



NEWCASTLE DISTRICT WOMEN'S
HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.
(NDWHA)

ABN: 46 245 519 682

RULES OF COMPETITION

2026 WINTER SEASON

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These rules apply to all players, spectators, umpires, coaches, and officials of all Clubs and should be read in full. Any reference to NDWHA, Hockey Newcastle Ltd, HNSW or NIHC in the following rules should be taken as meaning NDHWA Inc., Hockey NSW or NIHC Inc. respectively.

All correspondence regarding the Rules of Competition must come via Club Executives to ndwha@newcastlehockey.com.au

1. Organisation of Competitions

A. Senior Competition

- i. The Senior Competition is open to all teams of affiliated Clubs with a membership of not less than twelve players.
- ii. A player can play with only one (1) Club in the NDWHA competition with the exception of Rule [5D \(iv\)](#) and [5D \(v\)](#).
- iii. Players who wish to play in the senior competition must play in 4th grade or higher when selected in the NDWHA Newcastle 1s representative teams for the preceding calendar year.
- iv. Representative players selected in a HNSW field squad in the preceding calendar year are not permitted to play below 3rd grade in the senior competition.
- v. A player wishing to play in the senior competition in 2nd grade or below must have attained the age of thirteen (13) years by 1st January of that year.
- vi. Players will be permitted to participate in the Premier League competition once they have reached the age of 14 years regardless of age as of 1st January of that year. Where a player under the age of 14 years is seeking permission to play in the Premier League competition, an age waiver application must be submitted by the player's Club. The Board of NDWHA will consider each application, as submitted by the respective Club, on its merits. Applications submitted by individuals will not be considered.
- vii. Any player wishing to transfer to another Club must obtain a written, (email) clearance from a Club Committee member, where applicable, of the Club from which they are transferring from to be sent to the club they are joining and Senior Coordinator for approval prior to the transferring player taking the field.
- viii. Players wishing to transfer to another Club during the season must apply in writing to the Board of Management of NDWHA stating their reasons. If the transfer is granted, the players must stand down for the next one (1) competition game (3rd grade and below) after approval has been granted; that being the competition game of the team to which they are transferring. If the transferring player enters or is part of the Club Premier League and 2nd grade squad, they must stand down for the next complete squad round.
- ix. If a player wishes to play in a team, within the same Club, lower than two grades from the previous season, permission must be sought from the Senior Co-ordinator. The player cannot take the field in that lower grade until permission is granted.
- x. If a senior team contains a player under the age of 18 years, a female coach/manager over 18 years must be present when there is a male coach or manager on the bench.

- xi. A NSW or Australian representative player who has previously been registered with a NDWHA club for a minimum of three years (which may be non-consecutive), or who was a junior player in a NDWHA competition at any time, may play during the current season. In order to qualify for the finals, the representative player must play a minimum of three round games of the current season.

B. Junior Competition

- i. A Junior Competition shall be conducted for affiliated Clubs comprised of girls who are under the age of 18 years as at the 1st January of that year or boys who are under the age of 10 years as at the 1st January of that year.
- ii. For the 2026 season, the junior competition is aged based with the divisions being: -
 - a) U8 - players born in 2018, 2019
 - b) U10 - players born in 2016, 2017
 - c) U12 - players born in 2014, 2015
 - d) U14 - players born in 2012, 2013
 - e) U16/18 - players born in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011
- iii. All requests for exemptions must be submitted to the Junior Co-ordinator by the Club Secretary. Approval must be received before the player can take the field.
- iv. Teams in Junior grades must have a membership of not less than 11 players of correct age as per 1B (ii) a) to e). The minimum number of players may be reduced at the start of each season by the Board of Management to accommodate the current number of junior registrations and still facilitate a junior competition.
- v. Players must be registered with one club. Any player wishing to transfer to another club must obtain a written clearance from the club of origin, sent to and approved by the Junior Co-ordinator prior to the transferring player taking the field. If transferring during the season, once approved by the Junior Co-ordinator, players must stand down for the next one (1) competition game of the team to which they are transferring.
- vi. All teams must have either an adult (over 18 years old) female coach or a female manager on the bench at all times.

C. Other Hockey Competitions

- i. Details regarding the administration of any other competitions run by the Association will be advised prior to or during the commencement of that competition by the responsible Co-ordinator.

2. Rules of Hockey

- i. The competition play shall be conducted in accordance with the current International Hockey Federation (FIH) rules in conjunction with HNSW and subsequent changes of those rules will automatically apply where the association can viably facilitate them.

3. Attire

A. Club Uniforms

- i. Players in the Association's competition matches must wear the uniform of the Club with which they are registered.
- ii. Clubs upon affiliation shall make an application to the Board of Management of NDWHA concerning the uniform to be worn by their Club members. These details will be recorded in an appropriate log.
- iii. The uniform style and colours shall be approved by the Board of Management of NDWHA and thereafter shall not be worn by the members of any other Club. Changes or alterations to the approved uniform must be submitted for approval to the Board of Management of NDWHA and may not be worn until such approval has been given. Following approval of a change or alteration of shirt design, clubs are to number each shirt. Upon approval, Premier league teams are permitted to have a designated premier league uniform.
- iv. When Clubs with similar uniforms, as confirmed by the Board of Management of NDWHA, are playing one another they will be required to have an alternate strip (socks and shirt) available to be worn by the team listed second on the draw.
- v. All Clubs must supply a digital image of the full uniform, front and back, for inclusion on the uniform register. This image must be supplied on approval of the uniform, and resupplied on approval of any subsequent changes.
- vi. No player shall take the field wearing any item of jewellery, clothing or non-prescription glasses which is considered dangerous.
- vii. 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 they are playing. Goalkeepers must continue to be attired in accordance with the FIH Rules of Hockey. On-field coaches must wear appropriate footwear and are strongly encouraged to wear shin pads.
- viii. Players who wish to be exempt from wearing mouth guards are to supply in writing a letter on letterhead from their dentist/doctor stating this fact each season. The letter is to be submitted to the Senior Co-ordinator and an acknowledgement received prior to taking the field for the first game without a mouth guard. The exemption must be made available on request by the umpire from the player.

