

Hockey Ireland Tournament and Inter-Pro Competition Rules & Regulations

Version	Date	Comments
1.0	2014-15	From Hockey Ireland Website Reviewed Apr 2016
2.0	31-Jan-2018	Sourced from PDF version and updated with cosmetic/formatting changes
2.1	31-Jan-2018	Updated with changes agreed at Inter-Pro working group of 10Apr16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Excluded changes or reference to goal difference for junior age group inter-provincials as final wording was never formalised for clause 12.4</i> <p>Extract from Inter-Pro working group minutes of 10Apr16 meeting</p> <p>Proposed changes to IHA Rules & Regulations – the following changes were agreed: Page 3 Clause 3.4 After “age” insert “or over 18 and still attending school” Page 4 Clause 5.3 Delete “necessary” insert “highly desirable” Page 6 Clause 12.4 Add “In junior age group interprovincial competitions '<i>goal difference and goals for</i>' will not be used but instead, in the event of a drawn game, a 1-v-1 penalty shoot-out competition will take place, the result of which will only be used should there be a tie at the end of the tournament.”</p>
2.2	08-Feb-2018	Updated with changes proposed by Inter-Pro working group from 17-Jan-18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 12.3 and 12.4 Junior Age Group Goal Difference - Appendix 3 Junior Inter Provincial eligibility
2.3	28-Feb-2018	Reflecting changes to tidy up wording <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To be reviewed by I/Pro working Group
2.4	01-Apr-2018	Changes to 12.4.1, 12.4.2, 12.4.3 to ensure that it is clear that a penalty shoot-out competition to be played after the final pool match (rather than final tournament match).
3.0	01-Aug-18	2018-19 Season <i>To be reviewed by Inter Pro working Group end Sep 2018</i>
3.1.0	28-Jun-19	Changes proposed by Inter-Pro Working Group
3.1.1	14-Aug-19	Updated section 14, Composition of Teams for matches; added 14.5 and 14.6
3.1.2	15-Aug-19	Updated to include new schoolgirls Minor Cup Winner competition – June Smith

Version	Date	Comments
		Section 6 – Eligibility Section 13 – Tournament Competition Appendix 1 – Competition Hosting
3.2		All changes accepted and document versioned to 3.2
4.0	31-May-22	Reflecting updated Inter-Pro Competition Formats <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Competitions at Under 16, Under 18 and Under 21 are played as individual matches scheduled throughout the season - Removed Appendix 3 (Match schedules for Inter-Pro tournaments)
	09-Aug-22	Modified U21 women’s competition eligibility criteria
	11-Aug-22	Final version prepared with changes accepted

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3. INTRODUCTION

- 3.1. The Hockey Ireland Tournament Competition Rules & Regulations cover all Tournament Competitions under the auspices of Hockey Ireland, including Inter-provincials, Irish Colleges & Universities Tournaments and Irish Schools Tournaments (Kate Russell, John Waring and Schoolboys).
- 3.2. The Rules of Hockey, including any experimental rule changes approved by the Hockey Ireland for use in Competitions, shall be observed except as herein provided. A copy of these Hockey Ireland Tournament Competition Rules & Regulations will be available on the Hockey Ireland website
- 3.3. The Hockey Ireland shall own the broadcasting rights to all games played in the Hockey Ireland Tournament Competitions be it, terrestrial, satellite, cable, or internet streaming. All other broadcast coverage may be permitted with the prior approval of the Hockey Ireland.
- 3.4. The Hockey Ireland has approved the use of photographic/film/video equipment at all games under the jurisdiction of the Association. All players who participate in these competitions shall freely permit their images to be used without any payment or compensation. It is the responsibility of participating teams to ensure they have appropriate parental consent where required.
- 3.5. Definition
 - Organisation: For the purposes of these Tournament Rules & Regulations, Organisation covers schools, clubs, colleges and Provinces entering Hockey Ireland Tournament Competitions.
 - Provinces: For the purposes of these Tournament Rules & Regulations, the term Provinces covers the four Provinces of Ireland: Connacht, Leinster, Munster and Ulster.
- 3.6. South East: Following a review by the Hockey Ireland Management Board at the end of the 2013/14 season, as per the terms of the Leinster Branch amalgamation, a decision has been made to continue with team representation from the South East at the Kate Russell competition. For the purposes of Eligibility, the South East is defined by the region previously known as South East Province before the Leinster Branch amalgamation.
- 3.7. The South East representative team at Under 16 and Under 18 girls has been replaced by a Leinster South team representing clubs and schools based in Carlow, Kildare, Kilkenny, Laois, Offaly, Westmeath, Wicklow and Wexford. [Eligibility for a Leinster or Leinster South team is based on the player's club in the first instance, and otherwise by their school. (e.g. a Player attending school in Wicklow but playing for a club in Dublin is not eligible for the Leinster South team)]
- 3.8. Binding Force of the Regulations: Each Organisation, by its entry into and participation in an Irish Tournament Competition, and each player participating in the Tournament Competition, shall be deemed to have given consent to abide by the Rules of the Irish Hockey Association, the Hockey Ireland Code of Conduct, the Hockey Ireland Tournament Competition Rules and Regulations and the Code of Ethics and to any amendments that may be ratified by the Board

