

MIDLANDS ADULT LEAGUE

Newsletter February 2024

Forfeit Games

After a review on GMS the League has realised that not all Divisional Secretaries have been consistent in applying penalties for Forfeit games.

The Penalties we are enforcing are as follows:

- The failure to Honour a Fixture will be recorded as 5-0 loss (Walkover) and 1 point deducted for first breach and 2 for subsequent breaches. There may be a discretionary Fine depending on the Grade of the Team and circumstances of the Forfeit.
- As the failure to Honour a Fixture should be from the lowest team, any lower team which plays, will also have similar point deduction.

Any point corrections will be reflected on GMS before the games on 24th February.

Development Games

The aim of Development is to allow teams to introduce players to hockey, either Juniors or Back to Hockey. To achieve this the player rules are relaxed to allow more experienced players to take part and 'coach'. It has come to our attention that on a number of occasions this is being abused and these experienced players are being allowed to dominate games. We don't want to have to introduce restrictions on numbers of experienced players or area of the pitch they play in.

Fines

As I've said before we don't particularly want to be issuing fines. We would rather you were complying with the Regulation. Any known problems with GMS we have provided work arounds or ways of checking it has recorded your input/changes.

The following are the details that are attracting Fines which you should be able to avoid:

- Shirt Numbers on all players missing from Team Sheet
- No Umpires on Team Sheet
- Only one Umpire on Team Sheet
- No Scorers on Match Sheet (Timeline)
- Not all Scorers on Match Sheet (Timeline)
- No Cards on Match Sheet (Timeline)
- Not all Cards on Match Sheet (Timeline)
- No valid times on Scorers/Cards on Match Sheet (Timeline) - zero is NOT a valid time

MIDLANDS ADULT LEAGUE

Newsletter February 2024

Fair Selection

We are now coming into the last 4 games of the season so just a reminder of the Regulations around Fair Selection.

8.2.4 In weeks where a team has a League fixture but higher teams in their Club do not, the team can only select players who have played at least 50% of the League matches in the current season for either that team or a lower ranked team. Note that Regulation 8.2.3 does not apply in such weeks, and the team may need to request a Selection Exemption Pass from the ALMC to confirm player eligibility (refer to Regulation 8.6 for details) for a player moving down from a higher ranked team that does not have a game scheduled for that matchday.

8.2.5 For a team's last four League matches, unless a Selection Exemption Pass is granted in advance by the ALMC, all players must have played a minimum of 50% of the League matches in the current season for the team they are selected for, or a lower ranked team.

and

8.6 Selection Exemption Pass

8.6.1 Each Club may request a Selection Exemption Pass (SXP) for any player, which, if approved by the ALMC, will exempt that player from specific Fair Selection Regulations for a designated period.

8.6.2 The granting of an SXP will be limited to genuine circumstances such as those provided as examples in the Selection Exemption Guidance Notes in Appendix 4.

Don't take a chance, if any doubts ask, we have already deducted a number of points this season for teams not requesting SXPs. Here's the link: [ONLINE SXP FORM](#)

Consent

EH are planning to make the introduction of Match details i.e. Players, Scorers, Cards, on the Area Websites, at the end of the month. Consent responses are current running at only 25%. Please encourage your players to opt-in to provide their details. From this information well be able to consider publishing top scorer tables.

Details here: <https://midlands.englishockey.co.uk/midlands-hockey-news/have-your-name-show-on-the-match-team-sheet>

Ramadan

I would like to remind Clubs that as we are now entering Ramadan you should be considerate of requests for time changes to Fixtures during this fasting period. Guidance can be found on the Midlands Website. If you can't change to an early start time, consider a different date.

MIDLANDS ADULT LEAGUE

Newsletter February 2024



Complaints

Whilst we appreciate some actions/behaviours happen during a game, the League Committee can only direct take action where League Regulations are broken.

- If you are not happy with your opposition's Umpires, the opposition are responsible for their appointment. Midlands ALMC allows the lesser of the requirements for Umpires, but anything other than the minimum, requires agreement of the opposition for the game to be played as a League game.
- Player/bench/spectator behaviour should be managed by the umpire, either by Red card or MMO. If not and you think it contravenes the EH Code of Ethics and Behaviour (RESPECT), you should consider raising a Disrepute Complaint.
- Initial we would suggest you contact the opposition directly; we have found a Chair-to-Chair e-mail can resolve a lot of complaints.

Regards,



**MIDLANDS
HOCKEY**



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