NEWCASTLE DISTRICT WOMEN’S

HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.

(NDWHA)

ABN: 46 245 519 682

**RULES OF COMPETITION**

**2024 WINTER SEASON**

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Contents

[**1.**](#_heading=h.gjdgxs) **Organisation of Competitions 4**

[***A.***](#_heading=h.30j0zll) ***Senior Competition* 4**

[***B.***](#_heading=h.3znysh7) ***Junior Competition* 5**

[***C.***](#_heading=h.2et92p0) ***Other Hockey Competitions* 6**

[**2.**](#_heading=h.tyjcwt) **Rules of Hockey 6**

[**3.**](#_heading=h.3dy6vkm) **Attire 6**

[***A.***](#_heading=h.1t3h5sf) ***Club Uniforms* 6**

[***B.***](#_heading=h.4d34og8) ***Suitability of Uniform* 7**

[**4.**](#_heading=h.17dp8vu) **Points Score 8**

[***A.***](#_heading=h.3rdcrjn) ***Senior Competition* 8**

[***B.***](#_heading=h.26in1rg) ***Junior Competition* 8**

[**5.**](#_heading=h.35nkun2) **Team Entry 8**

[***A.***](#_heading=h.1ksv4uv) ***Number of players* 8**

[***B.***](#_heading=h.44sinio) ***Team and Player Registrations* 9**

[***C.***](#_heading=h.2jxsxqh) ***Premier League Squad* 10**

[***D.***](#_heading=h.1y810tw) ***Grading* 11**

[**6.**](#_heading=h.1ci93xb) **Fees 12**

[**7.**](#_heading=h.qsh70q) **Team Gradings 13**

[**8.**](#_heading=h.3as4poj) **Abandonment of Matches 14**

[***A.***](#_heading=h.1pxezwc) ***Postponements* 14**

[***B.***](#_heading=h.49x2ik5) ***Senior Competition* 14**

[***C.***](#_heading=h.2p2csry) ***Junior Competition* 15**

[**9.**](#_heading=h.147n2zr) **Deferred Fixtures 16**

[**10.**](#_heading=h.3o7alnk) **Forfeiture 16**

[**11.**](#_heading=h.23ckvvd) **Code of Conduct 17**

[**12.**](#_heading=h.ihv636) **Judiciary Committee 19**

[***A.***](#_heading=h.32hioqz) ***Hearings* 19**

[***B.***](#_heading=h.1hmsyys) ***Reference of Matter to the Judiciary Committee* 19**

[***C.***](#_heading=h.2grqrue) ***Regulation of Judiciary Committee Procedures* 20**

[***D.***](#_heading=h.vx1227) ***Guidelines on Penalties Imposed by the Judiciary Committee* 21**

[**13.**](#_heading=h.3fwokq0) **Duties of Registered Clubs 23**

[**14.**](#_heading=h.1v1yuxt) **Umpires and Technical Officials Duties 24**

[***A.***](#_heading=h.4f1mdlm) ***Duties of Umpires* 24**

[***B.***](#_heading=h.2u6wntf) ***Duties of Club* 25**

[***C.***](#_heading=h.19c6y18) ***Duties of Technical Officials* 25**

[**15.**](#_heading=h.3tbugp1) **Competitions – Format 26**

[**16.**](#_heading=h.37m2jsg) **Insurance 28**

[**17.**](#_heading=h.1mrcu09) **Issue of Card and Points System 29**

[***A.***](#_heading=h.46r0co2) ***Recording* 29**

[***B.***](#_heading=h.2lwamvv) ***Points Allocation* 29**

[**18.**](#_heading=h.111kx3o) **Appeals 30**

[***A.***](#_heading=h.3l18frh) ***Decision of Umpire and Protests* 30**

[**19.**](#_heading=h.206ipza) **Right of Appeal 30**

[**20.**](#_heading=h.4k668n3) **Representative Selection 31**

[**21.**](#_heading=h.2zbgiuw) **Carnivals 33**

[**22.**](#_heading=h.1egqt2p) **Email Contact List 33**

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.