of Irish Hockey or Competitions Working Group. Each Organisation and/or player shall be deemed to have agreed to abide by the decisions of the Hockey Ireland Competitions Working Group in relation to these Rules & Regulations or any matter not covered in these Rules & Regulations and any penalty or sanction it may see fit to impose.

- 3.9. The Board of the Hockey Ireland reserves the right to update and/or amend all relevant regulations and codes during any season and will communicate any such updates or amendments to clubs or bodies competing in such competitions. All such updates or amendments shall be binding on participants from the date communicated by the Board of the Hockey Ireland. In addition, the Board of the Hockey Ireland reserve the right to interpret any Hockey Ireland rule, regulation or code governing competitions. Matters of interpretation shall be determined by the Board.

4. MANAGEMENT

- 4.1. The Management of the Hockey Ireland Tournament Competitions will be under the auspices of the Hockey Ireland Competitions Working Group and responsible to the Board of Irish Hockey.

5. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY – INTER-PROVINCIAL COMPETITIONS / TOURNAMENTS

Player Eligibility for the various Interprovincial Competitions is subject to the following qualification criteria:

- 5.1. Irish Senior Inter-provincials (Men and Women)
- Players who live or were born in Ireland or who have an Irish parent
 - Players who are eligible to play for Ireland
 - Players who are eligible may play for any Province where they meet the following qualification criteria:
 - Play for a Club which is affiliated to the Province OR
 - Be resident in the Province OR
 - Have been born/ raised in the Province OR
 - Have a parent born /raised in the Province
- 5.2. Irish age related Inter-provincial Competitions (Men and Women)
- Players who live or were born in Ireland or who have an Irish parent
 - Players who are eligible to play for Ireland (*or in the case of players under 18 or under 16 who are playing for an affiliated club/school in the province in the current season*)
 - Players must meet the required age restriction on the 1st of January in the season of the competition (e.g. Under 16/Under 18/Under 21) except in the following situation
 - A maximum of 5 players from Connacht may be under 23 for the under 21 competition (to be stepped back annually to zero (e.g. For 2023-24 the maximum will be 4 players)
 - Players in the women's under 21 competition who have played for Ireland in an under 21 International competition in the previous season or the months preceding the season of competition are not eligible

- E.g. For 2022-23 season players who have played in the Junior World Cup, the Unipharm 5 Nations or the European Championships are not eligible to play. Players who played in training matches or selection matches are eligible to play.
- Players who are eligible may play for any Province where they meet the following qualification criteria:
 - Play for a Club which is affiliated to the Province OR
 - Be resident in the Province OR
 - Have been born/raised in the Province OR
 - Have a parent born/raised in the Province

5.3. Irish Junior Inter-provincials (Men and Women)

- Former or current Senior International players are not eligible to play in the Junior Inter-provincial tournament
- Former or current U21 or U23 International players are not eligible to play in the Junior Inter-provincial tournament within 5 years of being eligible for the relevant panel
 - E.g. A player born 1996 who has played with Ireland Under 23s in 2018 or 2019, is not eligible to play Junior Inter-Provincials until 2024
 - A player born 1996 who has played with Ireland Under 21s in 2017 or earlier, is not eligible to play Junior Inter-Provincials until 2022
- Players under 18 years of age or over 18 and still attending school in the season of the competition are NOT eligible to play in the Junior Interprovincial tournament
- Player eligibility is based on the level at which they are registered for and playing regularly in their domestic league competition in the current season
- Players who have played (or are listed on the registered match card) for more than 3 IHL Division 1 matches in the current season are **not** eligible
- Players who are eligible may play for any Province where they meet the following qualification criteria:
 - Play for a Club which is affiliated to the Province OR
 - Be resident in the Province OR
 - Have been born/raised in the Province OR
 - Have a parent born/raised in the Province

