

# MIDLANDS ADULT LEAGUES

## Update January 2026



[midlands.englandhockey.co.uk/adult-leagues-competitions](https://midlands.englandhockey.co.uk/adult-leagues-competitions)



As we are about to begin the second half of the season here are some guidance notes and reminders for the rest of the season. Also included is a report from the successful Midlands Indoor tournament that took place just before Christmas.

### Player Transfer and Registration

The season deadline for new Registrations and Transfers is **1 February 2026**. Any new Registrations or Transfers after the deadline **MUST** be approved by the League Committee before selecting to play. **Even if GMS allows them to be Approved.**

### Forfeit, Cancelled or Postponed Fixtures

If a Team is considering to forfeit, cancel or postpone a fixture, the **Divisional Secretary (ALDS) MUST be notified** at the time of the decision; the ALDS will offer guidance on the actions needed. Failure to notify the ALDS at the time of the decision (before the fixture) is subject to a penalty fine (Reg. 14.1.3).

A list of the ALDS be found [here](#).

### Cold Weather Guidance

We are now entering the time of year when weather may be affecting games. Please consider the following:

#### TRAVEL

Please do not travel if you believe it to be dangerous to do so. Check local weather warnings to confirm. Let your opposition know as soon as you decide not to travel. Regulation 13 contains guidance on postponing and checking weather reports for advice regarding traveling. Please ensure all Team Captains are aware of what to do in the event of cold weather postponements.

#### PITCH STATUS

You know your local pitches. If you believe they will not be playable Friday, then call games off. **If you are not sure, talk to your opposition about the latest time they need to be notified before starting to travel and make sure you inspect the pitch and inform them by that time if the game is off.** Remember to include your Divisional Secretary in ALL communications.

#### TEAM CONTACTS

It is important that **ALL teams have a Team Contact with a phone number** on view, please check your teams now.

#### How to display Club or Team Contacts details:

- Log onto the GMS and click on your name, top left, and select 'My profile'.
- In the 'Contacts – View' window click the pencil and paper icon to edit your profile.
- Under your email address untick the 'Hide all' checkbox, then scroll down to tick 'Hide address' to hide your other contact details, this will leave just your email address on view.
- Scroll down to add your phone number (home, work or mobile) and tick the relevant hide/show checkboxes, then choose the correct number to display in the 'Preferred phone' menu, probably 'Mobile', then scroll down and press 'Save'.
  - The last step above is the most important to ensure the correct phone number is on view.
- This should then leave your email address and phone number on view to opposition team contacts, Divisional Secretaries, and League admin.

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### IF A FIXTURE IS POSTPONED:

- Contact the Divisional Secretary first, then make sure the opposition and any appointed umpires are informed.
- Agreement of the rearrangement must be made within 10 days.

### Team Selection and the 50% Rule

A reminder that the 50% rule for player selection is in force for rearranged games, games when a higher-ranked team has no fixture or does not play its scheduled fixture, and the last four games of the season. You can apply for a Selection Exemption Pass (SXP), but it may not be Approved.

- **8.3.4 If a Higher-Ranked Team has no Fixture or Does Not Play its Scheduled Fixture:** In a Matchweek (N.B. a Matchweek is Thursday to Wednesday) where a team has a League fixture but any higher-ranked teams in their Club do not:
  - (a) The team can only select players who have made at least 50% of their playing appearances for either that team or a lower-ranked team – refer to the definition of Regular Team.
  - (b) Regulation 8.3.3 does not apply in such a Matchweek.

### ACCURATE TEAM SHEETS

Please ensure all Team Sheets are correct. There have been several instances where Team Sheets have been copied from previous weeks and not updated, leaving players listed that did not play and umpires that did not umpire on the Team Sheet. Please double check before the deadline (5 minutes before a match).

### Selection Exemption Pass (SXP) Request Form

Please ensure you have read and understood the regulations regarding Team Selection.

If you need to submit a Selection Exemption Pass (SXP) for a player, please use the link below. Please ensure the request is submitted with plenty of notice—the **deadline for SXP submissions is 20:00** on the day before the game (e.g. by 20:00 on Friday). If an emergency exemption is required, the Divisional Secretary must be contacted directly.

- [Selection Exemption Pass Request Form](#)

One form should be submitted for each player, and a new SXP is required for any rearrangement of a fixture. If in any doubt whether a player requires a SXP to play, contact the Divisional Secretary for advice.

There are also links to the SXP form listed on the Adult League pages of the Midland Hockey website.

### Umpire Registration

All **Umpires should register with EH Officiating** (Regulation 11.4), it's free and makes it easier for Team admins to select umpires when submitting Team Sheets. Registration is straightforward and easy to do.

To register on the GMS as an umpire simply:

- Go to the GMS: [gms.englandhockey.co.uk](https://gms.englandhockey.co.uk)
- Click the link "To register for GMS click HERE"
- Register with 'Officiating', bronze membership is free. Make sure to use the same email address that is used for your player account, and the two accounts will be linked.

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### Regulation Breaches

It can't be emphasised enough how important it is that GMS is updated in line with the regulation deadlines and that the data is accurate. Below is a summary of the current breaches.