#  Organisation of Competitions

## Senior Competition

* + 1. The Senior Competition is open to all teams of affiliated Clubs with a membership of not less than twelve players.
		2. Any school or junior teams may apply to be accepted into the Senior Competition, such acceptance to be subject to approval of the Senior Co-ordinator. These teams and/or players shall pay appropriate competition fees as determined by the Board of NDWHA.
		3. Junior teams playing in the name of their school initially in the Senior Competition must obtain the Principal or Delegate’s written authority and forward it with their preliminary team nominations.
		4. A player can play with only one (1) Club in the NDWHA competition with the exception of Rule [5D (iv)](#_heading=h.4i7ojhp) and [5D (v)](#_heading=h.2xcytpi).
		5. Any junior player wishing to play in the senior competition with a club other than their junior club requires a letter of intent written by the new club addressed to both the junior and senior Co-ordinator.
		6. A player wishing to play in the senior competition in grade 2 or below must have attained the age of thirteen (13) years by 1st January of that year.
		7. Players will be allowed to participate in the Premier League competition once they have reached the age of 14 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.
		8. Any player wishing to transfer to another Club must obtain a written, (email) clearance from a Committee member, where applicable, of the Club from which they are transferring from to be sent to the club they are joining and seniors@ndwha.com.au.
		9. The transfer email must be provided to the NDWHA Junior/Senior Co-ordinator for approval prior to the transferring player taking the field.
		10. 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.
		11. 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.
		12. Any player wishing to transfer to another Club, or transfer to another team in the same club, during the season must apply in writing to the Secretary of NDWHA, with a copy to the Senior Co-ordinator, stating reasons for transfer request. The Board of Management of NDWHA will provide a decision after hearing the recommendation of the Senior Co-ordinator. Such transfers will not be automatic.
		13. 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.
		14. If a senior team contains an under 18 player a female coach/manager must be present if there is a male coach or manager on the bench.
		15. 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.

## Junior Competition

* + 1. 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.
		2. For the 2024 season, the junior competition is aged based with the divisions being:-
			1. U8 - players 7 or 8 years old in 2024 (born in 2016, 2017)
			2. U10 - players 9 or 10 years old in 2024 (born in 2014, 2015)
			3. U12 - players 11 or 12 years old in 2024 (born in 2012, 2013)
			4. U14 - players 13 or 14 years old in 2024 (born in 2010, 2011)
			5. U16/18 - players 15 to 18 years old in 2024 (born in 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009)
		3. 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.
		4. Teams in Junior grades must have a membership of not less than 6 players of correct age as per [1B (ii) a) to e)](#_heading=h.3znysh7).
		5. School teams playing in the name of their school in the Junior Competition must provide the Principal or Delegate’s written authority.
		6. 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 which needs to be provided to the Junior Co-ordinator. If transferring during the season, players must stand down for the next one (1) competition game.
		7. All teams must have either a female coach or a female manager on the bench at all times.

## Other Hockey Competitions

1. 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.

# Rules of Hockey

* + 1. The competition play shall be conducted according to the current HNSW Rules and subsequent changes of those Rules will automatically apply where the association can viably facilitate them.

# Attire

## Club Uniforms

1. Players in the Association’s competition matches must wear the uniform of the Club with which they are registered.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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 annually by registration day.
5. No player shall take the field wearing any item of jewellery, clothing or non-prescription glasses which is considered dangerous.
6. 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 HNSW Rules of Hockey. On-field coaches must wear appropriate footwear and are strongly encouraged to wear shin pads.
7. 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.
8. 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. This approval, in writing, bearing the signature of a Co-ordinator, must be produced on request of an umpire. The goalkeeper is exempt.
9. All players must be in the same team uniform to take the field e.g.: play up player.