- ix. No player shall take the field unless they are correctly attired in the uniform of the Club with which they are registered, unless prior approval has been given for temporary variation in uniform. Umpires will be advised of any temporary approved variations by the NDWHA Board of Management. The goalkeeper is exempt.
- x. All players must be in the same team uniform to take the field e.g.: play up player.

B. Suitability of Uniform

- i. All players must play in approved club skirts or shorts, with the exception of the goalkeeper. Fitted bike shorts or full briefs must be worn under the skirts. They must either be the colour of the skirt or dark.
- ii. Length of skirt to be appropriate. Undergarments must not be sighted during play.
- iii. Shirts must not be of a length to cover the skirt.
- iv. All Senior and Junior grades (excluding modified competitions) are to have numbered shirts. Shirt numbers are to be entered in Revolutionise by 30 April each year.

4. Points Score

- i. Points will be allocated as follows:
 - (a) Three (3) points for a win
 - (b) Three (3) points for a win by forfeiture
 - (c) Two (2) point for a draw
 - (d) One (1) point for a loss
 - (e) Nil (0) points for a loss by forfeiture
- i. If a team plays an unregistered or ineligible player, that team shall forfeit the match and points shall be recorded accordingly.
- ii. A team receiving a forfeit will receive a score of three (3) goals. The forfeiting team will receive no (0) goals.
- iii. Should teams be equal on point score at the end of the competition rounds, the placings will be decided in the following manner:
 - (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, to the games in which the teams played each other

5. Team Entry

A. Number of players

i. Seniors

- (a) Twelve (12) players must be registered in each team to a maximum of twenty (20) players.
- (b) A minimum of seven (7) players will be required before a team can take the field of play.

ii. Juniors

- (a) A minimum of eleven (11) players of age must be registered in each team.
- (b) No junior player may play down except for the goalkeeper who may play down as a field player with written permission from the Junior Co-ordinator.
- (c) A minimum of seven (7) players including a goalkeeper will be required before a team can take the field of play.
- (d) U12 coaches are permitted to coach on the field up to and including the first half of the season. Whilst on the field the coach must wear appropriate footwear and is encouraged to wear shin pads. For the remainder of the season, they are permitted to coach from the sideline only.
- (e) All team managers and officials should remain in the dugout during play unless attending to the needs of a player.

B. Team and Player Registrations

- i. All persons entering the dugout and field of play must be registered with Newcastle Hockey Association <https://www.revolutionise.com.au/nha/registration>.
- ii. Players must have paid the HNSW registration fee prior to taking the field for their first game.
- iii. Senior Clubs must submit interim team lists to the Senior Co-ordinator by Friday 13 March 2026.
- iv. Junior Clubs must submit interim team lists to the Junior Co-ordinator by Friday 13 March 2026.
- v. All Senior team lists to be entered in Revolutionise by 27 March 2026.
- vi. All Junior team lists to be entered in Revolutionise by 26 March 2026.
- vii. Junior team lists must provide each player's date of birth and also include a contact person, unique to each team.
- viii. NDWHA will determine the late registration date at the commencement of each season, to be advised on Information Night. Late registration date for the 2026 Season is 30 April 2026.

- ix. Failure to submit completed team details within nominated registration time will result in a:
 - (a) penalty of three (3) competition points per offending team for each round that registration details are late. Points will be deducted from the overall competition point score.
 - (b) \$100.00 Fine.
- x. Late player registrations must:
 - (a) Register online with HNSW paying the full HNSW registration fee, and
 - (b) Pay the NDWHA affiliation fee into the NDWHA nominated bank account, and
 - (c) Submit the official HNSW receipt of payment, NDWHA payment transfer (clearly showing the bank account number to the Board of Management of NDWHA (Treasurer; Secretary; Senior Coordinator and/or Junior Coordinator) and have it approved prior to taking the field on their first day of play.

These players may be reviewed by the appropriate Senior Co-ordinator or Junior Co-ordinator in order to assess whether the grading has been made appropriately.

- xi. Any changes or alterations made to the submitted team sheet must be requested in writing to the Secretary, with a copy to the Treasurer, Senior or Junior Co-ordinator and acknowledgement received. This must be maintained and updated throughout the year.
- xii. No team will be accepted after 15 March 2025 unless special circumstances have arisen and will be reviewed by the Board of Management of NDWHA.
- xiii. No new registrations will be accepted after 31 July each year.

C. Premier League Squad

- i. Clubs are to nominate a Premier League Squad of twenty four (24) to thirty two (32) players, including two goalkeepers, to cover both Premier League and 2nd grade.
- ii. Clubs are to nominate their top nine (9) primary Premier League players by round one (1) of competition. These nominated Premier League players are subject to review by the Senior Co-ordinator and grading committee, and shall not be permitted to play in 2nd grade.
- iii. Players in the top nine (9) are deemed supplementary after an absence of three consecutive games and will be replaced with an additional player from the Premier League Squad. This supplementary player must return to the top 9 unless a regrade has been approved.
- iv. The additional player must be identified to the Senior Co-ordinator, as a top nine (9) player, prior to taking the field.
- v. Any breach to the squad rules will result in penalties to both Premier League and 2nd grade teams.
- vi. Premier League Squad players will qualify for the final series in the grade they have played the most games: if this is equal, they then qualify for the higher graded team. Players must still play at least 60% of the games in their qualifying grade to qualify for the final series.