5.4. No player may play in two Outdoor Interprovincial competitions within the one season, except in the following situation:

- A maximum of 5 U18 Munster, Connacht players may 'double up' to U21 level
- A maximum of 5 U21 Munster and Connacht player may 'double up' between Adult Senior and Junior Interprovincial tournaments
- Players playing their Club hockey in Connacht may 'double up' between Senior and Junior Interprovincial tournament

5.5. Players who have previously played for one province and want to switch to a different province must apply to the first province to be released or for permission to transfer and a copy of the agreement by both provinces to be registered with the Competitions Working group when team sheets are registered 8 days before the tournament or the start of the competition.

5.6. The onus of proof regarding eligibility is on Province. The Competitions Working Group shall decide on any dispute regarding eligibility and shall be entitled to request such written or oral evidence as it considers necessary. The decision of the Competitions Working Group shall be final in this respect.

- 5.7. All players participating in an inter-provincial competition must
- 5.7.1. Be fully paid up members of Hockey Ireland for the season of competition
 - 5.7.2. Have completed and been certified in the latest online rules course available on Hockey Ireland website (compliance is regulated by each province)

6. ELIGIBILITY – SCHOOLS & COLLEGES TOURNAMENTS

Organisation and Player Eligibility for the various Schools & Colleges Competitions is subject to the following qualification criteria

- 6.1. John Waring Tournament
- The 2 finalists from each provincial school's Minor cup (U14)
- 6.2. School Boys Tournament
- 8 schools from Ulster, 5 from Leinster and 3 from Munster
 - Each Province shall decide its method of qualification to meet its quota
 - Players must be under the age of 19 at the start of the School Year (1st July)
- 6.3. June Smith (School Girls Tournament)
- The cup winner from each provincial school's Minor Cup (5 schools)
 - Players must be under the age of 15 on the 1st January in the year of the competition (e.g. in 2019 players must be born 2004 or later)
- 6.4. Kate Russell (Schools Girls Tournament)
- Winner from each provincial schools' cup
 - Players must be under the age of 19 at the start of the School Year (1st August)
- 6.5. Irish Colleges
- Players must be attending the college or university in the current season
- 6.6. Eligibility
- The onus of proof regarding eligibility is on each Organisation. The Competitions Working Group shall decide on any dispute regarding eligibility and shall be entitled to request such written or oral evidence, as it considers necessary. The decision of the Competitions Working Group shall be final in this respect.

7. TEAM ENTRY

- 7.1. At the start of the season, Provinces will be asked for their qualifying team entries for the various Irish Competitions, and the contact details for each Organisation or Provincial Team Manager.
- 7.2. It is the responsibility of each Organisation to enter teams (subject to the qualification criteria) by the closing date requested.

- 7.3. To improve the structure of the Senior and U21 Men's competitions, it has been agreed by the Hockey Ireland Management Board that it is highly desirable to have four teams in order to have one match a day every day for each team. To achieve this, a 'Guest' team may be invited to participate each season. See Appendix 2 for more details.
- 7.4. The Junior Interprovincial tournaments are intended to promote grassroots participation in hockey – and as such is not a High Performance selection path. The player eligibility rules and criteria are structured to reflect this position. Junior Provincial interprovincial teams are expected to be 'self-financing' as requested by the participating Provinces and supported by the Hockey Ireland Board.

8. TOURNAMENT/COMPETITION SCHEDULES

- 8.1. The dates for each Tournament or Competition will be set prior to the beginning of each season and published in the Events Calendar for the season and available on the Hockey Ireland website.
- 8.2. Tournaments will rotate around the Provinces as per the Rotation Schedule in Appendix 1.
- 8.3. The match schedule for each Tournament/Competition will be determined by the Competitions Working Group and sent to the Team Manager (as notified to the Hockey Ireland Office) and published on the Hockey Ireland website a minimum of four weeks before the Tournament.