## Suitability of Uniform

* + 1. 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.
		2. Length of skirt to be appropriate. Undergarments must not be sighted during play.
		3. Shirts must not be of a length to cover the skirt.
		4. Clubs wishing a variation on player uniform (i.e.: shirt v singlet) are required to make an application in writing to either the Senior or Junior Co-ordinator (whichever is relevant) prior to taking the field. Such requests are required to be submitted with a digital image of the requested variation.
		5. Umpires may request players to remove jumpers which are (because of colour) making umpiring difficult, and any player so requested must comply with the umpire’s direction.
		6. All Senior and Junior grades are to have numbered shirts.

# Points Score

1. Points will be allocated as follows:

## Senior Competition

* 1. Three (3) points for a win
	2. Three (3) points for a win by forfeiture
	3. Two (2) point for a draw
	4. One (1) point for a loss
	5. Nil (0) points for a loss by forfeiture

## Junior Competition

* 1. Three (3) points for a win
	2. Three (3) points for a win by forfeiture
	3. Two (2) points for a draw
	4. One (1) point for a loss
	5. Nil (0) points for a loss by forfeiture
1. If a team plays an unregistered or ineligible player, that team shall forfeit the match and points shall be recorded accordingly.
2. A team receiving a forfeit will receive a score of three (3) goals. The forfeiting team will receive no (0) goals.

1. Should teams be equal on point score at the end of the competition rounds, the placings will be decided in the following manner:
	1. Goal difference – total goals for minus total goals against
	2. Goal average – total goals for divided by total goals against
	3. Applying goal difference, then goal average, to the games in which the teams played each other

# Team Entry

## Number of players

* + 1. Seniors
			1. Twelve (12) players must be registered in each team to a maximum of twenty (20) players.
			2. A minimum of seven (7) players will be required before a team can take the field of play.
		2. Juniors
			1. A minimum of six (6) players of age must be registered in each team.
			2. 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.
			3. A minimum of seven (7) players including a goalkeeper will be required before a team can take the field of play.
			4. 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.
			5. All team managers and officials should remain in the dugout during play unless attending to the needs of a player.

## Team and Player Registrations

* + 1. All players must register on-line at https://[www.revolutionise.com.au/nha/registration and](http://www.revolutionise.com.au/nha/registration/and) have paid the HNSW registration fee prior to taking the field for their first game.
		2. Senior Clubs must submit interim team lists to the Senior Co-ordinator by Friday 15 March 2024.
		3. Junior Clubs must submit interim team lists to the Junior Co-ordinator by Friday 15 March 2024.
		4. All Senior team lists to be entered in Revolutionise by Thursday 4 April 2024.
		5. All Junior team lists to be entered in Revolutionise by Thursday 4 April 2024.
		6. Junior team lists must provide each player’s date of birth and also include a contact person, unique to each team.
		7. NDWHA will determine the late registration date at the commencement of each season, to be advised on Information Night. Late registration date for the 2024 Season is 30 April 2024.
		8. Failure to submit completed team details within nominated registration time will result in a:
			1. 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.
			2. $100.00 Fine.
		9. Late player registrations must:
1. Register online with HNSW paying the full HNSW registration fee, and
2. Pay the NDWHA affiliation fee into the NDWHA nominated bank account, and
3. 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.

* + 1. Any changes or alterations made to the submitted team sheet must be submitted in writing/email to the Secretary, with a copy to the Treasurer, Senior or Junior Co-ordinator as appropriate. This must be maintained and updated throughout the year.
		2. No team will be accepted after 1 April 2024 unless special circumstances have arisen and will be reviewed by the Board of Management of NDWHA.
		3. No new registrations will be accepted after 31July 2024.