- vii. Players graded with teams from the Central Coast Hockey Association qualify under the following conditions:-
 - (a) As per the Premier League rule [C\(vi\)](#)
 - (b) Qualify in the Central Coast Hockey Association Division 1 competition. This information is provided to the Senior Co-ordinator by the Central Coast Hockey Women's Representative following the completion of the regular season.
- viii. In the event that a club includes two second grade teams, the club shall have the option to run either two Premier League Squads or grade one second grade team below the squad and utilise the play across rules ([D Grading \(v\)](#)). This decision must be submitted to the Senior Coordinator prior to round one (1) of competition.
- ix. Where a club has selected to run two squads the following rules shall apply:
 - (a) Both squads are to be named at the start of the season
 - (b) Squad members are **not permitted to play across the grade**

D. Grading

- i. Players must not play on the field in a grade lower than that in which they are registered. Should a team play a player on the field in a grade lower than that in which they are registered, that team will forfeit the game and the forfeit conditions will apply.
- ii. Any player in the senior competition may play in any grade higher than that which they are registered, in any position. Players playing more than nine (9) games in a higher grade will be regraded into the next highest team within their club. Accumulation of games will start from Round one (1) and players will be regraded immediately after they play the tenth (10th) game.
- iii. Each senior team may register a maximum of two (2) goalkeepers. Any player registered as a goalkeeper may also register as a field player, and any field player may also register as a goalkeeper. Players registering as both goalkeepers and field players are considered to have two separate registrations and must qualify for each registration. Players registering as both goalkeepers and field players are permitted a maximum of two grades variation between the registrations. Teams may make application to the Senior Co-ordinator. Play down goalkeepers are ineligible to take strokes in the play down grade.
- iv. Field players from single team clubs may play a goalkeeper for a different single team club, with a maximum of two grades variation and with prior Board of Management of NDWHA approval. Note: there is no guarantee that fixtures will not clash for both teams.
- v. If a Senior Club has two or more teams graded into second grade see rule ([C Premier League \(viii\)](#)). For all other Senior grades, such teams shall be numbered according to their "team position" within their Club. Only players from the lower numbered team are permitted to play across the grade.
- vi. A team can apply to the Senior Co-ordinator for a team regrade at any time up to and including the completion of the first two games of the competition. If a transfer is approved the points accumulated up to the time of the regrade will be carried forward.

- vii. Senior Co-ordinator can regrade a team up to and including the 31st July. If a regrade occurs the points accumulated up to the time of the regrade will be carried forward.
- viii. The Senior Co-ordinator can regrade an individual player at any time of the competition.
- ix. The lowest graded team in 5th grade and below, in any senior club may play down no more than three (3) nominated field players and one (1) nominated Goal Keeper from the grade above, provided:
 - a) there is no more than one (1) grade difference between the teams. Clubs with gaps within their grades can apply, in writing, to the Senior Coordinator for an exemption.
 - b) a maximum of twelve (12) players take the field in that designated game.
 - c) no player plays down more than nine (9) games within the season.
 - d) a player playing in the lower grade is not to participate in penalty stroke during the regular season and finals, and in shoot out during finals.
 - e) the nominated play down players do not play up in the grade(s) above their nominated grade.
 - f) the three (3) play down field players and one (1) play down Goal Keeper are approved by the Senior Coordinator prior to taking the field.

Players breaching this rule will be deemed ineligible players and the team they are being played in will lose three (3) competition points.

- x. Junior teams do not have to register a goalkeeper; however, they must have a goalkeeper on the field at all times for each game.
- xi. Junior teams may nominate a maximum of three (3) players as goalkeepers.

6. Fees

- i. Direct deposit details are:
 - Name of Account:** Newcastle District Women's Hockey Association Inc.
 - ANZ Bank:** Branch Newcastle West
 - BSB:** 012-780
 - Account No:** 2065-88567
- ii. For all Electronic Funds transactions please include **Club Name** and Invoice Number as a reference in the transaction description details. For all deposits made directly at a Bank please include the Club name and or phone number in the transaction description details. Please advise NDWHA Treasurer of the deposit by email. Deposits not referenced will not be processed.
- iii. Each senior and junior club or group must pay a nomination fee of \$200 (GST inclusive) per team, for entry to the competition, prior to 'Team Nomination Date' (1 March 2026). All teams which have failed to pay the fees due will not be accepted.

- iv. Late player registrations from 1 May must pay the required HNSW registration fee and NDWHA affiliation fee and lodge their proof of payment with the Board of Management of NDWHA for approval prior to taking the field.
- v. Fees payable in respect of turf fees must be paid directly to NDWHA as advised and invoiced by NDWHA. The method of payment is by direct deposit only.
- vi. NDWHA Affiliation fees will be determined and approved by the Board of Management of NDWHA. These fees will be invoiced to clubs by NDWHA and must be paid in full by 31 May. The initial nomination fee will be deducted from the total of these fees.
- vii. Failure to comply with [Section 6 - Fees](#) will result in a penalty of three (3) competition points, per team, for each round 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.
- viii. A fine of \$100 (GST inclusive) per occurrence shall be charged as penalties for the following:
 - (a) Teams withdrawing from the competition after the commencement of the first round. The team nomination fee will be forfeited.
 - (b) Clubs adding a team to the competition after 15 March 2026.
 - (c) Failure by a Club to pay their invoiced turf and affiliation fees by the due date.
 - (d) A second breach of these rules by the same Club will incur a 3-point penalty for all registered Club teams.
- ix. All players, including representative players, must be financial with their Club, Newcastle International Hockey Centre (NIHC), and NDWHA prior to participating in any NDWHA Competition. Unfinancial players will be unable to play in any NDWHA competition until cleared by their respective Club or NIHC.
- x. All Clubs and representative players must be financial with NDWHA before the commencement of the final series. Unfinancial players and or Clubs will be unable to play in the final series.
- xi. A member or Club aggrieved with a decision of the Board of Management of NDWHA or one of its subcommittees, may appeal to the Board of Management of NDWHA via their Club Secretary by lodging with the Secretary of NDWHA a notice to that effect. A non-refundable fee of \$100 must be lodged with the notice for it to be considered.

7. Team Gradings

- i. Teams are graded prior to the commencement of each competition by the Senior Co-ordinator. The Co-ordinator may call for trial games between teams to assist with grading.
- ii. Appeals by any Club concerning grading must be lodged, in writing, from the club Secretary to the Secretary of NDWHA, with a copy to the Senior Co-ordinator within forty- eight (48) hours of such grading being published or notified to the Club in question.