Relegation	Number of breaches
3.1.4 - Invoice not paid.	27
3.3.5 - Team withdrawn during the season	2
5.2 - Fixture time and venue for each of its home matches not provided by deadline	1
5.2.3 - Fixture change of details late or not notified	2
7 & 8 - Ineligible player fielded in a match or not complying with principles of team selection	12
8.4 - Doubling up a player contrary to Regulations	3
9 - Information falsified on match sheet	2
9.4.1 - No Team Sheet	29
9.4.1 - No Umpires on Team Sheet	66
9.4.1 - Only one Umpire on Team Sheet	19
9.4.3 - Score not reported on the GMS by 20:00 on the day of the match	24
9.4.4 - No Cards on Match Sheet (Timeline)	16
9.4.4 - No Scorers on Match Sheet (Timeline)	13
9.4.4 - No valid times on Scorers/Cards on Match Sheet (Timeline)	3
9.4.4 - Not all Cards on Match Sheet (Timeline)	6
9.4.4 - Not all Scorers on Match Sheet (Timeline)	2
9.4.4 - No yellow and red cards on the GMS Timeline by specified time	1
10 - Uniform kit, additional clothing, numbers do not conform	2
11 - Failure to supply umpire of appropriate level	1
11.8.3 - Appointed umpire's report not submitted by deadline	47
12.2.3 (c) Suspended player missing incorrect match	1
12.2.3(a) ALDS not informed of pending suspension	1
13. Failure to comply with regulation	1
14. Failure to honour a fixture	131
14.1.3 ALDS not informed by deadline	3

Especially Regulation 9 - Information falsified on match sheet; this could result in relegations at the end of the season or if automatically relegated, starting next season on -15 points. JUST DON'T DO IT. Keep your player names and results honest.

### Yellow Card Suspensions

Just a reminder, it is a Club/Captains responsibility to ensure players receive a suspension if they reach the number of Yellow Cards as per the Regulations:

- **12.2.2 Suspension Thresholds:** Players shall be subject to match suspensions for yellow cards accumulated throughout the season in League matches. The following suspensions apply to individuals:

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- **Four yellow cards** in a season = **1 match suspension**;
- **Two additional yellow cards** in the same season (i.e., six in total) = **1 further match suspension**;
- **Each additional yellow card thereafter** in the same season = **1 further match suspension**.

Please note, the Club of any player due to receive a suspension must contact the relevant ALDS immediately, as per the Regulations (12.2.3).

### New League Club Rep Committee Role

We welcome Dan McConaghy to the role of League Club Rep. We will be providing further updates on this role, in the meantime if you have any general queries, not fixture related, that you would like to bring to the attention of the Committee, please contact Dan.

### Adult Leagues Information

There is now lots of information to be found on the Adult League webpages on the Midlands Hockey website, including guidance, regulations, and contact details, as well a few new pages including the League's Top Scorers.

- Website: [Midlands Hockey Adult Leagues & Competitions](#)
- Guidance: [Adult Leagues Regulations & Supporting Documents](#)
- Follow us on **Instagram** [Midlands Hockey Adult Leagues Instagram](#)
- Join our group on **Facebook** [Midlands Hockey Adult Leagues Facebook Group](#)

Regards,



**MIDLANDS HOCKEY**

#### **Nick Haynes**

Chair of Adult Leagues & Competitions Committee  
Midlands Hockey Ltd

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### Midlands Indoor Competitions 2025

#### 13-14 December 2025, Aldersley Leisure Centre

This seasons Midlands Indoor Competition took place at Aldersley Leisure Centre in Wolverhampton on Saturday 13 (Tier 1) and Sunday 14 (Tier 2) December 2025.

On Saturday, eight men's and four women's teams played in the Tier 1 competition for Clubs wanting to progress to the National Super 6s competition.

The men's Tier 1 competition consisted of two pools of four with a cross over final. The winner of which will represent the Midlands in Division 2 of the National Super 6s. The women's competition consisted of a round robin of three, with a guest Club whose team has already qualified from last season. The winner of which will represent the Midlands in Division 2 of the National Super 6s.

Sunday it was the turn of the Tier 2 event, a fun day for those Clubs just looking to enjoy some indoor hockey and the Technical Officials took the opportunity to wear Christmas jumpers. With eight men's teams and eight women's teams split into four pools of four with crossover finals.

During the week leading to the weekend one men's and one women's team withdrew, a panic call went out for more players to the teams who had entered. Fortunately, Helen Curry of Wolverhampton and Tettenhall rang a few Clubs and said they could enter another women's team, we named them Midlands Invitation. Although we couldn't cobble together a men's team on the day Bloxwich, Finchfield, and Nuneaton agreed to play an extra game each, so no one lost out.

#### Congratulations to the winners!

- Tier 1 Champions
  - Women – Cannock, Men - University of Nottingham
- Tier 2 Champions
  - Women – Lichfield, Men - Telford & Wrekin



Cannock



University of Nottingham



Lichfield



Telford & Wrekin