## Premier League Squad

1. 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.
2. Clubs are to nominate nine (9) primary Premier League players. These nominated Premier League players shall not be permitted to play in 2nd grade.
3. 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.
4. The additional player must be identified to the Senior Co-ordinator, as a top nine (9) player, prior to taking the field.
5. Any breach to the squad rules will result in penalties to both Premier League and 2nd grade teams.
6. 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.
7. Players graded with teams from the Central Coast Hockey Association qualify under the following conditions:-
	* + 1. As per the Premier League rule [C(vi)](#_heading=h.z337ya)
			2. 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
8. 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)).](#_heading=h.2xcytpi) This decision must be nominated at the start of the season.
9. Where a club has selected to run two squads the following rules shall apply:
	* + 1. Both squads are to be named at the start of the season
			2. Squad members are **not permitted to play across the grade**

## Grading

1. 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.
2. 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 seven (7) 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 eight (8th) game.
3. 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.
4. Field players from single team clubs may play goalkeeper for a different single team club, with a maximum of two grades variation with prior Board of Management of NDWHA approval. Note: there is no guarantee that fixtures will not clash for both teams.
5. If a Senior Club has two or more teams graded into second grade see rule [(C) Premier League (viii).](#_heading=h.3j2qqm3) 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.
6. A team can apply to the appropriate Senior Co-ordinator or Junior 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.
7. Senior Co-ordinator or Junior 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.
8. The Senior Co-ordinator or Junior Co-ordinator can regrade an individual player at any time of the competition.
9. The lowest graded team in any senior club may play down no more than three (3) players from the grade above, provided:
10. there is no more than two (2) grades difference between the teams.
11. a maximum of twelve (12) players take the field in that designated game.
12. no player is permitted to play down more than six (6) games within the season.
13. a player playing in the lower grade is ineligible to participate in penalty stroke during the regular season and finals, and in shoot out during finals.
14. nominated play down players are not permitted to play up in the grade above their nominated division.
15. all play down players must be approved by the Senior Coordinator prior to taking the field.

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

# Fees

1. 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

1. 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.
2. 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 2024). Teams which have failed to pay the fees due will not be accepted for grading.
3. Late player registrations must pay the required HNSW registration fee and NDWHA affiliation fee and lodge their proof of payment with the Board of Management of NDWHA, prior to their first match/game.
4. 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.
5. Fees, other than for turf hire, 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 30 May. The initial nomination fee must be deducted from the total of these fees.
6. Failure to comply with Rule [6(viii)](#_heading=h.3whwml4) 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.
7. A fine of $100 (GST inclusive) per occurrence shall be charged as penalties for the following:
	1. Teams withdrawing from the competition after the commencement of the first round. In addition, the team nomination fee will be forfeited.
	2. Clubs adding a team to the competition after the 15 March 2024.
	3. Failure by a club to perform their delegated association duties.
	4. Failure by a Club to pay their invoiced turf fees by the due date.
	5. Second breach of these rules by the same Club will incur a 3-point penalty for all registered Club teams.
8. 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 NDWHA.
9. Any person or Club, aggrieved with the decision of the Board of Management of NDWHA or one of its subcommittees, may appeal to the Board of Management of NDWHA 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.

# Team Gradings

1. Teams are graded prior to the commencement of each competition by the appropriate Senior Co-ordinator or Junior Co-ordinator. These Co-ordinators may call for play-offs between teams to assist with grading.
2. 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 appropriate Senior Co-ordinator or Junior Co-ordinator within forty- eight (48) hours of such grading being published or notified to the Club in question.
3. Any Club requesting a regrade, and any teams that the Senior Co-ordinator or Junior Co-ordinator wish to review, must attend on grading days.
4. Times must be set aside before the commencement of the competition for matches to be played to decide the outcome of any appeals that may be made with regard to grading. The Board of Management of NDWHA will bring down a decision after hearing the recommendation of the Senior Co-ordinator or Junior Co-ordinator.
5. 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.
6. The Secretary of the registered Club can apply for a regrade of a player up to, and including, the 31st July 2024. There will be no requests for regrades available after this time.