- iii. Any Club requesting a regrade, and any teams that the Senior Co-ordinator wishes to review, must attend on grading days.
- iv. Any Club may apply for a regrade for any individual player for reasons due to merit, discipline, injury, or illness. The application, by the Club Secretary, must be made in writing to the Secretary of NDWHA, with a copy to the appropriate Senior Co-ordinator or Junior Co-ordinator. The Board of Management of NDWHA will bring down a decision after hearing the recommendation of the Senior Co-ordinator or Junior Co-ordinator. Such regrades will not be automatic. Notification of the decision on an application for regrade will be given in writing. The player must not play in a lower grade than that in which she is registered until receipt of such notification. A regraded player will take accumulated qualification matches with them when regraded.
- v. The Secretary of the registered Club can apply for a regrade of a player up to, and including, the 31st July 2026. There will be no requests for regrades available after this time.

8. Abandonment of Matches

A. Postponements

- i. Provision will be made for matches to be postponed in light of prevailing weather conditions, with the decision to be made by the Officiating Co-ordinator, Senior Co-ordinator or Junior Co-ordinator. If none of the above personnel are available, then the highest-ranking Board Member will make the decision in conjunction with NIHC. Where possible, information will be posted on NIHC and NDWHA communication platforms.
- ii. In the event of storms with lightning, the NIHC Duty Officer will be responsible for calling players from the field. Should the NIHC Duty Officer be unavailable, the Umpires and/or any available NDWHA Board of Management members will be able to call the players from the field, in accordance with the relevant Hockey NSW guideline.

B. Senior Competition

- i. If during a match of the Senior Competition, there is an injury or there are weather conditions prevailing that would make the continuation of such match or matches 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 said 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 five (5) days written notice of the rescheduling of that match.
 - (c) The results of any matches completed prior to the decision to abandon matches shall stand as indicated on the scorecard at the completion of said matches.

- (d) Any full round of competition postponed due to the prevailing weather conditions will be scheduled at a time designated by the Senior Co-ordinator.
- (e) Teams may apply for consideration regarding rescheduling matches within five (5) days of the announcement of a rescheduled match. The application must be made, in writing, by the Club Secretary to the Secretary of NDWHA with a copy to the Senior Co-ordinator. After hearing the recommendation of the Senior Coordinator, the Board of Management of NDWHA will provide notification, in writing, of the decision. Such consideration will not be automatic.
- (f) The decisions of the Board of Management of NDWHA will be final.

C. Junior Competition

- i. If during a match of the Junior Competition there is an injury or there are weather conditions prevailing that would make the continuation of said match or matches dangerous to the participants, the following decisions and results should apply:
 - (a) Games will be rescheduled using available turf time. Only in the event of no turf availability the result of the match will be determined by 'If a majority of games in a round of competition for any individual grade has to be cancelled because of injury or prevailing weather conditions the result of the match should be indicated as a draw and each team should be allocated two (2) competition points'.
 - (b) If the match has been in progress for at least 75% of the scheduled game time, the result of the game at the time of abandonment will be as indicated on the score card and treated as the final result of said match.
 - (c) Should a match be abandoned prior to the completion of 75% of the allocated time for that match, or any matches scheduled after the abandonment of play for the day of that competition round, some matches may not be rescheduled for completion if the result of the same will not affect the final results in regard to participation of the said teams in semi-final matches.
 - (d) The decisions of the Board of Management of NDWHA will be final.

9. Deferred Fixtures

- i. The only competition matches that may be deferred are those where individual teams have four (4) or more players representing NDWHA, HNSW or Hockey Australia in sanctioned events as a player or official.
- ii. Deferments may be granted to teams where a written application and submission of NDWHA Deferment Request Form by the Club Secretary to the Secretary of NDWHA, with a copy to the Senior Co-ordinator or Junior Co-ordinator, at least one (1) month prior to the Championships, is received. In situations where representative teams are announced less than one (1) month prior to the conduct of the said championships, and in these circumstances only, special consideration may be given by the Board of Management of NDWHA for a deferment.
- iii. One (1) deferment per team per season is allowable.

- iv. Any deferred matches will be scheduled at a time designated by the Co-ordinator and will be advised in writing to the Club or Group contact only.

10. Forfeiture

- i. Any team intending to forfeit a match must give notice to the relevant Co-ordinator, Treasurer and Secretary of Board of Management of NDWHA. Notification is to be provided by the Club via their Board of Management. This is at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the match. A forfeit with insufficient notice or at any time during the game will result in the forfeiting team being required to pay the full hire of the turf and full payment to the umpires.
- ii. A team that forfeits two (2) matches in the NDWHA competition will be required to provide a reasonable explanation in writing to the Secretary with a copy sent to the relevant Co-ordinator.
- iii. A team that is more than seven (7) minutes late in taking the field shall be deemed to have forfeited the match.
- iv. 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.
- v. In extenuating circumstances, a written application may be made to the Board of Management of NDWHA for consideration of the reasons leading to the forfeiture.
- vi. When a 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.
- vii. The decision of the Board of Management of NDWHA will be final.

11. Code of Conduct

This Code of Conduct (the Code) should be read in conjunction with the Hockey NSW code of conduct provisions and the Constitution of the NDWHA. This Code of Conduct shall apply to all players, members, parents, spectators, 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.

- i. 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 spectator.
 - (b) Abuse or intimidate, either verbally or physically, an Umpire, an Official, another player or 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) In any way use crude or abusive or objectionable hand signals or other gestures.

