

MIDLANDS ADULT LEAGUE

Newsletter June 2024

League Structures

Please find the Men's and Women's League Structures for 2024-25 on the Midlands website.

The Women's League has been restructured as per the consultation at the end of last year, i.e.:

- Division 2s split East/West to assist travelling.
- Division 4s renamed and some movement for a geographic alignment.
- Divisions 5 & 6 merged and aligned within following guidelines. There were a number of iterations before we arrived at the final assignments.
- Maximise teams in Divisions (impacted by total number of teams available so not all Divisions an optimal 12).
- Balance teams geographically to try and minimise travel (using astro post codes provided). To assist we have removed the Development-only Divisions.

Due to the teams at the peripheries of the Midlands this has not been possible for all Divisions.

NB. Next season there will be two promotions from every Division with matching relegations.

League Fixtures

Now that Divisions are finalised we have started working on Fixture generation. Our target is to publish early in July.

League Dates

- All Adult League Divisions will start on **Saturday 28th September**
- EH Championships Saturday 26th October
- Last games before winter break Saturday 7th December
- Indoor Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th December
- Restart Saturday 11th January
- EH Championships Wednesday 15th February
- Last League games **Saturday 5th April**.

Fines

Those teams with outstanding fines should be aware that if they are not paid by the beginning of the season **ALL of their teams are liable not to keep any match points they receive until paid**. I will contact those Clubs individually.

We are very conscious that we have had to issue lots of fines last season due to GMS not being completed properly, see details below. To try and reduce the number of fines next season we are producing a leaflet of points and reminders that will contain both details of what needs to be completed and also guidance on how to complete. We plan to send copies of the leaflets to all Clubs before the start of next season. Two for each team and two extra for each Club. Their creation has been funded from fines issued last season.

MIDLANDS ADULT LEAGUE

Newsletter June 2024

Fines 2023-24

There was a total of 919 fines during the last season. Below are listed the reasons for the fines and how many were issued for each infringement.

REGULATION	INFRINGEMENT	NUMBER OF FINES
11.1.4	Both Umpires not recorded on GMS Team Sheet	226
9.4.4	GMS Timeline not updated by deadline (Goals, Cards, etc.)	183
9.4.1	Players and team officials not on the GMS Team Sheet by deadline	105
10	No shirt numbers recorded on GMS Team Sheet	83
14	Failure to honour a fixture	82
11.12	Appointed Umpire's report not submitted by deadline	70
9.4.4	Missing Scorers on GMS Match Sheet (Timeline)	52
9.4.1	Shirt Numbers on all players missing from GMS Team Sheet	23
9.4.1	Missing GMS Team Sheet	19
9.4.1	No Umpires on GMS Team Sheet	18
9.4.3	Score not reported on the GMS by deadline	12
9.4.1	Only one Umpire on GMS Team Sheet	11
9.4.4	No valid times for Scorers/Cards on GMS Match Sheet (Timeline)	9
7 & 8	Fielded ineligible player or not complying with principles of fair selection	7
9	Information falsified on match sheet	6
3.1.4	Invoice not paid	5
3.3.1 & 3.3.2	Official's details not visible in GMS by the start of the season	4
13	Failure to comply with regulation	2
5.2	Home match fixture time and venue not provided on GMS by deadline	2
		919

Reasons for Fines:

- 3.1.4 - Invoice not paid
- 3.3.1 & 3.3.2 - Official's details not visible in GMS by the start of the season
- 5.2 - Fixture time and venue for each of its home matches not provided by deadline
- 7 & 8 - Ineligible player fielded in a match or not complying with principles of fair selection
- 9 - Information falsified on match sheet
- 9.4.1 - No Team Sheet
- 9.4.1 - No Umpires on Team Sheet
- 9.4.1 - Only one Umpire on Team Sheet
- 9.4.1 - Shirt Numbers on all players missing from Team Sheet

MIDLANDS ADULT LEAGUE

Newsletter June 2024

- 9.4.1 - All players and any team officials participating in a match not on the match sheet on the GMS by specified time, i.e. by 20:00 on the day of the match
- 9.4.3 - Score not reported on the GMS by 20:00 on the day of the match
- 9.4.4 - No Cards on Match Sheet (Timeline)
- 9.4.4 - No Scorers on Match Sheet (Timeline)
- 9.4.4 - No valid times on Scorers/Cards on Match Sheet (Timeline)
- 9.4.4 - Not all Cards on Match Sheet (Timeline)
- 9.4.4 - Not all Scorers on Match Sheet (Timeline)
- 11.12 - Appointed umpire's report not submitted by deadline
- 14 - Failure to honour a fixture.

All Clubs Meeting

For the first time we plan to hold an **ALL Clubs Meeting** at the beginning of September. At this meeting we will discuss changes and focusses for the coming season and answer any queries you may have to make sure we have a problem free season. As per Regulation 3.1.7 **every Club MUST send a representative**. No attendance is finable.

Regulations

The Areas, with England Hockey, are in the process of finalising updates to the Regulations, and this includes a major re-write and simplification of Regulation 8 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY - FAIR SELECTION. Also updated is Appendix 5 - STANDARD PENALTIES & TARIFFS OF FINES.

It also points to three new EH Regulations:

- EH Code of Conduct
- EH Disciplinary Regulations
- EH Guidance on Faith and Fixtures
- EH Transgender Participation Policy

All of which should be published before the start of the season.



Nick Haynes

Chair of Adult Leagues & Competitions Committee

Midlands Hockey Ltd

Email: adultleagueschair@midlands.hockey

Website: midlands.hockey

Bisham Abbey Nsc, Marlow Road, Bisham, Marlow, SL7 1R