# Abandonment of Matches

## Postponements

* + 1. 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 website and voicemail, and on the NDWHA communication platforms.
		2. 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 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 10 km 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.”*

## Senior Competition

1. 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:
	* + 1. 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.
			2. 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.
			3. 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.
			4. Any full round of competition postponed due to the prevailing weather conditions will be scheduled at a time designated by the Senior Co-ordinator.
			5. 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.
			6. The decisions of the Board of Management of NDWHA will be final.

## Junior Competition

1. 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:
	* + 1. 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’.
			2. 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.
			3. 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.
			4. The decisions of the Board of Management of NDWHA will be final.

# Deferred Fixtures

1. 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 competitions as a player or official.
2. 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.
3. A maximum of two (2) deferments per team per season is allowable.
4. Any deferred matches will be scheduled at a time designated by the Senior or Junior Co-ordinator and will be advised in writing to the Club or Group contact only.

# Forfeiture

1. Any team intending to forfeit a match must give notice to the appropriate Senior Co-ordinator or Junior Co-ordinator and Secretary of Board of Management of NDWHA. For Senior teams, this is at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the match. For Junior teams, this is at least forty-eight (48) 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.
2. 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 appropriate Senior Co-ordinator or Junior Co-ordinator.
3. A team that is more than seven (7) minutes late in taking the field shall be deemed to have forfeited the match.
4. 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.
5. In extenuating circumstances, written application may be made to the Board of Management of NDWHA for consideration of the reasons leading to the forfeiture.
6. 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.
7. The decision of the Board of Management of NDWHA will be final.

# 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.

* + - 1. Persons subject to this Code shall not:
1. Assault or attempt to assault, lay a hand upon, shove or strike an Umpire, an Official, another player or spectator.
2. Abuse or intimidate, either verbally or physically, an Umpire, an Official, another player or spectator.
3. Dispute, as distinct from question, an Umpire’s decision.
4. 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.
5. In any way use crude or abusive or objectionable hand signals or other gestures.
6. 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.
7. Refuse to supply full name and registered address if required by an Umpire or Official for any reason.
8. Comment publicly, either verbally or in writing, with a member of the media or with a person knowing that it may be reported in the media, on any matter considered likely to bring the game into disrepute.
9. 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.
10. Act in a manner contravening the Hockey Australia National Integrity Framework, NDWHA Inc. Use of Electronic Media and Social Networking Sites Policy.
	* 1. Where the Code or behaviour of any person referred to in [Section 11](#_heading=h.23ckvvd) 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 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 subject to 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.
			3. 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.
			4. 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.
			5. Attend the meeting of the Judiciary Committee when required.
		2. 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:
		3. 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.
		4. 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.
		5. Attend the meeting of the Judiciary Committee when required.
		6. Where the conduct or behaviour of any person referred to in [Section 11](#_heading=h.23ckvvd) 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:
		7. 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.
		8. In accordance with the member protection 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.
		9. All attempts will be made to resolve complaints of misconduct with sensitivity and with the primary goal of preventing further occurrences.
		10. 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.
		11. 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.
		12. 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](#_heading=h.206ipza) of the Rules of Competition or the Constitution of the Association (for off field events).
		13. 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.
		14. 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.

# Judiciary Committee

## Hearings

1. 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.](#_heading=h.23ckvvd) 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.
2. At 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.
3. The Judiciary Committee may, after hearing the matter,:
	* + 1. Issue a warning in the nature of a reprimand to the person appearing before it,
			2. Suspend or disqualify the person for a specified time as specified in the guidelines set out in section [12D](#_heading=h.3ygebqi),
			3. Any combination of (a) and (b),
			4. Expel such person from the Association, or
			5. Otherwise deal with the person.
4. 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.

## Reference of Matter to the Judiciary Committee

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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)](#_heading=h.41mghml).