- (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 full name and registered address if required by an Umpire or Official for any reason.
 - (h) Comment publicly, either verbally or in writing, on social media, 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) Act in a manner contravening the Hockey Australia National Integrity Framework, NDWHA Inc. Use of Electronic Media and Social Networking Sites Policy.
- ii. Where the Code or behaviour of any person referred to in [Section 11](#) is to be the subject of a report by an Umpire or Official, the Umpire or Official shall:
- (a) Where appropriate, 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.
 - (b) Where appropriate, inform both Captains, or the person acting in the capacity as Captain, on the day of the alleged conduct or behaviour that the person is to be the subject of such a report. Where the Captain is the subject of the report, then another player on the team should be informed; if the person is under 18 years of age, inform the child's parents or in the parent's absence the child's coach or manager.
 - (c) Inform the Board of Management of NDWHA as soon as practicable after the alleged conduct or behaviour that a report is to be submitted.
 - (d) Submit to the Secretary of the Association within 48 hours of the incident, a written report containing details of the alleged conduct or behaviour, including the names of the persons informed.
 - (e) Attend the meeting of the Judiciary Committee when required.
- iii. Where the conduct or behaviour of any person referred is the subject of a report by an Affiliated Club, the Secretary of said club shall:
- (a) Verbally inform the Board of Management of NDWHA President or Officiating Co-ordinator as soon as practicable after the alleged conduct or behaviour that a report is to be submitted.
 - (b) Submit to the Secretary of the Board of Management of NDWHA within forty-eight (48) hours of the incident, a written report containing details of the alleged conduct or behaviour.
 - (c) Attend the meeting of the Judiciary Committee when required.
- iv. Where the conduct or behaviour of any person referred to in [Section 11](#) 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 Board of Management of NDWHA containing details of the alleged conduct or behaviour:
- (a) The Board of Management of NDWHA shall have the power to initiate Judiciary proceedings against any Club official, team, player or other person it considers necessary. Incidences of misconduct shall be heard by a Judiciary Committee.

- (b) In accordance with the member protection / safe hockey policy, reports of misconduct other than those relating to cards awarded during play; will be investigated prior to determining if a judiciary hearing is to be attended. The person subject to the report will be invited to discuss the reported issue with a representative nominated by the executive. They will be given the opportunity to provide an account of the reported event and will be provided with details of the report. Personal details and contact details will only be provided with the permission of those involved.
- (c) All attempts will be made to resolve complaints of misconduct with sensitivity and with the primary goal of preventing further occurrences.
- (d) In the event that the misconduct is severe, and the matter remains unresolved after initial investigation The Board of Management of NDWHA 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 breach(s) listed for hearing.
- (e) The Judiciary Committee shall ensure that the party appearing before the Judiciary Committee is granted fair hearing. While a player does not have the right to legal representation at a judiciary hearing under the Rules of Competition, the Constitution, or the Regulations of NDWHA, at the discretion of the Committee Chair both parties may be legally represented. An Official of the Club or team of which the person is a member, may accompany the person, provided such representative does not hold legal qualifications.
- (f) The Judiciary Committee shall impose a penalty considered appropriate to the circumstances and their decision shall be final. An appeal may be lodged in accordance with [Section 19](#) of the Rules of Competition or the Constitution of the Association (for off field events).
- (g) The Chair of the Judiciary Committee shall confirm, in writing, the Judiciary Committee's decision to the parties involved on the night the Judiciary's decision was made.
- (h) In Judiciary matters involving players and/or Clubs of other Associations, the Judiciary Committee of such Associations shall meet to hear evidence but in making their decision, each Committee shall do so regarding its own respective Association.

12. Judiciary Committee

A. Hearings

- i. The Judiciary Committee will convene within a fortnight to hear any complaints from a player, member or official and including a complaint in regard to a breach of the Code of Conduct in accordance with [Section 11 - Code of Conduct](#). If the player is unable to attend on the appointed date, they must then give the Judiciary Committee seven days' notice to reconvene. All complaints are to be heard in an appropriate time frame. Provisions can be made for extension of these times in exceptional circumstances.
- ii. On or before Information Day all clubs are required to nominate one person to be a member of the Judiciary Committee. This person will be required to participate on the Judiciary Committee as requested by the Officiating Co-ordinator.

- iii. 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 section [12D](#),
 - (c) Any combination of (a) and (b),
 - (d) Expel such person from the Association, or
 - (e) Otherwise deal with the person.
- iv. Any penalty imposed upon a person by the Judiciary Committee shall have effect immediately upon its imposition, notwithstanding the person's right of 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 and technical officials referring matters to the Judiciary Committee must forward a written report within forty-eight (48) hours of the occurrence, addressed to the Officiating Co-ordinator or have written a detailed account of the incident on the match card.
- 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 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 Officiating Co-ordinator must receive a written report from both umpires and any appointed technical official stating what they saw in relation to the event being heard by the Judiciary Committee as stated in Rule [12B\(i\)](#).

C. Regulation of Judiciary Committee Procedures

- i. The Judiciary Committee shall ensure that the party appearing before the Judiciary Committee is granted a fair hearing. While a player does not have the right to legal representation at a judiciary hearing under the Rules, the Constitution or the Regulations of NDWHA, at the discretion of the Committee Chair both parties may be legally represented. An Official of the Club or team of which the person is a member, may accompany the person, provided such representative does not hold legal qualifications.
- 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 and any technical official 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 Chair.

- 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 summoned 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 in person 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 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 by the Judiciary Committee, the case of the parties shall be presented in the order 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 Section C viii(a) to do either or any of the following:
 - (i) 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.
 - (ii) 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 Section C viii(b)(i).
 - (c) May require the persons referred to in Section C viii(a) 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 them under sub-clause (viii) 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 *	Maximum *
Assault / attempt to assault	2	20
Push	2	4
Shove	2	4
Kick	3	6
Hit	6	20
Spit	6	20
Verbal abuse	2	6
Dangerous tackle	6	20
Charging tackle	6	20
Repeated minor offences	1	6
Refuse to comply with reasonable request from Umpire / Official	2	4
Stick abuse (intentional throwing, etc)	4	10
Intoxicated / under influence of drugs	6	20
Behaviour bringing game into disrepute	1	20

