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GLOSSARY – In these Regulations

AJLCC: Area Junior League Competition Committee

AJLMC: Area Junior League Management Committee

EHCD: The EH Competitions Department

JDL: Junior Development League

AJL: Area Junior League

JSL: Junior Super League

GMS: The online Game Management System designated for use by EH

JCF: Junior Competitions Framework

EHC: England Hockey Championships

1 MANAGEMENT

1.1 Principles

- 1.1.1 The Junior Competitions Framework (JCF) in England will comprise of competitions administered by: the England Hockey Competitions Department (EHCD) and/or Area Junior Leagues & Competitions Committee (AJLCC), as seen in Appendix 1.
- 1.1.2 England Hockey (EH) Policies, Rules and Regulations, as seen in Appendix 2, will apply to all matches within the JCF.
- 1.1.3 Each club, by its entry into and participation in JCF competitions along with each player, through their club registration, shall be deemed to have given consent to abide by these Regulations, EH policies, rules and any amendments that may be ratified by EH from time-to-time.
- 1.1.4 Any club administrator or team administrator requiring clarification on Competition regulations should consult directly with the relevant organiser - AJLCC or EHCD.

2 COMPETITIONS

2.1 Organisation

- 2.1.1 The EHCD will organise Championships in line with these regulations using standard formats. Each of the Championships will include a waterfall competition. See Appendix 1 for Competition Structures.
- 2.1.2 AJLCCs will be responsible for organising competitions within their Area in line with these regulations and the JCF and will have discretion to structure leagues and knockout competitions at the relevant level based on entries received using standard formats and scoring systems.
- 2.1.3 For the U16 & U14 Super League Championships:
 - 2.1.3.1 EHCD will run a zonal league-based competition using standard formats plus, if necessary, playoffs to determine 16 qualifying teams to progress to 4 leagues (September-January);
 - 2.1.3.2 EHCD will organise a national competition for these 16 qualifying teams and knockout competitions as shown in Appendix 1 leading to National Finals (N.B. separate additional regulations will be issued for these finals);
 - 2.1.3.3 EHCD has no jurisdiction over AJLCC competitions and where EHCD is referenced within the regulations it is only in relation to competitions organised in line with Reg 2.1.1.

2.2 Match Rules

- 2.2.1 The Rules of Hockey shall be those in effect at the start of each season, except as any variations contained within these Regulations and in accordance with Appendix 3. The Rules shall include any: variations, supplementary guidance, interpretations, instructions, etc., as may be published by EHCD or AJLCC from time to time.
- 2.2.2 Match length times will be in accordance with Appendix 4, unless set differently by the EHCD or AJLCC dependent on the competition.

2.3 Umpires

- 2.3.1 The responsibility for appointing competent umpires to each match falls to teams, unless informed in advance by a competition organiser who may pass responsibility to an appointing body.
- 2.3.2 Where Clubs are responsible for appointing to a match, the home club must appoint both umpires, except in the cases below.
 - 2.3.2.1 Where a Club believes it will not be able to provide two umpires, it MUST contact its opposition to inform them of the fact and ask them to provide one umpire. This must be done at least 5 days before the match.
 - 2.3.2.2 The away club has contacted the home club to say it intends to appoint an umpire for the match. This must be done at least 5 days before the match. The away team is then responsible for appointing an umpire, unless and until both teams agree otherwise.

2.3.3 All umpires must be registered members of the England Hockey Officiating (EHO) club. An unregistered umpire can complete their registration up to 24 hours after the relevant fixture has been completed.

2.3.4 The below outlines the requirements for umpires at each level of competition:

	U18 & U16 Super League	U14 Super League	All other competitions
Desirable level of accreditation	Level 1 Assessed	Level 1 Assessed	Level 1 Unassessed
Acceptable level of accreditation	Level 1 Assessed	Level 1 Unassessed	No formal accreditation required

2.3.5 If an umpire is appointed but does not meet the acceptable level of accreditation, the game may only be played with the agreement of both teams. If the teams cannot reach an agreement 2.3.6 will apply.

2.3.6 Where teams have reached an agreement to appoint their own umpires and then unable to do so, the team unable to appoint will be deemed to have forfeited the game. If both teams are unable to appoint an umpire, lots will be drawn by the competition organiser to determine who forfeits the match.

2.3.7 Where a Young Umpire (Under 18) is appointed, the appointing club must ensure a qualified Adult Umpire is present throughout the duration of the match either on pitch or on the side-line to provide support to the young umpire.

2.3.8 Neither EHCD nor the AJLCC will adjudicate on decisions made by umpires in games. Likewise, umpires will not adjudicate on Competition regulations.

2.4 Scoring System

2.4.1 For Super League competitions teams shall be awarded: 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw, 0 points for a loss. In the event of a match being drawn in the league stage within normal time, a shoot-out competition will be played in accordance with Appendix 5, and one bonus point awarded to the winner.

2.4.2 For all other league competitions teams shall be awarded: 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw, 0 points for a loss.

2.4.3 In the event of teams being equal on points at the end of the competition, or part thereof, places within a league shall be determined by each of the following, in order:

2.4.3.1 Highest goal difference. If still equal *Regulation 2.4.3.2 applies.*

2.4.3.2 Highest number of goals scored. If still equal *Regulation 2.4.3.3 applies.*

2.4.3.3 Highest number of matches won. If still equal *Regulation 2.4.3.4 applies.*

2.4.3.4 The result of the match(es) between the teams concerned, including a win in a shoot-out competition (and, if teams have played each other more than once and the aggregate score is still equal, away goals take precedence over home goals). If still equal *Regulation 2.4.3.5 applies.*

2.4.3.5 If teams are still equal, they will share the position except when it determines a championship, promotion, relegation, play-off or further progression. In that case

2.4.3.5.1 If the teams involved are at the same venue. A shoot-out competition will be played in accordance with Appendix 5. If not.

2.4.3.5.2 A further match between the teams involved will be arranged by the relevant competition organiser.

2.4.4 For Championships / knockout competitions the winner of the match shall progress to the next round.

2.4.5 For Championships / knockout competitions, in the event of a match being drawn in normal time, a shoot-out competition will be played in accordance with Appendix 5. The winner of the subsequent shoot-out competition shall progress to the next round.

2.5 Failure to Honour a Fixture

2.5.1 A team that loses in Round 1 of any Championships / knockout competitions shall be eligible for a place in any relevant waterfall competition. After any Championships / knockout competitions reach Round 2, a team that loses the first match they play in the competition may be eligible for a place in the relevant waterfall competition, at the discretion of the competition organiser.

2.5.2 Match results in all competitions shall be limited to a goal difference of eight, and any score recorded as 8-0 to the winners

2.5.3 A team which fails or is unable to honour a fixture:

2.5.3.1 must notify its opposition and competition organiser immediately;

2.5.3.2 may be subject to financial penalty;

2.5.3.3 additionally, the EHCD or AJLCC shall, at their discretion, have the right to ensure that a team which fails to honour a fixture reimburses the opposing team, officials, competition organiser, etc. for any expenses incurred in relation to the fixture.

2.5.4 For Championships / knockout competitions: the offending team shall be deemed to have lost the tie and will forfeit their entry fee. The opposing team shall progress to the next round. The offending team's eligibility for any relevant waterfall competition will be at the discretion of the competition organiser.

2.5.5 League competitions:

2.5.5.1 an 8-0 walkover will be awarded against any team failing to fulfil a fixture;

2.5.5.2 Super League: any team that fails to honour two of their League fixtures will be automatically withdrawn from the League and all previous results will be void and will forfeit its entry fee;

2.5.5.3 In other competitions: any team that fails to honour at least half of their League fixtures will be automatically withdrawn from the League and all previous results will be void and will forfeit its entry fee.