## Regulation of Judiciary Committee Procedures

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. Any player who does not appear before the Judiciary Committee when ordered will be suspended by the Judiciary Committee until such time as the person appears before it.
6. In the exercise of their function, the Judiciary Committee shall do all things as may be necessary to ensure:
7. That all matters are set down for hearing with as much expedition as is reasonably possible.
8. That all hearings are conducted within as short a period as is reasonably possible.
9. All persons shall be excluded from the proceedings of the Judiciary Committee except when each individual is required to give evidence.
10. All charges for a single incident be heard by the Judiciary Committee.
11. 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.
12. In relation to any hearing the Chair of the Judiciary Committee by instruction in writing or verbally:
13. 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.
14. May require a person referred to in Section C viii(a) to do either or any of the following:
	* + - 1. 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.
				2. 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).
15. 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.
16. May require any person to produce before the Judiciary Committee any document or exhibit relevant to the offence or complaint.
17. May require any person to appear before the Judiciary Committee to give evidence.
18. 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.

## Guidelines on Penalties Imposed by the Judiciary Committee

| Offences against Players | Minimum \* | Maximum \* |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Assault / attempt to assault |  |  |
| 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.*

# Duties of Registered Clubs

1. The Club Secretary must complete the Club Information 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).
2. The Club Secretary must forward to the appropriate Senior Co-ordinator and/or Junior Co-ordinator a nomination, including preferred grades, for each team on or before Information Day.
3. 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 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, and proof provided to the Board of Management of NDWHA.
4. The Club Secretary is responsible for ensuring all players have entered their data into the HNSW registration database before taking the field, and is updated as required. Failure to do so will result in the player being declared unregistered and result in forfeiture of the game.
5. The Club must ensure the timely payment of all fees due and payable to the Board of Management of NDWHA.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. Players who have failed to sign the card prior to the completion of the game will be deemed not to have participated 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](#_heading=h.3ygebqi) shall apply.
9. The Team Captain or Team Manager 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 or injury. Umpires for the grand finals will be paid by the Association.
10. The Club is responsible for ensuring that the team meet their umpiring duties, if required. Failure to perform such duties will result in a monetary fine ([Rule 6 x](#_heading=h.2bn6wsx)).
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. 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. All correspondence must be received by close of business on the first Monday of the month.
14. The Club must ensure that the fixture results and other match information is entered into Revolutionise prior to the commencement of the following round.
15. 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.

# Umpires and Technical Officials Duties

## Duties of Umpires

* + 1. Umpires must check that players are listed on the score card each match and ask teams to indicate the Captain before play commences.
		2. 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.
		3. Umpires shall see that substitutes are listed on the score card before taking the field.
		4. 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.
		5. Where individuals nominated for umpiring duty do not perform their duties on two occasions during the year the individual will be counselled.

## Duties of Club

* + 1. The Club Secretary must complete the Club Information 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, Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO), Judiciary Representative, Senior Grading Committee representative and Junior Committee representative.
		2. 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.

## Duties of Technical Officials

* + 1. 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.
		2. Check that all persons are always wearing their mouth guard except those noted on the match sheet.
		3. Ensure that players are substituting at the halfway mark.
		4. Ensure that all team officials remain in their dugouts at all times.
		5. Ensure that all team equipment is inside the dugout at all times to ensure safety of players and officials.
		6. Ensure that you are aware of when umpires have called for player suspension and note who is controlling the time.
		7. 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.
		8. 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.
		9. Check that all parts of the card are completed and signed at the completion of the game.
		10. Ensure that all documents are attached and returned to the relevant posting box for collection by the Fixtures and Grading Convenor.
		11. 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.