Offences against Umpire / Official	Minimum *	Maximum *
Assault / attempt to assault	6	20
Touching	6	20
Shove / striking	10 years	Life
Verbal abuse	2	6
Dispute decision	2	6
Crude or abusive hand gestures / signals	2	6

Offences by Spectator to Umpire / Player	Minimum *	Maximum *
Verbal abuse	2	6
Assault / attempt assault	6	20

Offences to Code of Conduct	Minimum *	Maximum *
Single breach	1	4
Multiple breach	4	20

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

13. Duties of Registered Clubs

- i. The Club Secretary must complete the Club Information Online Form providing details of all requested Club positions outlined in the form within two (2) weeks of Information Day. The Secretary of Board of Management of NDWHA must be notified in writing (including email), of any changes to the above (including periods of absences).
- ii. The Club Secretary must forward to the appropriate Senior Co-ordinator and/or Junior Co-ordinator a nomination and fee, including preferred grades, for each team on or before Information Day.
- iii. The Team Captain or Club Secretary must forward to the appropriate Senior Co-ordinator and/or Junior Co-ordinator and Treasurer a final Team List and Revolutionise Export for each Club or team by Registration Day. In addition, the Team Captain or Club Secretary must ensure that all player HNSW registration and fees are completed.
- iv. The Club Secretary is responsible for ensuring all players have registered with HNSW in the Newcastle Hockey Revolutionise Database before taking the field. Failure to do so will result in the player being declared unregistered and result in forfeiture of the game.
- v. The Club must ensure the timely payment of all fees due and payable to the Board of Management of NDWHA. Failure to pay fees as invoiced will result in fines and loss of points in accordance with Section 6 Fees.
- vi. The Club must ensure that all members of the Club, or team, are aware of the rules of the NDWHA competition and that they agree to abide by them.
- vii. The Team Captain or Team Manager must ensure that all players initial the game card prior to the completion of the game and that the card is signed by the Team Captain after the completion of the game. Coaches, Managers and other Officials are not permitted to initial on behalf of players.
- viii. Players who have failed to sign the card prior to the completion of the game will be deemed not to have played and therefore are not covered by player accident insurance (PAI) and/or are deemed to have not scored a goal. Players refusing to sign the card will be considered to be not abiding by rules of NDWHA and the penalty detailed in Rule [12D](#) shall apply.
- ix. The Team Captain or Team Manager is responsible for ensuring that the Umpires are paid prior to the commencement of the game and must be paid by half time at the latest. This includes the finals series and if games are discontinued due to inclement weather or injury. Umpires for the grand finals will be paid by the Association.
- x. Clubs are required to provide one umpire for every two teams of the Club. The Club is responsible for ensuring that the teams meet their umpiring duties, if required.

- xi. The Club must submit to the Secretary of Board of Management of NDWHA a list of non-financial playing and non-playing members of the Club or team, prior to the 28th February the following year.
- xii. The 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.
- xiii. The Club Secretary must ensure that all correspondence sent to the Association is forwarded directly to the Association's Secretary at the Association's email address. If clubs wish for correspondence to be addressed at an NDWHA Board of Management meeting, it must be received by close of business on the first Monday of the month..
- xiv. The Club must ensure that the fixture results and other match information is entered into Revolutionise prior to the commencement of the following round.
- xv. The Team Captain/Manager is responsible for ensuring that any injury sustained by a player during a match is clearly recorded on the score card.

14. Umpires and Technical Officials 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. Umpires may 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 personal penalties (cards) issued to players/coaches or officials are recorded clearly on the score card, with the offence noted. In the event of a red card being issued, the Umpire must provide a written report to the Officiating Co-ordinator at umpire@ndwha.com.au within forty-eight (48) hours of the match completion. For all other personal penalties, the Umpire must record a detailed explanation on the score card.

B. Duties of Club

- i. The Club Secretary must complete the Club Information Online Form providing details of all requested Club positions outlined in the form' within two (2) weeks of Information Day. Position details to be provided include Executive board member positions, Safe Hockey Officer (previously Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO)), Judiciary Representative, Senior Grading Committee representative, Junior Committee representative and Senior Competition umpires.
- ii. By the commencement of the season all junior and senior clubs are to notify their respective Junior/Senior Co-ordinator(s) of their Revolutionise Sport Results Administrator.

C. 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 will commence regardless of their preparedness.
- ii. Check that all persons are always wearing their mouth guard except those noted on the match sheet.
- iii. Ensure that players are substituting at the halfway mark.
- iv. Ensure that all team officials remain in their dugouts at all times.
- v. Ensure that all team equipment is inside the dugout at all times to ensure safety of players and officials.
- vi. Be aware when umpires have called for player suspension and note who is controlling the time.
- vii. 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.
- viii. In the event of a penalty shoot-out, only players who have taken the field during the normal time are eligible to participate in shoot-out.
- ix. Check that all parts of the card are completed and signed at the completion of the game.
- x. Ensure that all documents are attached and returned to the relevant posting box for collection by the Officiating Co-ordinator.
- xi. Ensure that all cards issued to players/coaches or officials are recorded clearly on the score card, with the offence noted, and provide a written report (or email) to the Officiating Co-ordinator within forty-eight (48) hours.