3 TEAM ENTRIES

3.1 Entry Dates

A club must enter its teams into any Competitions by the designated date set by the AJLCC or EHCD.

3.2 Eligibility

3.2.1 Area and EH-led Competitions are open to all clubs that have completed their membership to EH.

3.2.2 AJLCC and EHCD retain the right to decline entry to a competition if they believe the team is not entering an appropriate Level.

3.2.3 Area led Competitions are open to all teams from clubs who are also members of that Area; or from a neighboring Area with the agreement of both the member and neighboring AJLCCs.

3.2.4 For their teams to be eligible to participate in JCF competitions clubs must have completed and paid, by the due date, their membership to EH. In addition, it must have paid, by the due date, the following: competition entry fee; any monies outstanding to EH, Area and/or County/Sub-Area (CS-A).

In the event of any monies due being outstanding 14 days or more after a club's first match in any JCF competition, the AJLCC or EHCD shall be entitled to remove any team(s) for which no payment has been received.

3.2.5 All teams must enter any Championships / knockout competitions at the same level in which they enter any league competitions, and vice versa and if a team chooses to enter only one competition type, they should choose the most appropriate level to their standard. Save that

3.2.5.1 A team may request to play at a different Championship level which is subject to prior approval from their relevant Area and EHCD.

3.2.5.2 A team playing in the JDL may enter a Trophy KO Championship.

3.2.6 For activity at JSL clubs are only permitted to enter one team per age group. A second team may only be entered in accordance with 3.2.6.1. There is no limit on the number of teams from a single club that can be entered into activity at AJL and below.

3.2.6.1 Where a club enters 4 or more teams across all competitions in a specific gender/age group, they are permitted to enter a second team at JSL. Should a club later decide to withdraw a team from any competition, the second team entered at JSL must be the first to be withdrawn.

3.2.7 As a trial for 2026/27 season, for activity at JSL, clubs may merge to form one team with players from two clubs only. This will only be permitted with approval from the AJLCC and EHCD as a mutual agreement. At U18, composite clubs can enter their Area League and/or Championship / Knockout competitions with the same formed team. Neither club forms the composite team can enter a team in their own right. On GMS, one club will need to be nominated as the primary club for administration purposes and the GMS 'Team Name' should reflect the merger

If clubs are able to enter JSL in their own right, they must do this in the first instance.

3.2.8 For activity at AJL and below clubs may merge to form teams with players from two or more clubs but only if they have insufficient junior members in a given age group to field a team on their own. Composite clubs can only enter Championships / knockout competitions if the same formed composite club has also entered equivalent league competitions, or if no clubs forming the composite club have entered league competitions. On GMS, one club will need to be nominated as the primary club for administration purposes and the GMS 'Team Name' should reflect the merger.

3.3 Club & Team Administration

3.3.1 Each participating club must appoint a Club Administrator and each participating team must have a named Team Administrator, both of whom must be available to competition officials and other teams by the usual channels of communication.

3.3.2 An individual may be a Club Administrator for their club and/or Team Administrator for more than one team.

3.3.3 To ensure continuity, any changes to a Club Administrator or Team Administrator, or their details, must be updated in GMS immediately.

4 PLAYERS

4.1 Eligibility

4.1.1 All players must:

- 4.1.1.1 be registered with a club on the GMS in order to be eligible to play for that club in the JCF by the relevant date;
- 4.1.1.2 be U14 – born on or after 01/09/2012, U16 – born on or after 01/09/2010, U18 – born on or after 01/09/2008 unless they hold a EH Age Dispensation Certificate in respect of the age group in which they are participating;
- 4.1.1.3 play in the relevant competition as determined by England Hockey Trans and Non-Binary Participation Policy.

4.2 Team Selection

- 4.2.1 This regulation provides for the application of the Junior Player Selection Policy. The Policy and additional notes are included in Appendix 6: Junior Player Selection Policy
- 4.2.2 EHCD or the AJLCC reserve the right to determine at any time whether or not a club is in breach of the Junior Player Selection Policy
- 4.2.3 A club's teams for its matches on any date must be selected in accordance with the Junior Player Selection Policy, as seen in Appendix 6.
- 4.2.4 The GMS provides for the management of a club's teams selection in line with the Policy, however, the EHCD or AJLCC reserve the right to;
 - 4.1.3.1 determine at any time if a club is in breach of the principles; or
 - 4.1.3.2 if the requirements as shown in the summary should be overridden in specific scenarios by the issuing of a Selection Exemption Pass to ensure the principles can be met.

4.2 Dress

- 4.3.1 Standard kit regulations are as below and should be the aspiration at all levels. It is accepted however that at some levels these may not be achievable.
- 4.3.2 The two teams must wear shirts and knee-length socks that distinguish them from each other and the umpires, in accordance with publicised team colours.
- 4.2.3 Field players should wear shorts, skirts or skorts in accordance with team colours shown on the team sheet (N.B. players from the same team do not have to wear the same type of item as other players in their team).
- 4.2.4 If teams' shirts' and/or socks' colours clash, then the away team must wear alternative colours.
- 4.2.5 Additional Clothing – Any additional clothing (e.g., cycle shorts, leggings or long-sleeved under-shirts) should be of the same colour as the corresponding item of clothing shown on the team-sheet but if not, it must not, in the opinion of the umpires, clash with the opposition's corresponding item of clothing (shirt and socks).
- 4.2.6 Goalkeepers must wear shirts that distinguish them from both teams' field players and the umpires and must wear protective equipment as specified in the current Rules of Hockey.
- 4.2.7 In all competitions except JDL & below players must wear shirts individually numbered on the back with the number allocated on the team- sheet. All numbers shall be no less than 8" (20cm) in height and shall contrast with the colour of the shirt.
- 4.2.8 Turbans, Hijabs (or other agreed head coverings) should be plain or match the shirt in line with club colours on the team sheet. For all head coverings, they must not:
 - be attached to the playing shirt;
 - have any protruding items from the surface;
 - have any metal fastenings or pins;
 - cause a danger to the player, or other players;
 - have the potential to be inadvertently pulled or unravelled.

5 FIXTURE MANAGEMENT & MATCHDAY ADMINISTRATION

5.3 Dates

- 5.1.1 AJLCC and EHCD will issue fixtures with their scheduled dates. (Provisional dates published in Priority & Centralised Calendar).
- 5.1.2 All matches in all competitions must be played on the scheduled date unless either match is postponed due to bad weather when the match shall be played on the first available published reserve date or approval has been given by the competition organiser to play the match on an alternative date due to exceptional circumstances.
- 5.1.3 If any match is rescheduled priority for players will be the originally scheduled activity on that date.

5.2 Venue & start times

- 5.2.1 Each team shall provide, using the GMS, the proposed time and venue for each of its home matches no less than 14 days in advance of the match. However, deadline dates can be varied at the discretion of the AJLCC or EHCD.

5.2.2 Match start times shall be between 10:00-16:30 hrs but may be played outside of these times if agreed by both teams. Consideration must be given in terms of travel times when setting the start times of matches.

5.2.3 Offshore fixtures offer unique competitive opportunities and EH welcomes their participation in the Championships. Offshore island teams may host fixtures when drawn at home subject to the visiting team's agreement to the proposed travel arrangements. Offshore teams must meet all additional travel, parking and accommodation costs. If agreement is not reached, the fixture shall be played on the mainland. Teams should cooperate to find reasonable travel solutions and honour the home fixture of the island team where possible.

5.3 Pitches & facilities

5.3.1 All competition matches must be played on artificial turf pitches. AJLCCs and EHCD reserve the right to not allow a specific pitch to be used for matches if it deems it unsuitable.

