

SYDNEY NORTH WOMENS
HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC

Competition Rules

Amendments Made:

.1 - 07 April '17

.2 - 04 April '18

1. REGISTRATION OF TEAMS AND PLAYERS

- 1.1 Clubs shall submit to Hockey NSW, by the due date, a completed list of players whom they wish to register in accordance with the requirements of Hockey NSW.
- 1.2 The Competition shall consist of a number of grades - Open and Age Restricted grades as numbers permit. Age restrictions shall be determined as at 1st January of the Competition Year. Players shall be eligible to play in all grades except where precluded by age.
- 1.3 Nominated teams shall be available to play in grading matches, if required.
- 1.4 There shall be at least seven (7) players per team entered in the competition. All players must be registered.
- 1.5 Clubs may register additional players during the season by the normal processes. After the 1st July, any new registration must be approved by the Executive.
- 1.6 Any Club fielding an unregistered player shall be liable to a fine and the game shall be forfeited.

2. GRADING OF TEAMS

- 2.1 Clubs may appeal against grading of teams by submitting to the SNWHA Committee within four (4) days of the publication of such gradings, a written request detailing the grounds of the appeal and containing all information which the Club wishes to be taken into consideration.
- 2.2 The Committee may arrange any grading matches it considers necessary to resolve appeals or to establish the accuracy of the gradings.
- 2.3 Such grading matches shall be of an appropriate duration and shall be watched by at least two (2) members of the Committee or their nominated representatives.
- 2.4 Final gradings shall be published in the Official Draw.
- 2.5 Clubs affected by a change in grading or whose appeal has failed shall be notified.

3. CHANGE OF CLUB

- 3.1 A player who wishes to change Clubs must obtain a written clearance from the Club with which she is registered.
- 3.2 This Clearance must indicate that the player has met in full her financial commitment to the Club she is leaving, and must be submitted to the Registrar before she may represent another Club.

4. CONDITIONS OF PLAY

- 4.1 Once the final draw for the season has been approved and sent out to all clubs, there will be no opportunity for club to move/adjust/reschedule dates and time slots.
- 4.2 No team may commence or continue a game with less than seven (7) players (Penalty: forfeit).
- 4.3 Each team shall not field more than 16 players – eleven (11) players and five (5) interchange players (Penalty: forfeit, fine). You can register more if required.
- 4.4 Any team may interchange up to five (5) players at any time during the match provided that such interchange takes place in accordance with the Rules of Play. No player sent from the field of play for disciplinary reasons may be substituted by another player.
- 4.5 Players arriving late may take the field at a time specified by and with the approval of the umpire.
- 4.6 Should the Committee be satisfied that a player has played under a false name and that an intention existed on her part (or on the part of her team or her Club or on the part of a person of her Club who entered a false name on a score card) to execute but conceal a breach of these Rules, the Committee may impose the following penalties:
- 4.6.1 Forfeiture of the match and the loss of two (2) additional competition points by the team concerned.
- 4.6.2 suspension of the offending player for one match.
- 4.7 Competition points shall be awarded as follows:
- | | | |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Win | - | 3 points |
| Draw | - | 1 point |
| Loss | - | 0 point |
| Bye | - | 2 points |
| Forfeit win | - | 3 points (3 goals to nil to team receiving forfeit) |
| Both team Forfeit | - | 0 points (0-0 goal) |
- 4.8 Inclement Weather –
- 4.8.1 In the event of inclement weather, the umpires shall decide whether play is possible, in line with ‘duty of care’ provisions.
- 4.8.2 In the event that play is not possible or games are abandoned before the completion of the first half due to inclement weather, they will be abandoned and declared draws.

- 4.8.3 Games shall be considered abandoned if, during the second half, the umpires, in consultation with the captains, decide that continuation of play is undesirable or impossible. The score of an abandoned game shall stand and points shall be awarded accordingly, subject to the approval of the Committee.
- 4.9 That the duration of play for matches will be in accordance with F.I.H. Rules.
- 4.10 No current Metro League Player (SWHL) in ML1 or ML2 are permitted to play. Teams can only play down a maximum of 2 players as substitutes from their lowest ranked SWHL team, excl ML1 and ML2 teams. Their qualification for the semi's will not be automatic, and will be subject to the Committee's approval.
- 4.11 Playing up/down a grade -
- 4.11.1 Any number of players from a club team in a lower division can play in a team in a higher division, for the same club, and qualify for the finals series.
- 4.11.2 Only 2 players from a club team in a higher division can play in a team in a lower division for the same club per game. Their qualification for the lower team for the semi's will not be automatic, and will be subject to the Committee's approval.
- 4.12 Only 2 players from a team in the same club can play in another team, from the same club, in the same division in any one game.

