



BYLAWS FOR HKHA SUMMER MIXED HOCKEY LEAGUE

(1) Composition of Teams

- All players participating for a team must be registered for that team prior to the start of the match.
- The maximum number of players that may participate in a match for any one team is 16.
- Teams shall include both male and female players.
- No team shall have more than **5 male field players** on the field of play at any one time. The restriction on the number of male field players shall always be met unless **BOTH** team captains have mutually agreed, prior to the start of the match, that **6 male field players** shall be permitted on each team and both umpires have been notified accordingly.

Note: The intention of the Mixed Summer League is to play with fully gender mixed teams and increasing the number of male field players to 6 should only be adopted if both teams are unable to field a suitable number of female players.

- There is no limit on the number of female players allowed on the field of play provided the total number of players on the field at any point in time does not exceed 11.
- As permitted under the Rules of Hockey, teams may play with a goalkeeper, a player with goalkeeping privileges or with 11 field players. For the purpose of determining the number of male players on the field of play, **a player with goalkeeping privileges shall be considered as a field player**. A male player with goalkeeping privileges shall therefore count as one of the permitted male field players. This in no-way changes the rules applicable to players with goalkeeping privileges as laid down in the Rules of Hockey.
- Suspension of male field players: the number of male field players permitted on the field during any period(s) of suspension of male field players shall be reduced by the number of male field players suspended at that time.

(2) Registration

- All players taking part in the HKHA Mixed Summer League must be registered by a registered team. Full names and Hong Kong Identity Card numbers shall be provided on the Player Registration Form. A limited number of non-Hong Kong residents shall be permitted to play and in such cases their nationality and passport number shall be provided with their registration.

- There is no limit to the number of players that a team is permitted to register.
- To register players under the age of 18 the form “Parental Permission Letter for Players Under 18 (2018)” shall be completed, signed by the player’s parent or guardian and submitted to the HKHA. A player under the age of 18 shall not be considered registered until the convener and/or captain has received an acknowledgement of receipt of the "Parental Permission Letter for Players Under 18 (2018)” from the HKHA.
- A player may only be registered to play for one team, but may play for other teams of the same club.
- Teams may register and deregister players at any time during the league. Players registered or deregistered after the initial pre-league registration period shall not be considered registered or deregistered until the convener and/or captain has received an acknowledgement of their registration/deregistration from the HKHA.
- Players cannot register for another team until they have been deregistered from the team that they are currently registered with.
- Players found to be playing for a team that they are not registered with will be immediately deregistered by the HKHA and will not be permitted to register for any team in the current Summer League. They also risk being prohibited from registering in future Summer Leagues.
- Any player taking part in a HKHA Mixed Summer League match shall be obliged to present his/her Hong Kong Identity Card to either of the umpires or to a representative of the HKHA, upon request, immediately before, during, or immediately after the match.

League Format

- The league will be played on a multi-pool, round robin basis. There will be no play-offs between the pools. If more than one round is played, teams may be moved to different pools for the second round.

(4) Rules of Play

- All games shall be played in accordance with the current Rules of Hockey published by the International Hockey Federation (FIH), with the exception of the changes listed in items 1 through 6 below. The current Rules of hockey can be found at <http://www.fih.ch/inside-fih/our-official-documents/rules-of-hockey> or the FIH Rules App can be downloaded.
1. Each **goal scored by a female player will count as two goals**, except where it is an own goal, when it will only count as one goal for the opposing team.
 2. Players, when both defending and attacking, are **not permitted to hit the ball in either circle**; only a push, flick or scoop may be used. A “Slap” hit is regarded as a hit. Players are permitted to hit the ball anywhere on the pitch outside the two circles.

3. There will be **no penalty corners**. For an infringement that would incur a penalty corner under Rule 12.3 of the Rules of Hockey, a free hit shall be awarded and shall be taken at the nearest point to the infringement that is 5 metres outside the circle. For an infringement that would incur a penalty corner under Rules 12.3b, 12.3c or 12.3d of the Rules of Hockey, personal penalties may be awarded.
4. There will be **no penalty strokes**. For an infringement that would incur a penalty stroke under Rule 12.4, a free hit shall be awarded and shall be taken at the nearest point to the infringement that is 5 metres outside the circle. For an infringement that would incur a penalty stroke under Rule 12.4b. of the Rules of Hockey, personal penalties may be awarded.
5. The **use of the stick above the shoulder shall not be permitted**

(5) Duration of Matches

- All matches will be played over two (2) thirty-five (35) minute halves. The half- time break is to be limited to five (5) minutes.
- Teams should arrive at the venue in plenty of time to start the game at the scheduled start time. If a game is started late the length of the game must be shortened such that it finishes not later than 5 minutes before the scheduled start of the next game or, in the event of the last game of the day, 5 minutes before the closure time of the pitch.