5.3.2 It is the responsibility of the home club to ensure that pitch facilities, including markings, goals and goal nets are satisfactory.

5.3.3 There must be a toilet on site at any venue used.

6 TEAMS, MATCH SHEETS & RESULTS

6.1 Teams

A team shall be entitled to nominate up to 16 players in its squad for each match.

6.2 Match sheets

6.2.1 For matches in all competitions except JDL & below players and any team officials must be uploaded onto the match sheet on the GMS no less than 1 hour before a match is played.

6.2.2 By uploading a player onto the match sheet, the club confirms that each player listed is eligible to play and will be deemed to have played in that match.

6.3 Results

6.3.1 The home team must confirm the score on the GMS no later than 20:00 hrs on the day of match.

6.3.2 Both teams must confirm full details of goals, scorers and injuries no later than 20:00 hrs on the day after the match.

7 POSTPONEMENT OR ABANDONMENT

7.1 Priority

All matches in all competitions must be played on the scheduled date, and no postponement will be permitted except in the case of adverse weather or travel conditions. Other exceptional circumstances that cause a match not to be played, or to be abandoned, may be considered by the competition organiser. If a match is rescheduled following postponement or abandonment, the new date must be agreed by the EHCD / AJLCC. This may necessitate the postponement of another match and this regulation will also apply to the rearrangement of that match.

7.2 Bad Weather or Travel

7.2.1 General:

7.2.1.1 Immediately prior to the commencement of a match, or once a game has started, the decision on whether it should be postponed or abandoned is determined by the umpires in consultation with the team managers. Safety of participants shall be a key factor in any decision making.

7.2.1.2 In the event of a match having to be abandoned, the relevant competition organiser will decide on the action to be taken after receiving a report from the Umpires and teams. Such a decision may necessitate a replay of the fixture, dependent on the circumstances at the time of abandonment.

7.2.1.3 In the event of a postponement and/or replay of an abandoned match, a new match date must be agreed by both teams and the competition organiser within 3 days of the original match date. If teams cannot agree the relevant competition organiser will determine the outcome which may, but not exclusively, include, setting the date, confirming if the match should be awarded to one of the teams, determining that the result is recorded as a draw.

7.2.1.4 In the event of the home team wishing to postpone a match due to adverse conditions, the away team shall, at its own cost, have the right to inspect the ground prior to a decision regarding postponement being reached.

7.2.2 Pitch:

The home team should use the following procedures:

7.2.2.1 The home team administrator should ascertain from the visiting team, and any appointed umpires/officials, the latest time of notification of cancellation, i.e. when they intend to depart for the pitch venue. If an overnight stay prior to the game is expected, this time should be adjusted accordingly. If it is clear that the pitch will be unfit due to weather earlier than the above time, the visiting team, and any appointed umpires/officials

should be informed immediately.

- 7.2.2.2 It is the responsibility of the home team to inspect the pitch prior to the above-mentioned departure time. The administrator and/or a member of the home team's leadership should do this and a realistic view must be taken at this stage. They should check with Met Office (www.metoffice.gov.uk) to confirm weather conditions for the next 24/48 hours. All teams should use the Met Office as a standardised reference for weather conditions. If the pitch is unfit and is likely to remain so, the game should be postponed, and the following action taken:

7.2.2.2.1 notify the visiting team, and appointed umpires/officials;

7.2.2.2.2 notify the relevant competition organiser;

7.2.2.2.3 if the teams and umpires/officials have arrived, Regulation 7.2.1 shall apply;

7.2.2.2.4 if a team fails to follow the above procedures and, when all parties arrive, it is clear that the pitch was, and patently has been, unfit prior to the times outlined above, the teams will be asked to submit a report for the consideration of the competition organiser who may take action as it deems appropriate.

7.2.3 Travel:

The away team should use the following procedures:

- 7.2.3.1 The away team administrator should check with Met Office (www.metoffice.gov.uk) and Highways England to confirm weather and travel conditions and guidance for the next 24/48 hours. All teams should use the Met Office, Highways England as a standardised reference for weather/travel conditions.

If guidance is that you should not travel, and the guidance is that this will not change prior to intended departure the game should be postponed, and the following action taken:

7.2.3.1.1 notify the opposing team, and any appointed umpires/officials;

7.2.3.1.2 notify the relevant competition organiser.

NOTE: Whilst it is accepted that no system of match postponement can be perfect, teams are requested to try and ensure that games are postponed in sufficient time for teams and officials to be saved the time and expense of wasted journeys.

8 TROPHIES

Any club that wins a perpetual trophy must arrange for it to be returned at the club's cost to the relevant competition organizer by 1st February, unless otherwise agreed by the competition organizer. The AJLCC or EHCD will advise the club if the trophy is to be engraved in advance of this. The cost of any additional engraving or a replacement, if a trophy is misplaced by a club, will be invoiced to the relevant club.

9 BREACH OF REGULATIONS & PENALTIES

9.1 General

- 9.1.1 The provisions contained in these Regulations are without prejudice to anything contained in the EH Code of Conduct, but any club or team or individual found to be in breach of these Regulations may be subject to further penalties, as may be determined by the AJLCC or EHCD, in addition to any penalty imposed by any EH Disciplinary Body.
- 9.1.2 For breaches of any or all of these Regulations, and/or the EH Code of Conduct, the AJLCC or EHCD shall apply the standard tariff of penalties set out in Appendix 7 save that, in exceptional circumstances or when there is no standard tariff provided for, the AJLCC or EHCD may impose any penalty, including, but not exclusively, the deduction of points, fines and suspension of players, and may require teams to play matches away from their home venue. These may be applied within the current and/or subsequent season.
- 9.1.3 When imposing any penalty, the AJLCC or EHCD shall have regard to any recommendation that may have been made by any relevant Disciplinary Body under the provisions of any regulation included in the EH Code of Conduct.
- 9.1.4 Any club or team that believes that there has been a breach of the regulations in a match, has 3 days from that match to report it to the AJLCC/EHCD. Any such report must include all relevant details and proof of the breach.
- 9.1.5 The standard tariff of penalties for breach of regulations can be seen in Appendix 7.

9.2 Appeal Procedure – against a decision of AJLCC

- 9.2.1 There shall be no appeal against the decision of an umpire.
- 9.2.2 Clubs and teams have the right to appeal against a decision of the AJLCC as set out in this Regulation.
- 9.2.2.1 The Appeal Notice should be sent by email to the AJLCC. A deposit of £100 must be sent within 7 days after the Appellant has been notified of the decision to be appealed against. This will be returned, all or in part, if the Appeal is successful. As soon as reasonably practicable after receipt of the full Appeal (i.e. 7 days after the notification of the decision to be appealed against), the Chair of the AAP shall give directions for the further conduct of the Appeal, which shall consider whether the Appeal Notice properly identifies a basis with a reasonable prospect of success for contending that one or more of the grounds for an Appeal set out in Regulation 9.2.4 are present and, if so, whether the Appeal should be heard by way of an oral Hearing or determined by way of a paper Hearing, and shall notify the parties of their decision in writing.