9. PRE-TOURNAMENT/COMPETITION ADMINISTRATION

- 9.1. At least eight days before a Tournament or Competition match, each team manager must submit a list of up to 18 eligible players (20 for Ireland teams participating in an Inter-pros) to the Hockey Ireland Office as well as the names of the Management Team, and up to 4 reserve players so that player eligibility can be verified and the Tournament Programme produced.
- 9.2. At least eight days before the Tournament, each team manager must submit any player transfer requests, evidencing agreement with the releasing province, to the Hockey Ireland Office so that eligibility to play for a different province can be approved.
- 9.3. Changes to the team are permitted up to the day of the tournament **provided** the player's eligibility to play has been verified with Hockey Ireland and/or Competitions working group in advance (refer 9.1)

10. TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

- 10.1. A Tournament Director will be appointed by the Competitions Working Group to run each Tournament. The Tournament Director has full power and authority of the Competitions

Working Group in matters concerning the conduct of the Tournament in accordance with these Hockey Ireland Tournament Rules and Regulations.

- 10.2. The Tournament Director shall appoint the Umpires (if no Umpires Manager has been appointed), Technical Officials (if required) to each match from those appointed to the Tournament.

11. TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR'S (TD) MEETING

- 11.1. It is mandatory for each participating team to send the Team Manager to the TD's Meeting which will be held prior to the start of the Tournament. Details of the meeting will be notified to the participating teams 8 days prior to the Tournament.
- 11.2. Each Team Manager must provide the 18 players to be used in the Tournament to the TD by the start of the TD's Meeting (see section 12 below).
- 11.3. Where the Guest team in the men's Senior or U21 Inter-pros is an Irish team (Ireland U21 and Ireland U18), then 20 players may be used for the Tournament.
- 11.4. Team colours for each match will be agreed at the TD's meeting.

12. BAD WEATHER PROCEDURE

- 12.1. For Tournament competitions the Tournament Director, in conjunction with the Hockey Ireland Office, will follow the guidelines for anticipated bad weather as laid out in the Hockey Ireland Bad Weather Procedure.
- 12.2. Any decision to postpone or cancel the Tournament will be made while taking account of the cost of such a decision.

13. THE TOURNAMENT / COMPETITION

- 13.1. Each team will play one match against each of the other teams, unless an alternative format has been notified in advance. 3 team competitions/tournaments will typically see teams play each other twice.

13.1.1. The girls U16, U18 and U21 competitions will have a finals day with the top 4 teams after the league stage (1st vs 2nd and 3rd vs 4th)

- 13.2. For inter-provincial competitions, match duration will be 4 x 17.5 minute quarters (the clock is not stopped for penalty corners).
- 13.3. The points awarded for each match will be confirmed at the Tournament Director's meeting. The points will be awarded for each match as follows

13.3.1. Junior, Senior and Over 18 Tournaments:

- Where teams only play each other once then three points for a win and one point for a draw
- Where teams play each other twice, then three points for a win, two points for a score draw and one point for a no score draw

13.3.2. U16, U18 and U21 Interprovincial Competitions:

- If the score is equal at the end of regulation time, a penalty shoot-out competition will be played to establish the winner of the match. The following points will be awarded for each match
 - Three points to the winner of a match at the end of regulation time
 - Two points to the winner of a shoot-out competition, where the score is tied at the end of regulation time
 - One point to the loser of a shoot-out, where the score is tied at the end of regulation time
 - No points to the loser of a match at the end of regulation time.
- In the boys U16, U18 and U21 Interprovincial competitions a penalty shoot-out competition is played after the first fixture between the two provinces.
 - The result of this penalty shoot-out will be used to determine the overall winner of the Inter-Pros should teams be tied on points after the league.
 - *If a penalty shoot-out was required to determine a bonus point, the result of that shoot-out will be used – i.e. only 1 penalty shoot-out competition is required at the end of a drawn match.*

13.4. The team rankings at the end of a tournament / competition are determined as follows

13.4.1. Junior, Senior and Over 18 Tournaments / Under 21 Inter-provincial Competition:

- The teams will be ranked according to:
 - Highest number of points
 - Respective number of matches won
 - Goal difference ("goals for" less "goals against")
 - Goals for
 - Result of match(s) between the teams concerned
 - A Penalty shoot-out competition to be played after the final pool match (if the competition has been played in a tournament format)
 - Boys only: If the competition has been played as a competition during the season, the result of the penalty shoot-out played after the first fixture between the teams concerned is used