# Competitions – Format

1. The only people permitted in the team dugout will be coach, manager, players, and team officials. Only umpires, approved officials and members of the Board of Management shall be permitted to be in the officials’ dugout.
2. The senior competition will be a minimum of fourteen (14) games and the junior competition will be a minimum of twelve (12) games.
3. The length of the senior games will be the following:
	1. Premier League – four (4) quarters of fifteen (15) minutes with two (2) minute breaks at the end of first and third quarters and a three (3) minute break at half time.
	2. Second grade and below will be played with thirty (30) minute halves with a break of five (5) minutes for half time.
4. All junior grades will be played for twenty-five (25) minute halves with a break of five (5) minutes for half time.
5. 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 minute mark.
6. 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.
7. 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(v).](#_heading=h.lnxbz9) 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.
8. 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 Semi-Final, Final or Grand Final will be automatically disqualified from any further participation in the competition.
9. 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.
10. Exemptions for qualification may be submitted to the respective Junior or Senior Co-ordinator under the following circumstances:
	1. 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.
	2. 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 game.
	3. Exceptional circumstances – applications must be submitted at least seven (7) days before the semi finals.
	4. Exemptions are granted for the actual round the exemption is being sought.
11. Late registered player’s eligibility to play finals will be based on at least 60% of scheduled games from the player’s registration date.
12. 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).](#_heading=h.nmf14n)
13. The team leading on points 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(v)](#_heading=h.lnxbz9).
14. The major Semi Final will be played between first and second 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.
15. The minor Semi Final will be played between the third and fourth 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.
16. The Preliminary Final shall be played between the winners of the 2nd (Minor) Semi Final and the loser of the 1st (Major) Semi Final.
17. The grand final shall be played between the winner of the major semi-final and the winner of the preliminary final.
18. In premier league the teams placed first and third at the conclusion of the home and away comp will host the semi finals.
19. Senior preliminary and grand finals will be played at NIHC on a Saturday.
20. The standard time for the final series in the senior competition shall be thirty (30) minutes each way, except in Premier League which will follow [15 (iii) (a).](#_heading=h.28h4qwu) The games played in the junior competition shall be twenty-five (25) minutes each way.
21. During the final series for the senior competition, if at the completion of standard time scores are equal, a shoot-out will determine the outcome.
22. 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.
23. During the grand final in the junior competition, if the scores are equal at the completion of standard time, joint premiers will be declared.
24. No time out during any games.
25. All umpires for the final series will be appointed by the NDWHA Umpire Co-ordinator. The Umpire Co-ordinator will liaise with the relevant personnel to gauge availability.

# Insurance

1. Insurance for all members will be provided through Hockey NSW. Cost of said insurance will be included in HNSW registration fees.
2. 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.
3. Players who have failed to sign the card will be deemed not to have participated and therefore not covered by player accident insurance (PAI).
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. If an insurance claim is to be made, it is the player’s responsibility to notify NDWHA and obtain information and claim forms from NDWHA web address: [www.ndwha.com.au](http://www.ndwha.com.au/)

# Issue of Card and Points System

## Recording

* + 1. 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.
		2. 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.

## Points Allocation

* + 1. **Cards:**

| **Card** | **Suspension Time** | **Points** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Green | 2 Minutes | 2 |
| Yellow | Minimum 5 Minutes | 10 |
| Red | Rest of the Match | 21 |

* + 1. **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.
		2. **Junior Competition** - Upon the accumulation of fourteen (14) 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.
		3. Any player, Coach or Official who has accumulated twenty-one (21) or more points in the Senior Competition or 14 or more points in the Junior Competition must appear before the Judiciary Committee.
		4. Any player, Coach or Official accumulating twenty-one (21) or more points in the Senior Competition or fourteen (14) or more points in the Junior Competition is not permitted to take part in any round until such time as they appear before the Judiciary Committee.
		5. 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 Umpires Convenor via email.
		6. Any player that receives a suspension will be ineligible for consideration for the Premier Grade Player of the Year trophy.
		7. Any player or official that receives a suspension shall be ineligible to perform official duties for NDWHA whilst serving suspension.