- 9.2.2.2 The Chair of the AAP may, upon the application in writing made by or on behalf of the Appellant, stay, suspend or vary any penalty that is the subject of an Appeal pending determination of the Appeal, and, in exceptional circumstances, may extend the time for appealing upon such terms, if any, as the Chair may think fit. The decision of the Chair shall be final.
- 9.2.2.3 Save where the Chair of the AAP directs otherwise, all Appeals will be dealt with in writing by email unless the Appellant requests an oral hearing, in which case the Chair of the AAP may direct an oral hearing.
- 9.2.2.4 The parties to the Appeal are the Appellant and the AJLCC, to be represented by a member of the AJLCC appointed for the purpose by the AJLCC.
- 9.2.2.5 Any other club that may be directly affected by an Appeal shall, as soon as reasonably possible, be notified of the Appeal and subsequently the outcome of the Appeal.
- 9.2.3 An Appeal shall be by way of a review only and not by way of a rehearing.
- 9.2.4 The AAP will allow an Appeal where the decision of the AJLCC was:
- (a) based on an error of fact or could not have reasonably been reached by the AJLCC when faced with the evidence before it; or
 - (b) there was serious injustice because of a procedural or other irregularity in the proceedings or
 - (c) significant and relevant new evidence has come to light which was not available before the AJLCC decision was made and could not have reasonably been obtained earlier but, had it been available, may have caused the AJLCC to reach a materially different Decision; or
 - (d) the Sanction imposed is manifestly unreasonable in the light of the relevant AJLCC decision. of the AJLCC unless the AAP considers that in the circumstances of the individual Appeal it would be in the interests of justice to treat the Appeal as a re-hearing of the matter (whether or not an oral hearing has been directed, and whether or not there is additional evidence available to the AAP than was before the AJLCC).
- 9.2.5 If an Appeal is not allowed in full, the AAP may impose any sanction that the AJLCC could have imposed.
- 9.2.6 Where there has been an oral hearing of an Appeal the decision of the AAP may include a direction that the Appellant shall pay all or part of the costs of the Appeal to be summarily assessed by the AAP.

9.3 Appeal Procedure – against a decision of EHCD

9.3.1 Making an Appeal

- 9.3.2 There shall be no right of Appeal against the decision of an umpire or appointed Match Official.
- 9.3.3 Clubs and teams have the right to appeal against a decision of the EHCD as set out in this Regulation other than a decision not to accept a report that fails to comply with the requirements of Regulation 9.1.5 above.

The parties to any Appeal will be the Club or teams that lodge the appeal (Appellant) and EH (Respondent).

- 9.3.4 An Appeal can only be sought against a decision of the EHCD on one or more of the following grounds:

- (a) the decision of is based on an error of fact or could not have reasonably been reached by the EHCD when faced with the evidence before it;
- (b) there was serious injustice because of a procedural or other irregularity in the decision making proceeds
- (c) significant and relevant new evidence has come to light which was not available before the EHCD decision was made and could not have reasonably been obtained earlier but, had it been available, may have caused the EHCD to reach a materially different decision; or
- (d) any sanction imposed is manifestly unreasonable in the light of the EHCD decision.

9.3.5 Scope of an appeal

- 9.3.5.1 An Appeal shall be by way of a review only and not by way of a rehearing.
- 9.3.5.2 The Appeal Panel will decide whether the original decision or sanction imposed by the EHCD can be reviewed (without rehearing all the evidence).
- 9.3.5.3 The Appeal Panel shall give the parties the right to be heard whether orally or in writing and, if orally, to be represented. Where the Appellant is a Club, it may have one or two (2) of its officer's present or one officer and a representative at an Oral hearing. Where the Appellant is a team, it may have one team member and a representative present at an Oral hearing.

9.4 Appeal Forms

- 9.4.1 To commence an Appeal, the Appellant must complete an Appeal Form (in the form set out in Appendix 8) and send it to the EHCD, by e-mail, within three (3) days of the date on which the decision against which an appeal is lodged was issued to the Appellant. The Appeal Form must:
- 9.4.1.1 identify the decision and sanction appealed against, and the grounds for the Appeal as set out in Regulation 9.3.4;
 - 9.4.1.2 state whether the Appeal is in respect of the whole of a decision or only the sanction imposed;
 - 9.4.1.3 state whether an oral Hearing is requested and, if so, why an oral hearing is both proportionate and necessary; and
 - 9.4.1.4 include the Appellant's address or e-mail address for service of any documents;
 - 9.4.1.5 be accompanied by a payment of £100 (Appeal Fee):
 - 9.4.1.6 If the Appeal Form does not comply with all the requirements set out in Regulation 9.3.1 (including time limitations and payment of the appropriate Appeal Fee), that Appeal Form shall be null and void and shall not form the basis of a valid Appeal. Any Appeal Fee paid shall be returned in full.
 - 9.4.1.7 Any other club that may be directly affected by an Appeal shall, as soon as reasonably possible, be notified of the Appeal and subsequently the outcome of the Appeal.
 - 9.4.1.8 Upon conclusion of the Appeal, the Appeal Panel may, at its sole discretion, direct that all or part of the relevant Appeal Fee is refunded.
 - 9.4.1.9 The grounds of an Appeal shall not be amended after submission of an Appeal Form except as agreed by the Chair of the Appeal Panel.
 - 9.4.1.10 Make-up of the Appeal Panel
 - 9.4.1.11 The relevant Appeal Panel shall be the England Hockey Appeal Panel (EHAP) and shall be convened (in consultation with the Chair) and administered by the England Hockey Disciplinary Lead (EHDL).

9.5 Appeal Notices

- 9.5.1 Within three (3) days or as soon as reasonably practicable following receipt of an Appeal Form, the EHDL as secretary to the EHAP shall send to the parties, and the Chair of the relevant Appeal Panel a copy of the Appeal Form and any accompanying evidence. The EHDL shall also set out:
- (a) the individuals, specifically identifying the Chair, who will constitute the relevant Appeal Panel; and
 - (b) an outline of the grounds for the Appeal.

9.6 Appeal Procedure

- 9.6.1 Within seven (7) days or as soon as reasonably practicable following receipt of an Appeal Notice, the Chair of the EHAP shall consider whether the Appeal Notice properly identifies a basis with a reasonable prospect of success for contending that one or more of the grounds for an Appeal set out in Regulation 9.2.4 are present and, if so, whether the Appeal should be heard by way of an oral Hearing or determined by way of a paper Hearing, and shall notify the parties of their decision in writing. In determining whether the Appeal should be heard by way of an oral Hearing, the Chair of the relevant Appeal Panel shall take into account:
- (a) the nature of the decision subject to appeal;
 - (b) the severity of the sanction imposed by EHCD;
 - (c) whether the Appellant has requested an oral Hearing in the Appeal Form (which, for the avoidance of doubt, shall not be determinative); and
 - (d) whether, in all the circumstances, an oral Hearing is proportionate and/or will assist in the fair, just and timely determination of the Appeal.
- 9.6.2 If the Chair of the EHAP determines that the Appeal has no reasonable prospect of success, or has been made frivolously, vexatiously or maliciously, or fails to meet the requirements required to bring an Appeal under these Regulations. They may direct that the Appeal should be dismissed without further consideration. The decision of the Chair of the EHAP shall be final in this instance.
- 9.6.3 In the event that the Chair decides that the Appeal should be heard by way of an oral Hearing, they shall give directions for the further conduct of the Appeal, and the matter will proceed in line with Appendix 9
- 9.6.4 Power to stay, suspend or vary a Decision or Sanction pending Appeal

The Chair of the EHAP may stay, suspend or vary any decision or sanction pending determination of the Appeal, at their discretion. Any order to stay, suspend or vary any decision or sanction pending determination of the Appeal shall be notified to all relevant parties in writing as soon as practicable

9.7 Appeals with no oral Hearing

- 9.7.1 Where the Appeal is to be heard by way of a paper Hearing (i.e. on the basis of the written evidence only), as soon as reasonably practical after the receipt of the Appeal Notice, the Chair of the EHAP shall give directions for the further conduct of the Appeal, which may include
- (c) the provision of supplemental submissions by the Appellant and Replies to submissions by the Respondent
 - (d) notifying any other club that may be directly affected by the appeal of the Appeal and subsequently the outcome of the Appeal.
 - (e) inviting or permitting any club that may be affected by the Appeal to submit written evidence and/or submissions in support of or against the appeal
- 9.7.2 If, on receipt of the Appeal Submissions and Reply Submissions, the EHAP decides that the Appeal should be dealt with by way of an oral Hearing (for example if it becomes apparent that the findings made on the basis of the evidence are disputed and an oral Hearing is likely to assist the determination of the Appeal), the EHAP may in its discretion direct that the Appeal should be heard by way of an oral Hearing and the procedure set out in Appendix 9 shall apply.