15. Competitions – Format

- i. The only people permitted in the team dugout will be coach, manager, players, and team officials and they must be registered with HNSW. Only HNSW registered umpires, approved officials and members of the Board of Management shall be permitted to be in the officials' dugout.
- ii. The senior competition will be a minimum of fourteen (14) games and the junior competition will be a minimum of twelve (12) games.
- iii. The length of the senior games will be four (4) quarters of fifteen (15) minutes with two (2) minute breaks at the end of first and third quarters and a five (5) minute break at half time.
- iv. All junior grades will be played for twenty-five (25) minute halves with a break of five (5) minutes for half time.
- v. In the event that teams have not taken the field at the scheduled time for commencement, the umpires must provide teams with a warning at the two (2) minute mark prior to calling the game off at the seven (7) minute mark.
- vi. In the event that the electronic timing system is not functioning, the umpires will confirm the correct time using the median time on a timepiece, e.g.: umpire's watch. Umpires will indicate five (5), two (2) and one (1) minute remaining match time.
- vii. The four leading teams on the point score table in each grade shall compete in Semi Finals. In the event of a tied point score table, the positions shall be determined as set out in Rule [4\(iii\)](#). The Senior Coordinator will use discretion to apply an appropriate finals series per grade, considering differing numbers of teams in the grade. All finals series formats will be published by week four (4) of the competition.
- viii. Teams involved in the finals series must be financial. Unfinancial teams or players will be unable to take part in the series. Any team playing an unregistered or ineligible player in the finals series will be automatically disqualified from any further participation in the competition.
- ix. Players are not eligible to play in Semi-Finals, Preliminary Finals or Grand Finals unless they have played with their registered team for at least 60% of the team's scheduled games.
- x. Exemptions for qualification may be submitted to the respective Junior or Senior Co-ordinator under the following circumstances:
 - (a) Injury – applications must be submitted within three (3) weeks of the injury to the relevant Co-ordinator with supporting documentation – i.e. doctor's certificate/letter.
 - (b) Representative commitments for NDWHA, HNSW or Hockey Australia as a player, umpire or official. Notification must be submitted to the relevant Co-ordinator within two (2) weeks of the scheduled tournament.
 - (c) Exceptional circumstances – applications must be submitted at least seven (7) days before the semi finals.
 - (d) Exemptions are granted for the actual round(s) the exemption is being sought.

- xi. Late registered player's eligibility to play finals will be based on at least 60% of scheduled games from the player's registration date.
- xii. Junior players are not eligible to play in Senior Finals Series matches unless they have qualified with their registered senior team per Rule [15 \(viii\)](#).
- xiii. The team leading on points at the end of rounds shall be the Minor Premiers. Should there be two or more teams on the same leading points score, the minor premiership shall be awarded as detailed in Rule [4\(iii\)](#).
- xiv. The Major Semi-Final will be played between first (1st) and second (2nd) placed teams. 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 Preliminary Final.
- xv. The minor Semi Final will be played between the third (3rd) and fourth (4th) placed teams. The winner of the Minor Semi-Final will proceed to the Preliminary Final and the loser of the Minor Semi-Final will take no more part in the final series.
- xvi. The Preliminary Final shall be played between the winners of the second (2nd) (Minor) Semi-Final and the loser of the first (1st) (Major) Semi Final.
- xvii. The Grand Final shall be played between the winner of the Major Semi-Final and the winner of the Preliminary Final.
- xviii. In premier league the teams placed first (1st) and third (3rd) at the conclusion of the home and away comp will host the semi finals.
- xix. Senior preliminary and grand finals will be played at NIHC on a Saturday.
- xx. During the finals series for the senior competition, if at the completion of standard time scores are equal, a shoot-out will determine the outcome.
- xxi. During the semi-final and preliminary finals in the junior competition, if at the completion of standard time, scores are equal, the team placed highest on the competition ladder will progress.
- xxii. During the grand final in the junior competition, if the scores are equal at the completion of standard time, joint premiers will be declared.
- xxiii. During the finals series, if game officials stop the clock due to injury, the injured player must leave the field of play and remain off for a minimum of two (2) minutes before being eligible to return.
- xxiv. All umpires for the finals series will be appointed by the NDWHA Umpire Co-ordinator, having gauged availability of officials.

16. Insurance

- i. Insurance for all members will be provided through Hockey NSW. Cost of said insurance will be included in HNSW registration 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. Players who have failed to sign the card will be deemed not to have participated and therefore not covered by player accident insurance (PAI).
- iv. 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.
- v. Any player returning to the game after illness or injury, which has kept them out of the game for at least six weeks, will play at their own risk.
- vi. If any player is injured during a match, it is the responsibility of the player and/or the Team Captain to ensure the injury is noted on the card.
- vii. If an insurance claim is to be made, it is the player's responsibility to notify NDWHA and obtain information from NDWHA web address: www.ndwha.com.au

17. Issue of Card and Points System

A. Recording

- i. All cards issued to senior or junior players, Coaches or Officials are to be recorded by the umpires or technical officers on the scorecard providing the reason for the card.
- ii. The umpire is to advise the Officiating Co-ordinator if a red card has been issued. An email should be sent to umpire@ndwha.com.au within 48 hours of the game.

B. Points Allocation

i. **Cards:**

Card	Suspension Time	Points
Green	2 Minutes	5
Yellow	Minor 5 Minutes	10
	Major 10 minutes	15
Red	Rest of the Match	21

- ii. **Senior Competition** - Upon the accumulation of twenty-one (21) or more points in the Senior Competition only that player, coach or official will serve an automatic one round suspension plus whatever additional penalty that may be imposed by the Judiciary Committee. Points accumulated in the Senior Competition are not to be combined with points accumulated in the Junior Competition.
- iii. **Junior Competition** - Upon the accumulation of twenty one (21) or more points in the Junior Competition only that player, coach or official will serve an automatic one round suspension plus whatever additional penalty that may be imposed by the Judiciary Committee. Points accumulated in the Junior Competition are not to be combined with points accumulated in the Senior Competition.
- iv. Any player who has accumulated twenty-one (21) or more points in the Senior Competition or fourteen (14) or more points in the Junior Competition must appear before the Judiciary Committee.
- v. 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 may be forwarded to the Officiating Co-ordinator via email.
- vi. Any player that receives a suspension will be ineligible for consideration for the Premier League Player of the Year trophy.
- vii. Any player or official that receives a suspension shall be ineligible to perform official duties for NDWHA whilst serving suspension.

18. Appeals

A. Decision of Umpire and Protests

- i. The game shall be controlled by the officiating 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. The Team Captain or Club Secretary may appeal against a suspension from the issuing of a card or cards to the Secretary of the Board of Management of NDWHA and a copy to the Officiating Co-ordinator within three (3) days of the suspension commencing.
- iv. Decisions regarding appeals shall be provided in writing and emailed to the Secretary or contact of the relevant club.
- v. Team coaches and officials will be cautioned in the same manner as a playing team member.
 - (a) Any further misconduct will result in the team captain receiving a yellow or red card penalty, in addition to the coach or official receiving a card.

