros Sherlock
Member Protection Officer	Caitlyn Hudson
Registrar	Kylie MacDonald
Umpires Convener	Sally Rolfe
Coaching & Development Officer (Juniors)	Damien Schweinberger
Volunteer Coordinator	Kymerly Noronha
Communication Manager	Sally Carratt
Judiciary Committee	Janelle Endacott, Sally Rolfe, Al Noronha, Gary Urquhart, Damien Schweinberger
Hunter Hockey Association Representatives	Ros Sherlock, Janelle Endacott
Turf Committee Representative	Damien Schweinberger
Maitland Park Rec Board Rep	Ros Sherlock
Masters Committee	Margie Mainey, Anne-Louise Winter
Fixtures Convenor	Sally Rolfe, Janelle Endacott
Point Score Coordinator	Karen Barry
Fund Raising Coordinator	Honey Wilcher
First Aid Coordinator	Kylie MacDonald
Turf Bookings	Joan Hart

Appendix 1 MHI Code of Conduct

- i. This Code of Conduct [the Code] should be read in conjunction with the FIH rules, 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 Competition Group or Association.
- ii. When players register online they formally agree to abide by the Code of Conduct.

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;
- e) 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;
- f) Refuse to supply their full name and registered address, if required to by an Umpire or Official for any reason;
- g) :
 - 1) Comment publicly, including social media, 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;
 - 2) Mobile phones/ cameras/ etc may not be used to record photos, audio, etc within the dugout or change room and then shared in any form.
 - 3) Photos may not be taken and shared of any Junior player without parent or guardian permission.
- h) 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 By Laws and Regulations of this Competition Committee and Association.
- i) The Captain of a team may be held responsible for any continuing breaches of the Code by a player or coach and her/his team under one of the sub-sections above and may accordingly be reported for failure to control his/her team. (10[iii])
- j) Where the behaviour of any person referred to in Section 10 [iii] and section 16 is to be the subject of a report by an Umpire or Official, the Umpire or Official shall:
 - 1) Verbally inform that person at the ground on the day of the alleged conduct or behaviour that he/ she is to be the subject of a report to the Association;
 - 2) 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;
- 3) Verbally inform the Competition Committee's President as soon as practicable after the alleged conduct or behaviour that a report is to be submitted;
 - 4) Submit to the Secretary of the Competition Committee 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;
 - 5) Attend the meeting of the Judiciary Committee when required;
- k) 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:
- 1) Verbally inform the Association as soon as practicable after the alleged conduct or behaviour that a report is to be submitted;
 - 2) 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;
 - 3) Attend the meeting of the Judiciary Committee when required;
- l) 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 statement in writing to the Secretary of the Association containing details of the alleged conduct or behaviour.
- m) The Executive of MHI shall have the power to initiate Judiciary proceedings against the Club official, team or player or other person wherever it considers necessary;
- n) a Judiciary Committee shall hear Incidences of misconduct;
- o) The Competition Committee's 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;
- p) The Judiciary Committee shall ensure that the party summoned to appear is granted a fair hearing, provided that nothing contained in the Competition Committee'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.
- q) 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];
- r) 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;
- s) 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.

Appendix 2 MHI 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 regarding a breach of the Code of Conduct in accordance with 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 verbal and written 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 D;
 - c) Any combination of a) and b);
 - d) Expel such person from the Association;
- 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 report in writing within forty-eight [48] hours of the occurrence, addressed to the Umpires' Convener;
- ii. Any player charged with misconduct prior to, during or after the progress of a match, shall be liable to disqualification from taking part in any match played under the auspices of the MHI 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 report in writing 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 if 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 MHI. 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 the person appears before it.**
- vi. **In the exercise of their function, the Judiciary Committee shall do all things as may be 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 [matches]	Maximum Penalty [matches]
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 [matches]	Maximum Penalty [matches]
Assault/ attempt to assault	1	20
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 [matches]	Maximum Penalty [matches]
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 MHI 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. MHI is obliged to notify HNSW of all penalties imposed by the Judiciary Committee.

Appendix 3 Duties of Duty Team Volunteers

First game of the day:

- Attach game cards to clipboards ready for all matches of the day.
- Prepare scoreboard for the game. If not available, manual time keeping may have to be used. *(See separate instructions for scoreboard operation)
- Check on the availability and location of turf cleaning facilities for blood, and **Ice for injuries**.
- Check the pitch for correct location of goals and/or other hazards.
- Water the pitch as required *(See separate instructions for watering)

All games:

- Liaise with incoming Duty Officials as to what has been done to ensure smooth running of games.
- Water the pitch between games as required. *(See separate instructions for watering)
- Games consist of 15-minute quarters, 2-minute drink break between the 1st and 2nd Q and 3rd and 4th Q, 5 minutes for half time. Games **MUST** start and finish on allocated time. *(See game time sheet)
- Check number of players on field and match cards.
- Record all goals and any cards issued on the match card.
- Check that player substitution is being done correctly and prevent any unauthorized entry onto the pitch.
- Try to ensure there is safe passage around dugouts and gateway to pitch.
- Time any suspensions. Liaise with umpire to record the breach.
- Record any injuries on card and in injury book. (If in doubt, fill it out!)
- At completion of game, check that match card has been signed by team captains and umpires. Liaise with team captains to ensure they have marked players as:
 - W** if player missed match due to work (or Rep hockey)
 - S** if player missed match due to sickness or injury
 - A** if player has missed the match for personal reasons

NOTE: In the case of blood occurring on the pitch, ensure it is cleaned up correctly before play recommences and check players for blood stained clothing. Players who are bleeding or have open wounds are to leave pitch immediately. Ensure bleeding has ceased and have wounds covered before retaking the field. (See also MHI Blood policy)

ICE is stored in the canteen until the freezer in the Tech Room is replaced.

Locate the double gate key in case of ambulance access – 2 double gates located both ends of the field, key 107 (same as the main gate) is located in the key cabinet inside the meeting room.

In case of emergency – Player emergency contacts are stored onsite.

Last game of the day:

Check lighting. You may have to turn on lights. Confer with umpires

(light switch is on external wall of right hand dug out- when facing the pitch)

- All of the above, **as** well as ensuring the “Office/Tech area” is tidy at the completion of games i.e. clipboards and pens returned to shelves, injury book and instructions stowed in plastic filing container.
- Game cards have been photographed and sent to recorder (Karen Barry 2024) ph 0419 420 505, then stowed in MHI filing crate (Women’s scorecards)
- Lights and scoreboard on external wall are switched off.
- Lock doors leading into dugouts and exit by the back door of “Office/Tech area” to lock it.
- Check dugouts for cleanliness and lost property. Chairs are stacked and/or tidy.
- Check through toilet block, turn off lights, ensure door is latched at the bottom, then press lock button on back before pulling door closed to lock it.