(6) Uniforms

- The team uniforms listed when registering are to be worn for all matches. It is the responsibility of the Captain of the Away Team (i.e. the second named team in the match schedule) to determine if there is a uniform colour clash for the match and, if there is, to change the uniform of his/her team to ensure that the two teams are easily distinguishable. The Away Team may change to its second uniform, or it may wear a combination of its first and second uniforms, whichever is most appropriate.

(7) Match Ball

- It is the responsibility of the Home Team (i.e. the first named team in the match schedule) to provide the match ball.

(8) Signing for Pitches

- For matches at LCSD pitches, the captain of one of the teams playing the first match that day is requested to sign for all the time slots booked by the HKHA for that day.

(9) Recording of Results

- Umpires may report the award of Yellow and Red cards to the HKHA, by text message, e-mail or fax within forty-eight (48) hours of the end of the match. Captains and umpires may also report any other problems or issues associated with a match, such as pitch problems, failure of opponents to provide a team, failure of a team to provide an umpire, inappropriate or improper behavior etc. in the same way.

(10) Umpires

- Unless teams are notified that an umpire is to be appointed by the HKHA, teams are required to supply a HKHA registered umpire to officiate at either the match immediately prior to, **and***/or after their own game, as indicated in the match schedule.

****Note that in some instances teams will be required to provide two umpires on one day.***

- The success of the HKHA Mixed Summer League depends very much on teams performing the umpiring duties expected of them. It is the responsibility of the team captain to ensure a HKHA registered umpire is provided for all umpiring duties allocated to his/her team.
- Failure to provide an umpire as required will be treated very seriously and may result in a team or a club being banned from this and/or future Summer Leagues.
- These matches provide an opportunity for Clubs and the HKHA to provide practical training for inexperienced umpires and such umpires may be appointed to a Summer League match provided they are supervised by a HKHA registered umpire. Players are asked to recognise this and to remember that **AT NO TIME** is abuse of an umpire, or threatening behavior towards an umpire, acceptable.

(11) Conduct

- The conduct of all players and officials participating in the HKHA Mixed Summer Hockey League and spectators watching HKHA Mixed Summer Hockey League matches shall be governed by:
 - The Bye-laws for HKHA Mixed Summer Hockey League
 - The Rules of the HKHA
 - The HKHA Code of Conduct
 - All cases of misconduct shall be dealt with in accordance with the Bye-laws for HKHA Mixed Summer Hockey League and Rule 14 of the Rules of the HKHA
- All conveners, captains, players, officials and spectators are reminded of the importance of fair play, good sportsmanship and proper conduct on and at the pitch.

- HKHA Mixed Summer League related complaints against players, officials and spectators may be made in writing and sent to the HKHA, by text message, email or fax, within forty-eight (48) hours of the end of the match to which they relate or within forty-eight (48) hours of the time of the incident to which they relate, if they did not occur during a match.
- All complaints plus all reports from umpires and captains will be reviewed and/or investigated by the HKHA Mixed Summer Hockey League Committee and disciplinary action taken as seen fit by the committee.
- Failure to abide by the Rules and Bylaws and reports of incidents of inappropriate or improper conduct will be treated very seriously and may result in a player, a team or a club being banned from this and/or future Summer Leagues.
- Umpire abuse and conduct that is considered by the HKHA Mixed Summer Hockey League Committee to bring the game of hockey into disrepute will not be tolerated and will be brought before the HKHA Disciplinary Committee.
- All appeals shall be dealt with in accordance with Rule 15 of the HKHA Rules.