19. Right of Appeal

- i. Members have the right of appeal for a review of process in regard to a decision of the Board of NDWHA, or one of its sub-Committees. The right of appeal is to review the process of the aggrieved decision, not the decision itself. This appeal to the Association needs to be via their Club Secretary, to the Secretary of NDWHA. An appeal must be received within three (3) working days of the written decision being served.
- ii. Upon receipt of a notice, under 19(i), and on receipt of a fee of \$100 (GST inclusive) towards the costs of organising the appeal notification, the Secretary of NDWHA shall notify the Board of Management of NDWHA. The Board of Management of NDWHA shall organise and convene an Appeal Hearing Committee to be held within fourteen (14) days after the date on which the Secretary received the notice.
- iii. With regard to a member of NDWHA who has been disciplined by the Judiciary Committee, the Appeal Hearing Committee shall consist of a panel of five (5). The panel will be drawn from the members of the NDWHA and an independent safe hockey officer and an independent member of the NDWHA Board of Management.
- iv. At the Appeal Hearing Committee meeting convened under sub-paragraph (iii) above:
 - (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.
 - (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; and
 - (d) Should the Appeal Hearing Committee confirm the decision, this does not limit their ability to increase or reduce the sentence handed out by the Judiciary.
 - (e) The decision of the Appeal Committee Hearing shall be final.

20. Representative Selection

- i. NDWHA representative selections will be in accordance with the NDWHA Representative Guidelines.
- ii. Players wishing to be selected for any NDWHA representative team must be a financial member of NDWHA. Clubs are responsible for notifying NDWHA if the player is unfinancial with their Club.
- iii. Players will be eligible to trial consistent with age groups and correlating years of birth, with consideration given to those players in the third (3rd) and fourth (4th) year range who have the necessary attributes to play in the older age group.
- iv. Any player who wishes to represent another association must trial for NDWHA prior to seeking clearance. This is not required if players wish to play for their Association of Origin.

- v. Players wishing to be selected for any NDWHA junior representative team must be a registered playing member of the NDWHA junior competition. Requests for exemption from this rule needs to be made by email directly to rep@ndwha.com.au.
- vi. A representative team manager must be female and over the age of 18 years.
- vii. Representative nomination fees will be determined by the NDWHA Board of Management at or prior to the April meeting based on overall costs to the Association. Representative fees will be invoiced to players via Revolutionise and must be paid prior to the commencement of the tournament. Failure to pay the nomination fee will result in the player being unfinancial with NDWHA and ineligible to participate in any local or state competition until paid.
- viii. The Representative Levy paid by players will assist in covering the costs of the HNSW state competition and the Kim Small Carnival for U12s, one additional carnival and up to four (4) hours of training sessions per team. Representative costs are subsidised at the discretion of NDWHA. Any additional training sessions and/or carnivals after the conclusion of the HNSW event are payable by the representative team.
- ix. Player selection will be final.
- x. If the player withdraws from the representative team once selected, the representative fee will not be refunded.
- xi. The Coach and/or Manager must notify the NDWHA Board of a player's withdrawal and advise the player that the representative fee is still payable unless a written application for extenuating circumstances is submitted.
- xii. Any player who is serving a current judiciary penalty will be ineligible to participate in any NDWHA representative team.
- xiii. Selection nominations will be advertised via a Revolutionise generated email to players and social media.
- xiv. In the event of a formal selection trial,
 - a) Players must nominate and provide proof of payment (Masters only) by close of business on the advertised closing date.
 - b) Players must attend selection trials in accordance with attendance requirements in order to be selected.
 - c) Players unable to attend must provide details in writing to the Representative Co-ordinator at least forty-eight (48) hours (2 days) prior to selections. A written application for extenuating circumstances will only be accepted if the Representative Co-ordinator or panel is informed by phone prior to the conclusion of selections.
 - d) The Representative Co-ordinator may encourage players who have not nominated for selection.
- xv. Players aggrieved with their omission from selection may appeal to the Association under [Rule 19](#) by sending an email to the Secretary of NDWHA.

- xvi. Clearance to play for another association will only be granted in accordance with HNSW guidelines. All players wishing to be given clearance must have trialled unsuccessfully for NDWHA unless requesting clearance to their Association of Origin. All releases will be processed as per HNSW procedure. Special consideration may be given to junior players seeking to participate in an age group above their own where the association they are seeking to represent is competing in a lower division to NDWHA.
- xvii. Any player, umpire, coach, technical personnel, or manager attaining HNSW National Championship, State or Australian hockey team selection will be eligible to receive one (1) donation of up to \$150 during the calendar year from the Association via submission of application form.
- xviii. Any junior player attaining selection in a State or National Primary or High School field hockey team will be eligible, with proof of selection, to receive one donation of up to \$100 during the calendar year from the Association.
- xix. All players' parents and guardians are bound by NDWHA Code of Conduct.

21. Carnivals

From time to time the Association is requested to host senior and junior hockey tournaments for HNSW. When these tournaments are to be run, all Clubs/Groups will be required to assist wherever necessary. Failure to fulfil reasonable requests will result in a fine of \$100 (GST inclusive).

22. Email Contact List

NDWHA Contacts

President	president@ndwha.com.au
Secretary	ndwha@newcastlehockey.com.au
Treasurer	treasurer@ndwha.com.au
Vice President	vicepresident@ndwha.com.au
Senior Co-ordinator	seniors@ndwha.com.au
Officiating Co-ordinator	umpire@ndwha.com.au
Representative Co-ordinator	rep@ndwha.com.au

Junior Co-ordinator	juniors@ndwha.com.au
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NIHC Contacts

NIHC Office Manager	Kym Winner	nihc@newcastlehockey.com.au
NIHC Office		nihc duty@newcastlehockey.com.au