

Supported Teams

Overview

The YNE Hockey League allows Supported Teams in the lowest divisions to support & encourage participation in the League. The intention is to assist clubs in two situations:

- a) maintaining teams that are struggling for numbers, to prevent them falling out of the League altogether;
- b) entering new teams that might not have enough players to fulfil every fixture.

It is hoped that teams will have Supported status for one or two seasons only, as the aim is to establish the team as a full League team.

Key Points

- In general, the Standard League Regulations apply, but with greater lenience in terms of compliance. The following variations are made:
 - Points & goals in matches involving Supported Teams will not count towards promotion.
 - Supported Teams cannot be promoted.
 - Supported teams must have 5 players who have not played for another team in the league that day, but they can be supplemented by:
 - players of any standard doubling up and/or playing down from other teams (of the same gender) in the club
 - players who are part of the club providing the opposition that day. They will need to register with that club, ideally before the match.
 - 'Higher' team players are expected to play in the spirit of the game, & to be used to facilitate the game for other players on both teams.
 - Squads with players doubling up are not limited to 13 players.
 - All players involved must be entered on the GMS.
 - Players must all be at least 13 on the day of the match.
- Only teams in the lowest ranked division of any part of the vertical League structure can become Supported Teams. The Divisional Secretary will inform all Team Contacts in the division that a team has become a Supported Team.
- Supported Teams must be the bottom team(s) in a club. A club can have more than one Supported Team. Single-team clubs can become Supported Teams.
- A club must request that a team becomes a Supported Team at the start of the season, before 31st October, but ideally before the first game.
- Matches involving Supported Teams may be cancelled without penalty, in the following circumstances:
 - The Team Contact must inform the Divisional Secretary & opposition they are unable to field a side by 2000 on the Tuesday before the match. The Divisional Secretary will then try to match teams without a game, & will inform their opponents of the new match, if they have been able to find one, by 2000 on the Wednesday.
 - The original match can be rearranged for a Saturday League Reserve Date, if both teams agree. Otherwise, it will be awarded 5-0.
 - Teams cancelling later than 2000 on the Tuesday before the match will be fined £25, the match will be awarded to the opposition 5-0, & 1 point will be deducted.