9.8 Procedure following an Appeal Decision

- 9.8.1 The written Decision of the EHAP including reasons, shall be completed by the Chair of EHAP within seven (7) days of making its decision or as soon as reasonably practicable and sent to the EHDL.
- 9.8.2 The EHDL shall notify the parties to the Appeal of the EHAP decision and any club referred to in Reg 9.4.1.7 no later than 48 hours after receiving the decision and will notify the reasons no later than 48 hours after receiving them.
- 9.8.3 EH is entitled to publish the decision of the EHAP in such a manner as it considers appropriate after the EHDL has notified the parties. Parties to an Appeal Hearing are deemed to have consented to such publication.
- 9.8.4 The Decision of the EHAP is final

APPENDIX 1 – JUNIOR COMPETITIONS FRAMEWORK

Junior Competitions administered by England Hockey Competitions Department (EHCD) and Area Junior Leagues & Competitions Committees (AJLCC) for U14, U16 & U18 outdoor clubs and teams.

UNDER 18 JUNIOR CUP & PLATE (TIER 1) COMPETITION

The U18 Junior Cup & Plate Knockout Competition will run as previous seasons, as a National Knockout Cup Competition with early round losers playing in a parallel Plate Competition. Areas may also run an U18 Junior Super League (Tier 1), Entries will be taken centrally and then distributed to Areas for organising. Entry fees to the U18 Junior Super League (Tier 1) will be determined by Areas. Tier 2 will run as before - Area Leagues run by Areas plus an EH run National Trophy knockout competition with a parallel Shield knockout competition for early round losers.

Stage 1	Teams will be drawn locally in earlier rounds, with distances increasing through the rounds. First round losers will play in a waterfall Plate Competition
Stage 2	The U18 Cup and Plate Final will take place at a central venue.

UNDER 16 JUNIOR SUPER LEAGUE (TIER 1) COMPETITION

The U16 Junior Super League (previously named Supra League) competition structure which has run successfully since 2023-24 will run again in the same format. There is no separate U16 (T1) Cup Competition.

Tier 2 will run as before - Area Leagues run by Areas plus an EH run National Trophy knockout competition with a parallel Shield knockout competition for early round losers.

Stage 1	Teams to play in Zonal leagues, geographic but not rigidly Area based. EH run. Maximum of 8 Divisions with 6 teams (Final teams per division and number of fixtures is dependent on entry numbers)
Stage 2	4 Junior Super Leagues of 4 teams. Top 16 teams, ie top 2 in each of 8 Zonal leagues (or more qualifiers per league if fewer are run)
	Top 2 in each Junior Super League qualify for the Finals. Two pools of 4
	Teams finishing 3,4 in each Junior Super League play in Knockout Plate QF,SF, Final
	Teams who do not qualify for Junior Super Leagues play in a Knockout Vase
	1 st round losers in Knockout Vase play in a Knockout Salver

UNDER 14 JUNIOR SUPER LEAGUE (TIER 1) COMPETITION

The U14 Junior Super League (Tier 1) Competition will follow the U16 Junior Super League competition structure (previously called the Supra League) which has run successfully since 2023-24. There is no separate U14 (T1) Cup Competition.

Tier 2 will run as before - Area Leagues run by Areas plus an EH run National Trophy knockout competition with a parallel Shield knockout competition for early round losers.

Stage 1	Teams to play in Zonal leagues, geographic but not rigidly Area based. EH run. Maximum of 8 Divisions with 6 teams (Final teams per division and number of fixtures is dependent on entry numbers)
Stage 2	4 Junior Super Leagues of 4 teams. Top 16 teams, ie top 2 in each of 8 Zonal leagues (or more qualifiers per league if fewer are run)
	Top 2 in each Junior Super League qualify for the Finals. Two pools of 4
	Teams finishing 3,4 in each Junior Super League play in Knockout Plate QF,SF, Final
	Teams who do not qualify for Junior Super Leagues play in a Knockout Vase
	1 st round losers in Knockout Vase play in a Knockout Salver

UNDER 18, 16, & 14 JUNIOR TROPHY (TIER 2) KNOCKOUT COMPETITION

The U18, U16, & U14 Junior Trophy (Tier 2) Competition will run as a National Knockout Competition with early round losers playing in a parallel Shield Competition.

Stage 1	Teams will be drawn locally in the first few rounds, with distances increasing through the rounds. EH Run. Early round losers will play in a Shield Competition
Stage 2	The Semi-Finals and Finals of the U16 & U14 Trophy and the Shield will both take place at a central venue. The U18 Trophy and Shield Final will take place at a central venue.

AREA ACTIVITY

U14, U16 & U18	Area Junior Leagues	AJLCC
U14, U16 & U18	Junior Development Leagues	AJLCC or County Led Activity
U14, U16 & U18	Junior Development Festivals	County or Sub-County Led Activity

APPENDIX 2 – ENGLAND HOCKEY POLICIES / RULES / REGULATIONS

All England Hockey policies shall apply to matches in the Junior Competition Framework. These may be revised and or supplemented from time to time by England Hockey but include

- FIH Rules of Hockey (with any variations as determined by EH and as shown in Appendix 3)
- EH Code of Conduct
- EH Disciplinary Regulations
- EH Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey
- EH Privacy Policy
- EH Equality Policy
- EH Guidance on Faith and Fixtures
- EH Trans and Non-Binary Participation Policy
- UK Anti-Doping Rules
- EH League Sponsorship Policy
- EH Safe Hockey Policy

Most can be found on the Regulations and Policies Documents page of the EH website:

<https://www.englishhockey.co.uk/governance/rules-and-regulations/regulations-and-policies>

APPENDIX 3 – VARIATIONS TO FIH RULES OF HOCKEY

The Rules of Hockey 2026 shall apply with the exception of Rules 1.9, 5.1, 13.3 and 14, which shall be varied as follows:

Rule 1.9

Flag-posts between 1.20 and 1.50 metres in height are placed at each corner of the field – these are not required.

Rule 5.1

U16 and U18 full length games - A match consists of two halves of 35 minutes with a half-time interval of 5-10 minutes (to be agreed before the match starts). For U14s halves will be 30 minutes

Where both teams agree in advance of the game the following further variation may be played

A match consists of four quarters of 17 minutes 30 seconds (15 mins for Under 14s), with an interval of 2 minutes between quarter 1 and 2 and between quarter 3 and 4, and a half-time interval of 5 minutes between quarter 2 and 3

For other competition formats match length as determined by AJLCC or EHCD using Appendix 3 for guidance.

Rule 13.3

Time is not stopped after a penalty corner is awarded (unless stopped by the umpire). If a suspended player's period of suspension ends during the taking of a penalty corner the player cannot return until the penalty corner has been completed or another penalty corner is awarded.