# Appeals

## Decision of Umpire and Protests

* + 1. The game shall be controlled by the official umpires; their decision shall be final in all matters.
		2. No member of a team, other than the Captain may question a decision of the umpire.
		3. 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.
		4. Decisions regarding appeals shall be provided in writing and emailed to the Secretary or contact of the relevant club.
		5. Team coaches and officials will be cautioned in the same manner as a playing team member.
			- 1. Any further misconduct will result in the team captain receiving a yellow or red card penalty, in addition to coach or official receiving a card.

# Right of Appeal

1. Members have the right of appeal for a review of process in regards 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.
2. 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.
3. 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 member protection information officer and an independent member of the NDWHA Board of Management.
4. At the Appeal Hearing Committee meeting convened under sub-paragraph (iii) above:
	1. No business other than the question of the appeal shall be transacted.
	2. The Judiciary Committee and the member shall be given the opportunity to state their respective cases verbally or in writing, or both.
	3. 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
	4. 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.
	5. The decision of the Appeal Committee Hearing shall be final.

# Representative Selection

1. NDWHA representative selections will be in accordance with the HNSW Operations Manual.
2. Players wishing to be selected for any NDWHA representative team must be a financial member of NDWHA.
3. Players will be eligible to trial consistent with age groups and correlating years of birth, as guided by HNSW State Championships Operations Manual.
4. Any premier league squad player who wishes to play representative hockey must trial for Newcastle, or their primary registered association, prior to seeking a clearance to play with another association.
5. 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.
6. A representative team manager must be female and over the age of 18 years.
7. Representative nomination fees will be determined by the NDWHA Board of Management at 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.
8. Other representative costs including uniform, accommodation, and training turf hire, if applicable, will be advised by the team manager. The preferred method of payment of these fees is by direct deposit.
9. Player selection will be final.
10. If the player withdraws from the representative team once selected, the representative fee will not be refunded.
11. If the player withdraws from the representative team due to extenuating circumstances, a written application to the Board of Management of NDWHA requesting consideration of refund of nomination levy may be made.
12. Any player who is serving a current judiciary penalty will be ineligible to participate in any NDWHA representative team.
13. Selection trials will be advertised via a Revolutionise generated email to players, an email to Club Secretaries, ndwha.com.au and social media.
14. In the event of a formal selection trial,
15. Players must nominate and provide proof of payment (Masters only) by close of business on the advertised closing date.
16. Players must attend selection trials in order to be selected.
17. 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.
18. The Representative Co-ordinator may approach players who have not nominated for selection.
19. Players aggrieved with their omission from selection may appeal to the Association under [Rule 19](#_heading=h.111kx3o) by sending an email to The Representative Co-ordinator (rep@ndwha.com.au).
20. 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 home associations. 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.
21. Any player, umpire, coach, technical personnel, or manager attaining HNSW National Championship, State or Australian field 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.
22. Any junior player attaining selection in a State or National Primary or High School field hockey team will be eligible to receive one donation of up to $100 during the calendar year from the Association.
23. All players' parents and guardians are bound by NDWHA’s representative code of conduct.

# 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).

# Email Contact List

NDWHA Contacts Winter Season

| President | Sharon Williams | president@ndwha.com.au |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Secretary | Sally Mudford | ndwha@newcastlehockey.com.au |
| Treasurer | Lisa Ollerton | treasurer@ndwha.com.au |
| Vice President | Nikola Starr | vicepresident@ndwha.com.au |
| Senior Co-ordinator | Scott New | seniors@ndwha.com.au |
| Officiating Co-ordinator | Emily Porters | umpire@ndwha.com.au |
| Representative Convenor | Katrina Juchau | rep@ndwha.com.au |
| Junior Co-ordinator | Lyn Bradley | juniors@ndwha.com.au |

NIHC Contacts

| NIHC Office Manager | Kym Winner | nihc@newcastlehockey.com.au |
| --- | --- | --- |
| NIHC Office |  | nihcduty@newcastlehockey.com.au |