13.4.2. U16 and U18 inter-provincial competitions

- The teams will be ranked according to:
 - Highest number of points
 - Respective number of matches won
 - Result of match(s) between the teams concerned

- If the competition has been played as a tournament a penalty shoot-out competition to be played after the final pool match
- Boys only: If the competition has been played as a competition during the season, the result of the penalty shoot-out played after the first fixture between the teams concerned is used

13.4.3. School competitions excluding the June Smith minor cup

- The teams will be ranked according to:
 - Highest number of points
 - Respective number of matches won
 - Goal difference ("goals for" less "goals against")
 - Goals for
 - Result of match between the teams concerned
 - A penalty shoot-out competition to be played after the final pool match
- The points will depend on the number of teams in the Tournament, with the recommendation as follows:
 - Where teams only play each other once, then 3 points for a win and 1 for a draw
 - Where there are less teams and they play each other twice, then 3 points for a win, 2 for a score draw and 1 for a no score draw

13.4.4. June Smith (School Girls Minor Cup Winners)

- The teams will be ranked according to:
 - Highest number of points
 - Goal difference ("goals for" less "goals against")
 - Goals for
 - Goals against
 - A penalty shoot-out competition to be played after the final pool match to determine final placings
- Matches will be 30 minutes in duration
- Points will be awarded as follows:
 - 4 points for a win
 - 2 points for a score draw
 - 1 point for a scoreless draw

13.5. Interrupted Matches

- In the event of a match being interrupted (e.g. due to inclement weather), the match will re-commence as directed by the Tournament Director and the time remaining shall be completed, with the score to be as it stood when the game was interrupted.

14. COMPOSITION OF TEAMS FOR MATCHES

- 14.1. A maximum of 18 players¹ may be used by a team in a match.
- 14.2. Players must wear numbered shirts.
- 14.3. Each team must have a captain or acting captain who is responsible for the behaviour of the team players on the field of play and who must wear a distinctive band or ribbon while on the field of play or the team bench at all times during a match. Upon suspension of the captain, a team player on the field of play or the team bench must take over the band or ribbon and role of team captain.
- 14.4. Each team must have a minimum of 8 players on the field of play for a match to be started or continued. In case a team does not fulfil this condition, the opposing team will be considered as having won the match by a score of 5-0, or by the score when the match was discontinued, whichever of the two scores will be more advantageous for the winning team.
- 14.5. At a time, place and method as stated by the Technical Delegate during the event briefing meeting, each team manager must deliver the following information on the team sheet
- The eleven players who will be on the field of play at the commencement of the match;
 - Up to seven players who will start on the team bench (unless one or more players has or have been suspended for that match in which case the relevant player(s) should be included on the form but marked with an S);
 - The captain and goalkeeper(s) for the match;
 - The team manager for the match;
 - The team coach for the match;
 - An appropriately qualified Physiotherapist (if any);
 - An appropriately qualified Medical Doctor (if any)
- 14.6. Substitute players nominated for the match, plus the team manager, coach, physiotherapist and medical doctor must remain seated on the team bench during regulation time, including time stoppages, unless the TD/TO or umpire(s) direct otherwise or when following the substitution procedures. The team manager, who is responsible for the conduct of all persons occupying the bench, must be present on the bench during the match and occupy the seat nearest the technical table.

15. DISCIPLINE

- 15.1. The Hockey Ireland Code of Conduct and the Hockey Ireland Discipline Procedure apply to Tournament Competitions and any issues concerning conduct of individual players, members, spectators, etc. will be dealt with by the Tournament Director, as laid out in the Hockey Ireland Games Discipline Procedure (Tournaments).

¹ The June Smith Minor Cup competition for schoolgirls may include squads of up to 20 players; Irish schools committee to finalise

- 15.2. The Hockey Ireland Games Discipline Procedures includes the process for handling appeals relating to red cards.

16. PROTESTS

- 16.1. When signing the match sheet at the end of the game the Team Manager must indicate on the match sheet that a protest is to follow. The written protest must follow within 10 minutes, accompanied by a EUR200 (Two Hundred Euro) fee, otherwise any protest is invalid.
- 16.2. The Tournament Director must make a decision and publish it within 2 hours of the protest being lodged. The decision will be communicated to the Team Manager.
- 16.3. No protest may be lodged from a field of play decision made by the umpires.
- 16.4. The Tournament Directors decision regarding a protest is final.

