

REGISTRATIONS GUIDANCE NOTE ON PLAYER TRANSFERS FROM ABROAD AND WITHIN IRELAND

First things first!

- A player can only be registered to play **with one club** in one hockey jurisdiction throughout the world at any one time.
- A player can only play for one club in any one season unless a valid transfer is completed in line with local competition regulations.
- A player requires **Clearance to Play** from Hockey Ireland for EYHLD1 when they are coming from another national association or returning to Ireland following playing in another national association competition.
- Hockey Ireland will provide Clearance to Play, after vetting documentation as below.

Relevant Documentation

- A **Release Letter** is required from the previous club in the absence of an automated transfer process in place. The Release Letter confirms the player's name, DOB, date of finishing playing with the club and must be on club headed paper and signed by an official of the releasing club.
- The **No Objection Certificate (NOC)** is a global FIH player release process for a player's home nation to release the player to play in another nation's competition. Each National Association can set the competition level and the players they require an NOC from. Hockey Ireland require an NOC to play in EYHL Division 1. The NOC, on headed paper, confirms the player's name, the name and dates of the competition that the player can play in and is signed by an official of the National Association. An NOC is required to be **completed for each season** the player is seeking registration.
- **Evidence of Right to Live and Work**, can be a visa, work permit, student college letter, etc. for the appropriate jurisdiction and/or college. Evidence is required to ensure that clubs are compliant with local laws.

When does Hockey Ireland require an NOC from a player?

- When a player's home nation is not Hockey Ireland, and the player is likely to play EYHLD1.
- The NOC is required for each season and needs to provide the competition details in the prescribed FIH format.
- This is not a question about passport – it is about the home hockey nation.

When is a Release Letter required?

- When a player whose home nation is Hockey Ireland last competition participation was outside of Ireland.

When is evidence of Right to Live & Work required?

- In addition to an NOC, when a player whose home nation is not EU or UK, the player is required to provide evidence of Right to Live and Work in Ireland (UK for NI), e.g. Visa, permit, etc.

Steps to take to get Hockey Ireland Clearance to Play

1. Get the player to request a Release Letter from their previous club or an NOC from their National Association (as applicable). Make sure it has the required fields and signed.

2. If the player doesn't hold an IRL /UK /EU passport, then request the player to contact competitions@hockey.ie to discuss what permits will be required as proof of Right to Live & Work to achieve clearance to play.
3. Send (or get the player to send), the completed Release Letter or NOC and evidence of Right to Live & Work (if applicable) to Hockey Ireland and ask for Clearance to Play.
4. Once the Clearance to Play email has been received from Hockey Ireland, the player can complete their GameDay registration
5. Hold onto a copy of all paperwork, including the clearance to play, for proof of player eligibility to participate in Hockey Ireland competition.

Player to your club transferring from another club within Hockey Ireland

- The receiving club need to request the transfer from the previous club before the player can register to the new club on GameDay
- The transfer needs to happen within the 'transfer window' applicable to your province – if in doubt, ASK either your provincial or HI competition person before acting!
- DO NOT create a duplicate of the player to avoid the transfer process – your club will be fined or subject to penalty!
- Remember to check if your new player requires an NOC as outlined below. If so, you will need to complete this process and receive Clearance to Play from Hockey Ireland before the player can play in EYHLD1.