

Summary of Key Revisions

Disciplinary Regulations

Revisions to the England Hockey (EH) Disciplinary Regulations came into effect on 1 October 2026. These have been made based upon a continuous review of the operation of the EH Disciplinary Regulations introduced in September 2024. The key changes are outlined below. For full details, see the England Hockey Disciplinary Regulations 2026-27 via this link [Red Cards | England Hockey](#)

- Repositioning of the extensive Definitions section as a Prefix rather than an Appendix to raise awareness of this.
 - Definition of Exceptional Circumstances to set aside a Red Card – previously undefined.
 - Increase in the number of Legally Qualified Chairs for EH Disciplinary Panel (EHDP) and EH Appeal Panel (EHAP) from 5 to 6.
 - Triage system for National Level Minor Offences Red Cards.
 - Revised definition of Season
 - Revised definition of Sport to mean the game of field hockey or any versions of the game that are both recognised by EH and fall within the jurisdiction of EH.
 - Violent Offence – removal of 'negligent' from the definition with a reduced minimum sanction of 16 days, rather than 30 days.
- New Regulation 2.6.2 – allowing a Disciplinary Panel to admit some video evidence in cases of mistaken identity and Red Cards.
- New Regulation 4.8 – return of endorsements and countersignatures for Misconduct Complaints (to combat the rise in low-level and poorly thought-through Misconduct Complaints).
- New Regulation 7.12 – ability for a Disciplinary Panel to identify other acts of Misconduct not otherwise before the Panel (e.g. against the Complainant following a Response, which could not previously be considered by a Panel without a cross-complaint).
- New Regulation 7.3 – deemed withdrawal of Misconduct Complaints where requests for additional information or supporting evidence have not been responded to.



- New Regulation 7.20 – for occasional instances of delays in the Red Card process (e.g. late submission of Red Card report or extended time for offender representations).
- Regulation 8.3 -Disciplinary Panel's ability to independently call for available video evidence (to combat refusals to release it).
- Regulations 11.14 and 11.15 – more detailed breakdown of starting points for minimum periods of suspension for Non-Violent and Violent Offences.
- Regulation 18.2 – clarification of communication routes for both Red Cards and Misconduct Complaints.