



Regulations & GMS Helpful hints for Clubs

Season 2023-24

A quick reference to any material regulation changes and some helpful hints about working with your ALDS.

The new West Hockey website is up and running. It will be your source for all Results, Tables and League News
www.west.englishockey.co.uk

THINGS TO DO and DATES TO REMEMBER

This is for guidance only and cannot be used as a defence against any decision made by the ALDS or ALMC. It is your responsibility to check the regulations thoroughly.



ALL CLUBS MUST APPOINT:

- A LIAISON OFFICER please e-mail your ALDS by 20th September with a name, e-mail and phone number.

TEAM ADMINS x2 for all TEAMS

Both positions must have a **VISIBLE** e-mail address and phone number.

FIXTURE TIMES AND VENUES:

Pre-Christmas : **8th September**

Post-Christmas: **1st December**

Changes to times or venues:

No less than 10 DAYS prior to fixture and you **MUST** contact Opposition and ALDS. Less than 10 days needs ALDS approval.

REGISTRATION OF NEW PLAYERS or TRANSFERS, LATEST DATES:

GRADES 2-5

1st FEB

Grades 4 & 5 ONLY may apply to the **ALMC** (adultcomps@west.co.uk) not the ALDS for late registration or transfer. Applications for a 2nd transfer in season must also be submitted to the ALMC.

CHANGES BETWEEN SEASONS:

REQUESTS FOR:

- ❖ New/Merged Club Entry
 - ❖ New Team Entry
 - ❖ Withdrawal of Team
 - ❖ Request to decline a Promotion
 - ❖ Placement in a Higher Division
- must be sent to adultcomps@west.co.uk

No later than:

1st MAY

KEY REGULATION CHANGES/CLARIFICATIONS.

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5. FIXTURES: 5.1.2 Moving Fixtures Clarifies the 5-day period.

5.2.3 CHANGING FIXTURES Clarifies that ANY change at any time needs to be notified to the ALDS AND THE TEAM ADMIN of the opposing team AS SOON AS GMS IS CHANGED.

8. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY & FAIR SELECTION – these have been significantly updated in order to CLARIFY. PLEASE READ THE WHOLE SECTION AND APPENDIX 4.

9. TEAMS MATCHSHEETS & RESULTS: 9.4.1 Clarifies that ALL PLAYERS and SHIRT NUMBERS must be entered before the match.

9.4.2 Clarifies that the Teamsheet must be able to be viewed by captains and umpires BEFORE the match.

11. UMPIRES: 11.1.3 Clarifies that if an Away team intends to appoint to a match (subject to contacting the opposition at least 5 days before) IT CANNOT BE REFUSED.

11.12 Clarifies that teams with Area Appointed Umpires must complete an umpire's report by 20:00 on Wednesday after the match (no penalty for not doing it).

12. DISCIPLINE

12.2.3 CHANGE suspensions are applied to all LEAGUE matches.

12.2.5 Clarifies that yellow card(s) issued to the same player in the same match should be counted and recorded as two yellow cards only.

13. POSTPONEMENT – Clarifies what happens if teams are not able to agree a date.

14. FAILURE TO HONOUR A FIXTURE or FORFEITURE OF A MATCH.

Clarifies what constitutes non-fulfilment/forfeiture of a fixture. **MAJOR**

CHANGE has been made to the penalties for forfeiture PLEASE READ THE WHOLE of APPENDIX 5.

Development Teams - follow the same Regulations, with some amendments, please ensure you read the Guidelines on the website to know the differences.

PLEASE READ THE WHOLE OF APPENDIX 5 as a number of changes both MAJOR and minor to the penalties have been made, including the doubling of a fine if it is not paid within 28 days.

KEY MATCH DAY TIMELINE

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ESSENTIAL AREAS TO GET RIGHT:

FIXTURE TIME AND VENUE ENTRY: Pre-Christmas 8TH SEPTEMBER; Post-Christmas 1ST DECEMBER

TEAM SHEET SUBMISSION ON TIME = 5 MINUTES BEFORE THE SCHEDULED START OF THE MATCH

If you go into the team sheet and change/save it after the scheduled start of the match it will produce a FLAG. Please do not add anyone including umpires/team officials after the start time, if you have missed them off or made a mistake, contact your ALDS and let them know, GMS does not show us what has been changed.

SHIRT NUMBERS PLEASE include shirt numbers as this is how GMS registers that there is a team sheet for the ALDS reports.

SCORE ENTRY BY BOTH TEAMS ON TIME = NO LATER THAN 2000hrs ON THE DAY OF THE MATCH

Evening matches starting at 18:00 or later – please enter the score as soon after the match as possible. If there are problems, please contact the relevant ALDS.

MATCH SHEET ENTRY BY BOTH TEAMS ON TIME = NO LATER THAN 2000hrs ON THE DAY AFTER THE MATCH

It must include goal scorers, cards and injury report.

Please try to plan for someone to have access to a laptop or tablet to be responsible for managing results/teamsheets/matchsheets. GMS on mobile does work, it is just not as easy to use – EH is working on this.

IF YOU EXPERIENCE PROBLEMS WITH GMS a) LET THE ALDS KNOW b) REPORT IT TO GMS SUPPORT gms.support@englandhockey.co.uk (and copy in West GMS Support Officer: gmsofficer@westhockey.co.uk) it is the only way they will know there is a problem.

VWHL POSITION STATEMENT(S) ON:

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COVID POSTPONEMENTS

With the presence of a new variant of COVID this may still be required in season 2023-24. However, at the time of writing there are no UK Government COVID restrictions impacting hockey. We will continue to be guided by the NGB and the UK Government and will release guidelines as applicable. However, we recognise there may still be disruption and plan to continue to apply the following in helping us all manage our hockey commitments in a safe way.

- No postponement requests due to Covid-19 cases will be accepted after **12:00noon** the day before a game. Any matches cancelled after this time will be adjudicated upon as per a forfeiture. In any such case, the postponing team will be liable to cover any out-of-pocket expenses of the non-affected team. This stance will allow the affected club sufficient time to make an informed decision, whilst allowing the opposition to inform their players of the cancellation and take actions to minimise costs.
- In all circumstances, the unaffected club will have the opportunity to request the game rescheduled if they so wish. We would expect both Clubs will be focused on trying to play the game at some point. This stance is taken to provide the opportunity to play as much hockey as possible where there is a will to do so.
- Where a postponement request is granted, the onus is on the club with Covid cases requesting the postponement, to inform all appropriate third parties (opposition, umpires, etc) of the situation. Failure to do so will be adjudicated on in accordance with the regulations. This includes re-imburement of costs which may include pitch hire, umpire fees, cost of teas, fuel etc
- Where a match is postponed / forfeited, Clubs should ensure they adhere to the Regulations related to Fair Selection regarding other teams within the Club, namely Regulation 8 and Appendix 4.

REQUESTS FOR SELECTION EXEMPTION PASSES (SXPs)

Even though the regulations state that these can be requested from either the ALMC or the ALDS, please send any requests for SXPs to **your ALDS** if they need to confer with the ALMC they will do so.

All other matters should be directed to person(s) identified in the Regulations. If in doubt, ask your **ALDS**. The contact details for the 'right' people can be found here <https://west.englishockey.co.uk/adult-leagues-competitions/adult-hockey-contacts>



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