

Issue 1 September 2025

WELCOME TO THE
2025-26
SEASON:
OFFICIATING CHAIR
TONY SHUTT



Your Officiating Committee 2025-26

Role	Name
Chair	Tony Shutt
Vice Chair, GMS & Tech Support	Chris Reece
Performance Development Lead	Nick Kearsey
Club Umpire Development Lead	Jane Evans
Appointments Lead	Tonu Shutt
Appointments Lead Assistant (EH Competitions)	Graham Morrison
Technical Official Lead	John Dixon
Social Media Lead	Vacant
Link Here for Contact details	

North West Hockey Officiating Pages – we have undertaken a major revamp
<https://northwest.englishhockey.co.uk/umpiring-officiating>

Specific web pages for:

Key information for:

Club Umpires and Club Umpire
Developers: [see link here](#)



Club Umpire Development



Young Umpires

Information and Documents for Young
Umpires

Essential Guidance on:

Pre-match Chat (*with your
colleague*)

Radio guidance, movement
around the pitch, communicating
and much more, [see link here](#)



Essential Guidelines and Key Skills

Area Discipline: Guidance and
documentation - on Red Cards, Misconduct
Processes, Discipline Process and
Contacts



Area Discipline

See Area Discipline page for guidance and
Documentation, [See Link Here](#)

England Hockey Officiating Club (EHO)

Membership Renewal, [see
Link Here for Information](#)



The Officiating Section also has specific pages for:

Officiating in the North West: [Link Here](#) Information relating to the Area Officiating Committee

Officiating Contacts: [Link Here](#)

Regulations and Key Documents: [Link Here](#) Adult League Rules, FIH Rules etc.

AGM: [Link Here](#) Minutes and documents relating to the NW AOC AGM 2025



**ENGLAND
HOCKEY**

EHO Officiating Guidance

2025/2026 Season

Umpires are to start Penalty Corners on their whistle not their voice

For greater consistency across the sport, and to deliver a clearer message to all involved in the game, the new guidance for umpires at all levels in England is to start Penalty Corners on a whistle not voice (e.g. no longer shouting “play” or “when you’re ready” for the injection to take place).

As per tournament regulations for the National and 8 Area Adult Leagues, time will not be stopped for the setup of the Penalty Corner, unless there is an injury, card or other situation that requires time to be stopped. This will also apply to most other competitions, but there may be some variations in specific tournament regulations (e.g. Talent Academy Cup). It is therefore, important for umpires to check the tournament regulations for any amendments to the FIH Rules of Hockey.

From the 2025/2026 season:

- • Umpires will blow their whistle to award the Penalty Corner.
- • Allow the players enough time to put on their extra protective equipment and set up for the corner.
- • Umpires will then blow their whistle to indicate for the Penalty Corner to start.
- • The injector should play the ball within a couple of seconds of the whistle being blown and not delay too long.

[See Link Here for further Information](#)

England Hockey strongly recommends facemasks be worn when defending Penalty Corners: [See Link Here for further Information](#)

The aerial rule remains the same this season: [See Link Here for further Information](#)

Online Safeguarding Awareness module recommended for all Officials : [See Link Here for further Information](#)

Look the Part EHO Kit, see Link to EH online Shop:

<https://store.englishhockey.co.uk/collections/england-officiating>



EHO Personal Penalties Guidance: [See Link Here](#)

EHO PERSONAL PENALTIES GUIDANCE



Umpires should always communicate with the players to manage the game, including initially giving clear warnings to low level offenders – WHISTLE TONE, SIGNALS, VOICE.

Consider the following in relation to the offence within the context of the game: REPETITION, INTENT (deliberate), IMPACT (consequence), PHYSICALITY, DANGER, VIOLENCE.

Make clear if an escalation of the penalty applies to the player, their team or both teams - to show you are moving through the control ladder as appropriate.

2 MIN GREEN CARD

- LOW IMPACT
- NO PHYSICALITY
- NO DANGER
- FIRST REPETITION AFTER INITIAL CLEAR VOCAL WARNING
- LOW LEVEL DISSENT

5 MIN YELLOW CARD

- HIGH IMPACT
- REPEAT OF OFFENDING FOR WHICH GREEN CARD ALREADY AWARDED
- INTENTIONAL OFFENDING
- PHYSICALITY
- DANGER
- STRONG DISSENT

10 MIN YELLOW CARD

- HIGH IMPACT AND DELIBERATE AND/OR PHYSICALITY AND/OR DANGER
- GOING TO GROUND AND CAUSING OPPONENT TO GO TO GROUND OR TAKE EVASIVE ACTION
- EXTENSION TO 5 MIN YC E.G. FOR DISSENT FOLLOWING AWARD OF YC

RED CARD OR MMO

- VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR TO ANY PARTICIPANT - THREATENED OR ACTUAL
- ABUSE OF ANY PARTICIPANT USING FOUL LANGUAGE OR INVOLVING PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS (RACE, RELIGION, ORIENTATION ETC)
- ACCUSATIONS OF BIAS OR CHEATING BY AN OFFICIAL
- 2ND YC FOR SAME OFFENCE PROVIDING NOT DISSENT OR VIOLENCE (FOR WHICH STRAIGHT RED)



SPIRIT OF HOCKEY CODE OF CONDUCT

INTRODUCTION

Hockey prides itself on fostering an open and welcoming community for individuals from all backgrounds, ensuring that everyone who wants to experience hockey can be involved, feel valued, and be safe. England Hockey is dedicated to promoting and protecting the welfare of all participants, urging everyone to consistently uphold and promote the values and integrity of our sport.

The code of conduct is designed to ensure that everyone in our sport, from players and coaches to umpires, officials, and spectators, contributes to an environment that is safe, respectful, and enjoyable for all.

By adhering to this code and embracing these values, we demonstrate the behaviours expected of participants within the game. These values unite us as a sport—it is reflected in how we communicate, treat each other with respect, act with integrity, behave within our community, involve others, and see hockey as a force for good in society.

WHAT WE WANT THE SPORT TO BE

Hockey is a sport rooted in inclusivity, mutual support, and respect, where passion fuels participation and challenges are met with resilience.

Winning gracefully, accepting losses with dignity, respecting officials and their decisions are fundamental values we want to continue to be upheld.

This ethos extends beyond the field, encompassing all roles within the game, from administrators to committee members and beyond. By embracing and adhering to this code, we maintain the sport's reputation, support its goals, and enrich its culture.

SPIRIT OF HOCKEY VALUES

Values uphold and protect our sense of fairness and help define how we behave with each other both on and off the pitch.

Values are not rules, but rather a guide - a moral compass that sets expectations for our behaviour in every aspect of the game.

Whether you are playing, coaching, umpiring, running your club, or managing the governing body, these values guide how we interact and what we can expect from one another



We are inclusive to ensure everyone can feel a part of the hockey community



We take care of people and the places we play



We uphold the spirit of fair play and respect our opponents and officials



We stand up for what is right in a respectful way

Social Media



THINK
before you
POST