(12) Personal Penalties

- A player receiving a green card shall be temporarily suspended for two (2) minutes of playing time during which the offending team shall play with one less player. Upon receiving a green card the player shall immediately leave the field of play and shall not return until 2 minutes of playing time has elapsed.
- A player receiving a yellow card shall be temporarily suspended for a minimum of five (5) minutes of playing time during which the offending team shall play with one less player. The duration of the suspension shall be at the discretion of the umpire. Upon receiving a yellow card the player shall immediately leave the field of play and shall not return until advised by the umpire that he/she may do so.
- Whilst temporarily suspended, players shall remain close to the field of play but shall not take any part in the match e.g. coaching, supporting etc. Temporarily suspended players are permitted to rejoin their team at half-time but must complete their suspension when play resumes.
- A player receiving a yellow card shall also receive penalty points, based on the type of offence for which the card was awarded, as follows:
 - Y1 Dissent (e.g. continued contesting of decisions) – One (1) point;
 - Y2 Dangerous Play (e.g. violent stick tackle, violent obstruction) – Three (3) points;
 - Y3 Verbal abuse of Umpire or Player (e.g. use of foul language and/or continued and aggressive contesting of decisions with the umpires or between players) – Three (3) points;
 - Y4 Threatened assault on Umpire or Player (physical confrontation of the umpire or player by another player) – Four (4) points;

- Y5A Other offence of a non-violent nature (e.g. repeated hitting away of the ball, repeated unsportsmanlike behaviour, continued and deliberate lifting of the ball) – One (1) point
- Y5B Other offence of a violent or threatening nature (e.g. repeated contravention of a threatening nature that is not covered by the above) – Four (4) points.
- Penalty points awarded for yellow card offences will be accumulated throughout the HKHA Mixed Summer Hockey League.
 - A player accumulating 4 penalty points will be immediately suspended for 1 match.
 - A player accumulating 8 penalty points will be immediately suspended for a **further** 2 matches.
 - A player accumulating 12 penalty points will be immediately suspended for a **further** 3 matches and will be automatically referred to the HKHA Disciplinary Committee who may impose a more severe penalty.
 - A player receiving a red card shall be permanently suspended from the match in which the offence takes place and for a number of subsequent matches, as follows:
 - R1 Repeated dissent – suspension for 2 matches;
 - R2 Second offence of dangerous play or very dangerous play – suspension for 2 matches;
 - R3 Repeated verbal abuse or foul abuse of umpire or another player – suspension for 2 matches;
 - R4 Repeated threatened assault or physical assault of umpire or another player – suspension for 4 matches;
 - R5A Other offence of a non-violent nature – suspension for 2 matches;
 - R5B Other offence of a violent nature – suspension for 3 matches.
 - Upon receiving a red card the player shall immediately leave the field of play and promptly leave the vicinity of the pitch. Any attempt by a permanently suspended player to take any part in the match e.g. coaching, supporting etc., or to communicate with players and team officials participating in the match, or to remain in the vicinity of the pitch, is likely to result in a more severe penalty being imposed.
 - The HKHA Mixed Summer Hockey League Committee will review all reports of red card offences and may review reports of yellow card offences, following which one or more of the following actions may be taken:
 - (a) require the player and/or the team captain to attend an interview;
 - (b) issue a verbal or written warning to the player or team captain;
 - (c) refer a case to the HKHA Disciplinary Committee, regardless of the number of yellow card penalty points that have been accumulated by the player;
 - (d) refer any red card offence to the HKHA Disciplinary Committee.
 - Team captains and/or convenors are responsible for keeping a record of all penalty points awarded to their players and for initiating a suspension of a player immediately following the end of the game in which the requisite number of penalty points has been accumulated by that player.

- The team captain and/or convenor shall promptly notify players by text message or email of the dates of his/her suspension. The notification shall be copied to the HKHA who shall send an acknowledgment within 24 hours (Saturdays and Sundays excluded). If no acknowledgment is received within that time the team captain or club convenor shall telephone the HKHA office to report the case.
- Team captains and/or convenors are responsible for ensuring that suspended players do not participate in any matches during their period of suspension.
- If a player is unable to complete a suspension due to there being insufficient matches for his/her team remaining in the HKHA Mixed Summer Hockey League, the case will be referred to the HKHA Men's Section or Women's Section, as applicable, and the suspension may be continued into the relevant HKHA Winter League.
- Penalty points awarded for yellow card offences will not be carried forward to the Winter Leagues or to the following year's Summer League.
- Any team failing to follow these Byelaws and the Rules of Hockey in respect of player suspensions shall be immediately withdrawn from the HKHA Mixed Summer Hockey League. The players registered with that team shall be prohibited from registering with any other team and may also be prohibited from playing in future HKHA Mixed Summer Hockey Leagues.

Amended April 2018