5. TEAM CAPTAINS

- 5.1 A team captain, or her nominated delegate, shall be responsible each game for:
- 5.1.1 ensuring that her team is correctly attired in the registered uniform of her Club.
- 5.1.2 providing a regulation match ball.
- 5.1.3 completing the score card, recording the names of the players and passing the card to the umpire prior to the commencement of the match.
- 5.1.4 informing the umpire of any interchange players and ensuring that such interchanges are recorded on the score card.
- 5.1.5 checking the final result and other relevant details on the score card and signing the card as correct.
- 5.1.6 returning the completed score card to the Registrar. Clubs shall be liable for a fine for score cards not returned to the Registrar.

6. MATCH CARDS

- 6.1 If a team neglects to return a match card to the Registrar within seventy two (72) hours of the completion of the game, the game may be deemed forfeited to the opposition.
- 6.2 The Registrar may, at the accumulation of six (6) noted card errors, deduct one (1) competition point from the offending team.

7. UNIFORMS

- 7.1 Each season Clubs must submit their colours and uniform to the Committee for approval.
- 7.2 All women be permitted to wear skirts or shorts in the approved club colours.
- 7.3 By the third competition round all players must wear their Club's registered uniform.

8. FORFEITS

- 8.1 A team unable to take the field within twenty (20) minutes of the scheduled commencement of play as stated in the Official Draw shall be deemed to have forfeited the match.
- 8.2 When both teams are unable to take the field within twenty (20) minutes of the scheduled commencement of play, both teams forfeit.
- 8.3 If a team forfeits a game with advance notice, the forfeiting team must:
 - Inform SHWHA Committee
 - Notify the opposing team

9. POSITION IN THE COMPETITION

- 9.1 At the end of the competition rounds, the position of teams shall be determined by the number of points gained by each team in the round matches.
- 9.2 Where points are equal, goal differences shall determine the position of these teams. (Goal difference = total goals for, less total goals against). In the event goal differences are equal, goal averages shall be used (ascertained by dividing the number goals scored by each team, by the number of goals against that team). In the event of everything being equal, the final placing shall be determined by the best of three (3) tosses of a coin.

10. GRADING OF PLAYERS' QUALIFICATION FOR FINAL MATCHES

10.1 A player will be eligible to play in semi-finals, finals and grand finals if they have played a minimum of six (6) competition games in such grades or teams subject to the following:

10.1.1 In the case of players who regularly play a) in more than one (1) grade, or b) in more than one team in the same grade, the following shall apply:

To qualify for semi finals, finals and grand finals in a grade or team, a player must have played at least three (3) of their last five (5) competition rounds in that team/grade or a lower graded/positioned team in the competition.

10.1.2 Players that do not satisfy this criteria can apply to the Committee for a ruling.

11. FINAL SERIES

11.1 In all final matches, the playing times shall be in accordance with the F.I.H. Rules or as specified elsewhere in these Rules.

11.2 If at the completion of any semi final, preliminary final and grand final match, the scores are equal, the following extra time period occur:

11.2.1 A 5 minute break before 2 periods of 5 minutes will be played with a change of ends, no break.

11.2.2 2 players from each team will drop off for the first 5 minutes, and a further 2 players will drop off for the second 5 minutes.

11.2.3 The extra time period is golden goal. Either the match is ended by a goal being scored, or time expiring.

11.2.4 If no goal has been scored and time has expired, the team finishing higher on the ladder will be determined the winner.

11.2.5 For grand finals, the match will be decided by a penalty stroke competition, in accordance with the regulations as set out in the current Rule Book.

12. UMPIRES

12.1 Clubs shall be responsible for providing umpires as directed by the Committee.

12.2 Clubs failing to meet this responsibility shall be liable to a \$80 fine.

12.3 Finals matches shall be controlled by umpires appointed by the Committee.

12.3.1 Where possible graded umpires from within the Association shall be appointed to finals matches.

12.4 Umpires shall ensure that score cards are completed, showing:

- Names of players and marking off of such players.
- Names of interchange players and marking off of such players.
- Names of any players sent from the field or awarded disciplinary cards or equivalent.
- Names of goal scorers.
- Signatures of Umpires.
- Final score.
- Award of Best and Fairest points as required.

12.5 Any Umpire permanently suspending a player from further participation in a game must record the incident on the score card and must submit a written report to the Secretary within forty-eight (48) hours.

12.6 A player receiving 3 yellow cards shall receive an automatic one week suspension. A player receiving a red card shall be investigated by the executive with a possible suspension.

13. INTERPRETATION OF THE COMPETITION RULES

Any contingencies not provided for in these Competition Rules shall be referred to the Committee for a decision.

14. ALTERATION OF THE COMPETITION RULES

Any alteration to these Competition Rules shall be made at the Annual General Meeting or at a General Meeting of the Committee by a two-thirds majority of those present and eligible to vote.

15. JUDICIARY

Judiciary meetings may be held to address the following

- Red cards awarded by match umpires.
- Acts detrimental to the sport of hockey.

They will be organised by the SNWHA Committee.