Rule 14 Personal penalties – Suspensions

1. Umpires shall have the authority to suspend any player or official from the team bench for indiscipline, whether temporarily (green or yellow card) or permanently (red card). This will require the relevant team to withdraw a player from the pitch for the duration of the suspension.
2. If a field player receives a green or yellow card, the Umpires stop the match (but not necessarily the time) to issue the card. If time has been stopped, the Umpires re-start it immediately after issuing the card.
3. If a goalkeeper receives a green card, the Umpires stop time and re-start it immediately after that player has left the field of play.
4. The offending player leaves the field immediately. If they interfere with play on their way to the designated suspension area the Umpire may further penalise the player in accordance with the Rules of Hockey.
5. The timing of the temporary suspension starts when the player is seated in the designated area.
6. The offending player is permitted to resume play when the Umpire who suspended them indicates that the period of suspension has been completed unless this occurs during the taking of a penalty corner in which case the player cannot return until the penalty corner has been completed or another penalty corner is awarded.
7. If the offending player is a goalkeeper, the Umpires stop the time at the next stoppage of play to enable that player to resume play.
8. Where appointed a Match Official may undertake timing duties on behalf of Umpires.

APPENDIX 4 – MATCH LENGTH TIMES

At U18, U16 and U14 if playing full length games, teams should only play one full length match in one day, however teams in this and other age groups may play for a longer duration in a tournament or festival with shorter matches. Recommended times are as below.

Age Group	11 or 7 a- side	Max Time in a day*	Max No of games	Min Duration of games^	Duration of games for triangulars~	Max Duration of games
						(& Times for U14 U16 U18 T1 T2 one-off matches)
U18	11	2 hours	4 matches	15 mins e/w	25 mins e/w	70 mins, ie full length game
U16	11	2 hours	4 matches	15 mins e/w	25 mins e/w	70 mins, ie full length game
U14	11	2 hours	4 matches	15 mins e/w	20 mins e/w	60 mins
U14	7	2 hours	6 matches	10 mins e/w	15 mins e/w	15 mins e/w
U13 & U12	7 or 6	1 hour 45 mins	7 matches	9 mins e/w, 15 mins 1/way	15 mins e/w	15 mins e/w
U11	7 or 6	1 hour 30 mins	9 matches	9 mins e/w, 10 mins 1/way	15 mins e/w	15 mins e/w

*Max Time in a day – this is based on a tournament or festival style activity where teams have multiple games and breaks. Teams must have a break between games. If the Max Time in a day is used it is strongly recommended that the overall length of the activity is at least one and a half times as long, e.g. 2 hours play in 5 hours activity.

^Min Duration of games – these are recommended times for Junior Super Leagues, Area Junior Leagues, Cup and Trophy (and subsequent waterfall competitions) activity, however organisers may vary these and shorten particularly for lower level activity and festivals.

~Triangulars – U16 & U18 Junior Super Leagues & Area Junior Leagues

Recommend schedule. Matches 25 mins e/w.

0000 hrs Match 1 – A v B
0130 hrs Match 2 – B v C
0300 hrs Match 3 – C v A

~Triangulars – U14 Junior Super League & Area Junior Leagues

Recommended schedule. Matches 20 mins e/w.

0000 hrs Match 1 – A v B
0130 hrs Match 2 – B v C
0300 hrs Match 3 – C v A

APPENDIX 5 – SHOOT-OUT COMPETITION

In a shoot-out competition, five players from each team take a one-on-one shoot-out alternately against a defender from the other team as set out in this Regulation. The shoot-out competition comprises all series of shoot-outs required to determine a result.

The following sets out both the playing Rules and the procedures to be followed.

1- If the shoot-out competition takes place after the end of a Match, the first shoot-out should take place as soon as possible after the end of the Match but no later than five (5) minutes after the end of regulation playing time.

2- The respective Team Managers provide five players to take and one player to defend the shoot outs from those on the Match Report except as excluded below. A player nominated to defend the shoot-outs can also be nominated to take a shoot-out. No substitutions / replacements are permitted during the shoot-out competition other than as specified below.

3- A player who has been excluded permanently (red card) during the Match which leads to the shoot-out competition, cannot take part in that shoot-out competition. A player who has been warned (green card) or temporarily suspended (yellow card) may take part in the shoot-out competition even if the period of their suspension has not been completed at the end of the match.

4-The Match Manager will specify the method of timing shoot-outs taking account of the facilities available and the need to control time accurately.

5-The Match Manager will specify the goal to be used.

6- A coin is tossed; the team which wins the toss has the choice to take or defend the first shoot out.

7- All persons listed on a team's Long List other than any player who has been excluded permanently (red card) during the match which leads to the shoot-out competition are permitted to enter the field of play outside the 23m area used for the shoot-out but must be at least 10 metres from the spot where the ball is placed at the start of the shoot-out.

8- The goalkeeper / defending player of the team taking a shoot-out shall wait on the backline outside the circle.

9- A player taking or defending a shoot-out may enter the 23m area for that purpose.

10 - Players taking a shoot-out and also defending the shoot-outs taken by opponents are allowed reasonable time to take off their protective equipment to take their shoot-out and subsequently to put back on their protective equipment.

11- Five players from each team take a shoot-out alternately against the goalkeeper / defending player of the other team making a total of 10 shoot-outs._

12- Taking a shoot-out:

a- the goalkeeper / defending player starts on or behind the goal-line between the goal posts;

b-the ball is placed on the nearest 23m line opposite the centre of the goal;

c- an attacker stands outside the 23m area near the ball;

d- an official at the technical table starts the clock either

- when the Umpire blows the whistle to start time, or
- when the Umpire has indicated that the players are ready and an automatic whistle sound is made over the venue PA system when the clock is started (if the venue includes this technical set up)

e-the attacker and the goalkeeper / defending player may then move in any direction;_

f- the shoot-out is completed when:

i 8 seconds has elapsed since the starting signal;

ii a goal is scored;

iii the attacker commits an offence;

iv the goalkeeper / defending player commits an unintentional offence inside or outside the circle in which case the shoot-out is re-taken by the same player against the same goalkeeper/defending player;

v the goalkeeper / defending player commits an intentional offence inside or outside the circle, in which case a penalty stroke is awarded and taken;

vi the ball goes out of play over the back-line or side-line; this includes the goalkeeper/ defending player intentionally playing the ball over the back-line.

13 If a technical error occurs during the shootout (eg the 8 second clock does not start or work correctly, the PA system does not work correctly) then the shootout must be retaken regardless of the outcome of the original shootout

14 If a penalty stroke is awarded as specified above, it can be taken and defended by any eligible player on the Match Report subject to the provisions of Articles 16, 17 and 18 of this Appendix.

15 The team scoring the most goals (or ahead by more goals than the other team has untaken shoot outs available) is the winner.

16 A player may be suspended by a yellow or red card but not by a green card during the shoot- out competition.

17 If during a shoot-out competition (including during any penalty stroke which is awarded) a player is suspended by a yellow or red card:

a that player takes no further part in that shoot-out competition and, unless a goalkeeper / defending player, cannot be replaced;

b the replacement for a suspended goalkeeper / defending player can only come from the five players of that team nominated to take part in the shoot-out competition:

i- the replacement goalkeeper / defending player is allowed reasonable time to put on protective equipment similar to that which the goalkeeper/defending player they are replacing was wearing;

ii - for taking their own shoot-out, this player is allowed reasonable time to take off their protective equipment to take their shoot-out and subsequently to put it on again.

c any shoot-out due to be taken by a suspended player is forfeited; any goals scored by this player before being suspended count as a goal.

18 If during a shoot-out competition, a defending goalkeeper / defending player is incapacitated:

a that goalkeeper / defending player may be replaced by another player from among the players listed on the Match Report for that particular Match, except as excluded in this Appendix or unless suspended by an Umpire during the shoot-out competition

b the replacement goalkeeper:

i is allowed reasonable time to put on protective equipment similar to that which the incapacitated goalkeeper / defending player was wearing;

ii if this replacement is also nominated to take a shoot-out, this player is allowed reasonable time to take off their protective equipment to take their shoot-out and subsequently to put it on again.

19 If during a shoot-out competition, an attacker is incapacitated, that attacker may be replaced by another player from among the players listed on the Match Report for that particular match, except as excluded above or unless suspended by an Umpire during the shoot-out competition.