17. DISQUALIFICATION OR FAILURE/REFUSAL TO PLAY

- 17.1. A team either disqualified or refusing/failing to play or to complete a match shall be considered as withdrawing from the Tournament/Competition.

18. BREACH OF REGULATIONS & PENALTIES

- 18.1. Any Organisation found by the Competitions Working Group to be in breach of the Tournament Competition Rules and Regulations may be subject to further penalties, as detailed below, in addition to any penalty imposed by a specific regulation herein.
- 18.2. The Competitions Working Group shall at its discretion have the right to impose any penalty, including, but not exclusively, fines, suspension of players, or an Organisation for breaches of any or all of the Hockey Ireland Tournament Rules and Regulations and/or the Hockey Ireland Code of Conduct.

19. APPEAL PROCEDURE

- 19.1. Teams and players have the right to appeal against a decision of the Hockey Ireland Competitions Working Group to the Appeals Committee of the Hockey Ireland Board, in line with the Appeal process within the Hockey Ireland Constitution as if the said decision of the Competitions Working Group was a decision of the Disciplinary Committee as described therein.
- 19.2. Any other club that may be directly affected by an appeal shall, as soon as reasonably possible, be notified of the appeal and subsequently the outcome of the appeal

APPENDIX 1 – COMPETITIONS ROTATION

Each competition will rotate around the Provinces. The following scheduled is confirmed for 2017-18 Season and shows *proposed* rotations for subsequent years where not yet agreed. (e.g. U16 & U18 cycles are agreed for 2018-19, whereas U21, Junior and Senior are not yet agreed).

Competition	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/23
Senior (M & W)	No tournament	No tournament	No Tournament	No Tournament	No Competition	No Competition
Junior (M & W)	Munster 12-13 May 2018	Munster 18-19 May 2019	Connacht 16-17 May 2020	No Tournament	No Competition	No Competition
U21 (M&W)	No tournament	No tournament	TBC – Leinster	No Tournament	Various Sep-Jan (W) Sep-May (M)	Various Sep-Dec (w) Sep-Jan (m)
U18/U16 (Girls)	Ulster 20-22 Oct 2017	Leinster 21-23 Sep 2018	Munster 20-22 Sep 2019	No Tournament	Various Sep-Apr	Various Sep-Dec
U18/U16 (Boys)	Leinster 15-17 Sep 2017	Munster 14-16 Sep 2018	Ulster 13-15 Sep 2019	No Tournament	Various Sep-Apr	Various Sep-Jan (m)
Kate Russell	South East Leinster	Leinster	Connacht	No Tournament	Ulster	
June Smith (U15 schoolgirls)	South East	Connacht	Ulster	No Tournament	TBC	
Schoolboys	Ulster	Leinster	Munster	No Tournament	Leinster	
John Waring	Ulster	Ulster	Ulster	No Tournament	Ulster	
Inter varsities	Munster	Ulster	Leinster	No Tournament	Munster	

APPENDIX 2 – MENS INTERPROVINCIAL TOURNAMENTS

Guest Team

The High Performance Director or Chair of the High Performance Working Group will confirm to the Competitions Interprovincial WG Chair each of the Guest Teams for the Senior and U21 Men's Interprovincial Competitions by 31st July in the preceding season.

Winner

The fourth team as a 'guest' team may not win the Interprovincial Trophy. If the guest team finishes the competition in first place, then the second placed team (and highest placed Province) will be deemed the winner of the Interprovincial Trophy.

Guest Team Selection

When the Guest Team is another Irish Team (e.g. Irish U21 team participating in the Senior competition), then the rules below will apply to selection procedure for all Provinces.

The objectives of having an Irish team participate in the interprovincial competition are:

- To maximise the number of players seen by HP Coaches
- To provide Tournament competition for the Irish team at an appropriate level
- Irish Team Selection
- Players selected for the relevant Irish squad will not be available for selection for the Interprovincial squads participating in the same Tournament
- The Irish Coach will name for each Irish squad no more than 22 players 6 weeks before the date of the competition. This will provide the Irish Coach with a maximum of 20 players for the Interprovincial Tournament and up to 2 substitutes to cover injury or withdrawals.