20 Once replaced, an incapacitated player can take no further part in the shoot-out competition.

21 If an equal number of goals are scored after each team has taken five shoot-outs:

a second series of five shoot-outs is taken with the same players, subject to the conditions specified in this Appendix;

b the sequence in which the attackers take the shoot-outs need not be the same as in the first series;

c the team whose player took the first shoot-out in a series defends the first shoot-out of the next series;

d when one team has scored or been awarded one more goal than the opposing team after each team has taken the same number of shoot-outs, not necessarily being all five shoot outs, that team is the winner.

22 If an equal number of goals are scored after a second series of five shoot-outs, additional series of shoot-outs are taken with the same players subject to the conditions specified in this Appendix:

a- the sequence in which the attackers take the shoot-outs need not be the same in any subsequent series;

b - the team which starts each shoot-out series alternates for each series.

APPENDIX 6 – JUNIOR PLAYER SELECTION POLICY

Applicable to U14, U16 and U18 competitions within the Junior Competition Framework (JCF)

Refer to Reg 4.2. Junior Competition regulation

The JCF is aligned to a number of competitions. The application of regulations and Player Selection will be determined by each competition to ensure that the expectations are commensurate to the standard of play.

Player Selection Principles

1. For clubs to have reasonable flexibility in managing player selection.
2. For teams in a competition to be selected in hierarchical order and comprise of players who reflect their level of ability within their clubs, based on availability on any one day.
3. To endeavour to ensure that all clubs feel competition is 'fair' and that large or small clubs are not disadvantaged by the application of regulations.
4. To endeavour to ensure that players are able to play and not be 'unselectable' due to competitions' regulations.

Player Selection Summary

Competition	Movement of players between club's teams		'Doubling up'		Latter stages of competition
	Up	Down	Field Player	Fully Kitted GK [^]	
League competitions	Unrestricted	JSL– 1 team AJL & lower – 1 team	Only permitted in line with 5. below	Yes	JSL & AJL – played 50% of matches for selected team* JDL & lower - unrestricted
Championships / knockout competitions	Unrestricted	Not permitted (1)*			Play in previous round or league competitions match during same season*

[^]Must play in one of the matches as a fully kitted GK, can play as field player or fully kitted GK in other match.

(1) this includes Players who have played in the U14 or U16 JSL Championships after 15 November.

*Selection Exemption Pass may be permitted.

1 General

- 1.1 Players have one junior club.
 - 1.1.1 Players must represent their junior club in all outdoor junior competitions.
- 1.2 Player movement between clubs is permitted in accordance with 1.2.1 and 1.2.2.
 - 1.2.1 Only one move per season.
 - 1.2.2 Player must move before the following
 - i. to play in U14 U16 & U18 JSL–15 November
 - ii. to play in any other competition at any age group – 01 January (nb both subject to Regs 2 and 3 below)
- 1.3 Players can play in multiple age groups for the same club in outdoor competitions subject to all other regulations.
- 1.4 Players cannot play in more than one age group on the same weekend. Except
 - i. where a player doubles up to play in at least one match as a fully kitted GK.
 - ii authority to do so has been granted by the relevant AJLMC in line with Regulation 5 below.
- 1.5 Any player who has played for England U18 or U18 or at Talent Academy must play for the highest ranked team in their club and not below AJL.
- 1.6 No guest players permitted.

2 Players who move clubs

- 2.1 If a player moves junior club, they are bound to the new club across all junior competitions.
- 2.2 In knockout competitions a player becomes cup tied to a club after their first appearance in a competition. Once cup tied they cannot represent either their new club or their previous club in a knockout competition.
- 2.3 In League competitions and the U16 & U14 JSL, once the move has been completed, a player can only represent their new club.

3 Multiple teams from one club

- 3.1 In league competitions players can represent multiple teams from within the same club, subject to all other regulations on accordance with 3.1.1 – 3.1.3.
 - 3.1.1 In the U14 & U16 JSL competitions a player becomes tied to a team at 15 November. After that date a player can only play for one U14 JSL and/or one U16 JSL team and may not play for a different team in a knockout competition at that age group.
 - 3.1.2 Player whose last match was in the JSL competition can only move down one team at that age group within the same club.
 - 3.1.3 Players whose last match was in the AJL or lower competition can move down one team at that age group within the same club.
- 3.2 In the U14, U16 U18 Cup & Trophy competitions a player becomes 'cup tied' to a team at an age group after their first appearance in a competition at that age group. Once cup-tied they can only represent the same team, or higher teams in future rounds of the competition

4 Latter stages of competition

- 4.1 All competitions except for JDL & below, after 50% of a team's matches have been played, players must have played 50% of their matches for that team.
- 4.2 At JDL or below there are no further restrictions towards the latter stages of a competition.
- 4.3 In Championships / knockout competitions to play in a Semi-Final, or National Finals, players must have played in a previous round or in a previous league competition match during the same season.

5 Playing two matches on one day. (nb full length – 60 mins or 70 mins matches)

- 5.1 This shall apply for Area league matches only.
- 5.2 Players may not play in the same age group.
- 5.3 Player may not play more than 3 full length matches in a weekend, including Saturday league hockey and school matches.
- 5.4 Players may not be attending TA activity on the following (Monday) evening.

6 Selection Exemption Pass (SXP)

- 6.1 A club may request a Selection Exemption Pass (SXP) for a player or players. If granted by the EHCD or AJLCC the SXP will exempt them from specific Player Selection & Player Eligibility Principles for a specified time period to meet the Aims of Player Selection.
- 6.2 Examples of relevant circumstances where exemptions may apply in genuine cases, where a player's movement between teams is greater than shown in the tables. **The scenarios listed are not exhaustive** and are intended to provide examples of circumstances in which a Selection Exemption might be considered by EHCD or AJLCC.
 - 6.2.1 Player playing at lower Team than previously eg returning from injury after a few weeks absence as they work back to full fitness.
 - 6.2.2 Player wishing to move clubs more than once in a season due to a change in circumstances, e.g. family moving house.
 - 6.2.3 Player wishing to move clubs after the deadline due to change in circumstances, e.g. family moving house.
 - 6.2.4 Player who has become cup tied in Championships / knockout competitions wishing to play for a lower-level team, e.g. the player played for a higher level team due to unavailability.
 - 6.2.5 Player wishing to play in the latter stages of a competition where they have not played 50% of their matches for that team, e.g. if the player has missed matches due to unavailability or injury.
 - 6.2.6 Player wishing to play in a Semi-final or Final of Championships who has not played for that team in a previous round or in a previous league competitions match during the same season, e.g. if they have been unavailable due to illness or injury or wish to play for a higher team due to unavailability.

APPENDIX 7 - STANDARD TARIFF OF PENALTIES FOR BREACH OF REGULATIONS

1. Please Refer to Regulation 9

2. Breaches

2.1 Stages - Stage 1, Stage 2, Stage 3 below refer to an individual breach and the process giving the opportunity to rectify this. A second breach of the same Regulation may result in this being treated as Stage 2.

2.2 Repeat Breaches – 1st Occurrence, 2nd Occurrence, 3rd Occurrence below refer to the same Regulation being breached on one or more occasions. Penalties may be doubled for repeat breaches.

3. Fines

3.1 There are recommended amounts for fines, Tariff 1 (T1) - £25, Tariff 2 (T2) - £50, Tariff 3 (T3) - £100.

3.2 Note waiving of a fine is at the discretion of AJLCC or EHCD.

3.3 Where a fine is applied it will be doubled for repeat offences.

3.4 Payment of fines is within 28 days unless alternative date is set by AJLCC.

REGULATION	SUB-SECTION	BREACH			FINE
		STAGE 1 or 1 st OCCURENCE	STAGE 2 or 2 nd OCCURENCE	STAGE 3 or 3 rd OCCURENCE	
3 Entry into the Competition	3.2.3 Completed by the due date its membership of England Hockey and their payments	Reminder that it needs to be completed with a revised deadline	If new deadline not met. Warning that it must be completed prior to next match	Club fixtures awarded as walkovers until completed. Fine.	T1
4 Player Selection	4.1 Fielding an ineligible player 4.2.1 Fielding a player not complying with principles of team selection	Match recorded as loss (8-0 in a league game or higher score as determined			
5 Fixture Management	5.2.1 Provide time and venue for each of its home matches by deadline - subject to any Variation discretion of the AJLCC or EHCD	Reminder that this needs to be completed	Reminder for 2 nd occurrence.	Discretionary Fine.	T1
5 Matchday Administration	5.3 Provision of Pitch & facilities and changing facilities in line with Regulation and no effort to mitigate	Warning.	Fin		T1
6 Team, Match Sheets & Results	6.2.1 Team late in uploading all players and any team officials participating in a match sheet on the GMS by specified time	Warning	Warning	Warning & fine for persistent non- compliance	T1
	6.2.2 Fielding an ineligible player in a match	Match recorded as loss (8-0 in a league game or higher score as determined			

	6.3.1 Team late to confirm score on the GMS by specified time, or 6.3.2 Team late to confirm details of goals, cards and injuries on the GMS by specified time	Warning	Warning	Warning & fine for persistent non-compliance	T1
	Falsifying information on match sheet.	Match recorded as 8-0 loss (or higher score as determined) Fine. Plus 1 point deduction if a league match			T1
7. Postponement or Abandonment	7. Failure to comply with regulation	Match recorded as 8-0 loss for deliberate/negligent failure. Fine and/or reimbursement of opposition expenses			T1 plus opposition expenses
Any regulations not covered above	Significant or persistent violation	Penalty as determined by AJLCC or EHCD			

APPENDIX 8 – APPEAL NOTICE

AREA APPEAL NOTICE

To be sent to relevant AJLCC or EHCD pursuant to Regulation 9

Appellant (name of Club and or team)	
Competition (if relevant)	
Name of Person submitting Appeal Notice	
Position with Club	
Email	
Phone Number	
Decision being Appealed	
Date of Notification of Decision	
Short reason for Appeal	

The club/team confirms that;

1. It wishes to Appeal the decision above and is doing so within 3 days of the date of notification of decision.
2. It agrees to pay the deposit of £100 within 7 days of the date of notification of decision.
3. It agrees to submit the full details of its appeal within 7 days of the date of notification of decision.
4. It understands it will forfeit the right to Appeal if it does not comply with 2. Or 3.
5. It may withdraw its appeal prior to submission of the full details and the deposit will be returned.

Signed	
Print Name	
Position with Club	
Date	

APPENDIX 9 –ORAL HEARING – For appeals against a decision of EHCD

1. Unless otherwise expressly stated, these guidelines shall apply to Appeal Hearings.

Preparation for an oral hearing.

2. The Chair may issue directions relating to the procedural aspects in the period leading up to the Hearing in order to ensure proper and fair conduct of the Hearing. The EHDL shall notify the Panel members of any such directions. These may include but shall not be limited to procedure and timetable.
3. Notice of the Hearing must be sent by the EHDL to the Hearing Parties via a Hearing Notice at least twenty-eight (28) days before the date of the Hearing or sooner with the agreement of the parties, together with all supporting materials and (if applicable) copies of Witness statements. The Hearing Notice shall also name the individuals, specifically identifying the Chair, who will constitute the relevant Panel..
4. Unless the Chair instructs otherwise, at least fourteen (14) days in advance of the Hearing, each Hearing Party must provide the EHDL, via e-mail, details of all Witnesses they wish to call, together with copies of their written statements completed in accordance with paragraph 4 above and any other documentary evidence they propose to rely on at the Hearing.

It shall be the duty of the Hearing Parties to notify and arrange for the attendance of any Witnesses they may wish to call. The number of Witnesses allowed to give evidence will be at the discretion of the Chair, however they should be adequate enough to establish or defend a case without resulting in unreasonable duplication or time wasting

Both Hearing Parties shall advise the EHDL, at least fourteen (14) days before the Hearing, if they will be using the services of anyone (legal, technical or otherwise) to present their case or advise them at the hearing. If either party has previously appointed a Representative, they are still required to advise if this individual will present their case for them at the hearing. The name and status of any Representative must be provided to the EHDL at the time of notification. The person who represents either Hearing Party may not also be a Witness.

8. The EHDL shall, at least seven (7) days before the Hearing, notify each of the Hearing Parties to the proceedings of the names of the other Hearing Party's Witnesses and the name and status of any Representative and anyone other than the Hearing Party who will be presenting a Hearing Parties' case or acting as an adviser.

Request for an adjournment of an oral hearing.

9. The Chair has discretion to adjourn the Hearing for a maximum of fourteen (14) days if at any time they think the interests of justice require it (e.g. to secure the attendance of a key Witness or to allow for additional evidence to be presented).
10. The Hearing Parties may request in writing an adjournment of the Hearing within seven (7) days of the date of the Hearing Notice. A detailed statement of the reasons for the request must be provided. The request must be sent to the EHDL. The EHAP Chair will consider the request and make a Decision that they, in their absolute discretion, shall consider fair and reasonable (although if any adjournment is ordered this should, normally, not exceed fourteen (14) days).
11. In making any order to adjourn, the Chair shall bear in mind not only the interests of the party seeking the adjournment but also the interests of any other parties including Witnesses, and the administrative implications.
12. The Chair will determine the date, time and place of any adjourned Hearing. The EHDL shall write to the Hearing Parties informing them of the adjournment and advising of the adjourned Hearing date and requesting a written acknowledgement via e-mail.
13. If the Appellant does not attend, or is not represented at any adjourned Hearing, the Panel will consider the case in their absence. The Chair has the discretion to order a further Hearing date if there are compelling reasons for non-attendance by either party.

Conduct of an oral hearing.

14. The procedure for the Hearing shall be flexible and informal, and shall be at the discretion of the Chair, who may make such decisions as necessary to ensure the orderly and effective conduct of the Hearing and provide for any reasonable adjustments to allow the Hearing Parties and Witnesses to take part properly, subject to the overriding requirement of fairness. The Chair will outline the basic procedure of the Hearing at the start of the Hearing.
15. The Panel may proceed to hear the case in the absence of any of the parties and Witnesses if due notice has been provided.
16. The Hearing Parties may rely on written representations made prior to the Hearing and/or appearance in person. Documents will be deemed to be authentic unless advance notice has been served requiring for them to be proved at the Hearing.
17. Hearings will take place remotely using Teams or some other suitable IT platform unless otherwise directed. All remotely convened hearings shall be recorded for EH's records. It should be clearly understood that travel or other expenses or fees will not be paid to either Hearing Party, their Representatives

or Witnesses involved in the Hearing. This does not preclude the Panel from imposing Costs orders on either Hearing Party in respect of administrative costs.

18. The Panel shall decide any issue by a simple majority and no member of the Panel may abstain from voting.
19. The EHDL may record the EHAP proceedings. The proceedings may be audio or video recorded; the EHAP Chair will inform those involved in the Appeal Hearing about the recording at the start of the proceedings.
20. If the Panel feels it is necessary, bearing in mind all the circumstances surrounding the Hearing, the Panel may request EH to appoint an Independent Person (e.g. a respected senior official, lawyer or accountant) to act as adviser to the Panel. The cost of this may be taken into consideration in any award of Costs or be borne by EH.