

APPENDIX B

CUPS REGULATIONS

Table of Contents

1. THE HOCKEY IRELAND CUP COMPETITIONS.....	2
1.1 Senior / Trophy / Challenge Cups (1st XI club teams only)	2
1.2 Irish Junior Cup	2
1.3 Club Entry – Umpire Nomination Requirement.....	2
1.4 Club Withdrawal / Disqualification	3
2. CUP DRAWS.....	3
2.1 First Round	3
2.2 Subsequent Rounds.....	3
2.3 Draw Conditions.....	3
3. MATCH SCHEDULING.....	3
4. MATCH DAY RESPONSIBILITIES	4
4.1 Delayed Start	4
4.2 Drawn Matches.....	4
4.3 Live Score	
5. MATCH CARD RESPONSIBILITIES.....	4
5.1 Printed Teamsheet (Match Card)	4
5.3 Technical Official (TO) Present	4
5.4 No Appointed Technical Official (TO) Present.....	4
6. CUP COMPETITION PENALTIES AND FINES	5
6.1 Penalties	5
6.2 Fines	5

ADDENDUM

1. Provincial Allocation Table

1. THE HOCKEY IRELAND CUP COMPETITIONS

The Hockey Ireland Cup Competitions consist of:

- Irish Senior Cup (ISC)
- Irish Hockey Trophy (IHT)
- Irish Hockey Challenge (IHC)
- Irish Junior Cup (IJC)

1.1 Senior / Trophy / Challenge Cups (1st XI club teams only)

- Entry to the Irish Cup is open to the 1st XI team of every club under Hockey Ireland without reference to provincial league level.
- Entry to the draw for the Irish Cup for 1st XI club teams is via a validly completed entry form by the Closing Date requested (see also 1.3 below).
- Each Cup is limited to 16 clubs (4 rounds)
- The number of Challenge Cups can be extended to meet the number of entries (i.e. Challenge I, Challenge II, etc.). A minimum of four clubs is required for the lowest Challenge level cup to proceed.
- The allocation to a Cup is dependent on finishing position in the Provincial League in the previous season. The 10 EYHL clubs for the coming season are automatically allocated to the Irish Senior Cup.
- Addendum 1 below provides the provincial allocation numbers to each Cup per gender – The Provincial Allocation Table. The numbers allocated to each province will be kept under regular review to maintain competitive competitions for all clubs.
- By 15th June each year, Hockey Ireland will publish on the website the Provincial Ranking Table as supplied by each Provincial Branch following completion of their seasons.
- After the Cup Entry Closing Date, each entered club will be assigned to the Allocation Table based on their ranking provided by their Provincial Branch. Clubs will ‘shuffle up’ the Allocation Table versus their provincial ranking should a club with a higher league finishing position have chosen not to enter the Irish Cup.
 - For clarity – a club cannot choose the Cup that they wish to enter. However, on the entry form, a club may indicate that their entry is conditional on NOT being shuffled up beyond a particular Cup level.
- The 16 clubs for each Cup Competition will be published on the HI website within 10 days of the Cups Entry Closing Date.

1.2 Irish Junior Cup

- Eligibility to enter the Irish Junior Cup is for 2nd XI club teams
- Entry to the draw is via a validly completed entry form by the Closing Date requested (see also 1.3 below).

1.3 Club Entry – Umpire Nomination Requirement

For an entry to an Irish Cup to be accepted, each club must nominate a graded umpire(s) who has agreed to umpire firstly under the national appointments (IHUA) or, if not

required nationally, under their provincial appointments. For a club entering the ISC, they are required to nominate one graded umpire for selection. If so desired, this umpire can be made from the list of national graded umpires.

For a club entering either the IHT or IHC, and/or IJC, they are required to nominate one graded umpire per team for selection. Important: This umpire cannot be made from the list of national graded umpires. All umpires must have a valid and current Hockey Ireland membership number (and must have, at a minimum, completed the Hockey Ireland online rules test).

1.4 Club Withdrawal / Disqualification

A club either disqualified or refusing/failing to play or to complete a match shall be considered as withdrawing from the Cup Competition (see Penalties and Fines section below).

2. CUP DRAWS

2.1 First Round

The draws for the first round of all the Cup Competitions will be made no later than 14 days after the entry closing date on a date published in advance. The draw will be organized by the Outdoor SG and with at least 2 scrutineers present.

2.2 Subsequent Rounds

An open draw for subsequent rounds of each Cup Competition shall be held on a date(s) determined by the Outdoor SG.

2.3 Draw Conditions

The draw for the first round of each Challenge Cup will be made and the pairing drawn to minimise, where possible, the travel requirements for the participating clubs. Clubs will be drawn against opposition from their own province or adjoining neighbouring province where possible.

The Outdoor SG shall have the authority to alter the draw for any round(s) of a Cup competition to avoid a fixture backlog and facilitate an orderly completion of any Cup Competition and/or to minimize impact across other HI competitions, where weather or other restrictions prevent the playing of the original schedule. This may involve, but not limited to, a complete redraw of the round(s) affected.

3. MATCH SCHEDULING

All matches shall be played on the date set (or re-arranged) by the Outdoor SG unless otherwise agreed by both clubs with the approval of the Outdoor SG.

Unless otherwise agreed by the Outdoor SG, cup matches must be scheduled to start

within prescribed times as follows:

Connacht-Ulster, Munster-Ulster, Leinster-Munster, Leinster-Ulster pairings: matches must be scheduled to start no earlier than 1.00 pm and no later than 3.30 pm.

For any other pairing: matches must be scheduled to start no earlier than 12.30 pm and no later than 4.00 pm.

4. MATCH DAY RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 Delayed Start

Matches must start on time and if a team arrives more than 30 minutes after the appointed start time the match will be forfeited unless otherwise agreed by the two teams.

4.2 Drawn Matches

In the event of a match ending in a draw, the winner shall be decided by a shoot-out competition (as per FIH General Tournament Regulations). For ease of reference, please refer to Hockey Ireland Clubs Outdoor Regulations - Appendix H).

4.3 Live Score

For the 2026-27 season Hockey Ireland will be introducing a Live Score App. The home team will be responsible for ensuring that they have a nominated person who will record the events in the match directly onto the Gameday Live Score App.

5. MATCH CARD RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1 Printed Teamsheet (Match Card)

Team Managers must bring their printed Teamsheet of up to 18 eligible players and the management team (from the Gameday system). If a player is injured during warm-up, they may be substituted on the Teamsheet at any time up until the start of the match (noting the risk that to the club that any manual amendments risk that the player is not registered on Gameday). Only players named on the Match Card may participate in the match.

The Team Manager must check that the Teamsheet number corresponds to the number on the player's shirt and if not, manually correct on the Teamsheet.

5.2 Technical Official (TO) Present

If a TO has been appointed, the TO is responsible for the completion and return of the Match Card to Hockey Ireland, plus any other paperwork (e.g. Yellow / Red Card report), immediately after the match finishes.

5.3 No Appointed Technical Official (TO) Present

In the absence of an appointed TO being present for the match, the home club must appoint a person or the Team Manager to record the details of the match on one of the printed Match Cards from either team (the one with the least number of amendments required) so that it contains the following information:

- Both team lists
- The result (noting quarter and half time scores)
- The scorers, type of goal and time scored (in the bottom table)
- Any cards (in the appropriate column)
- (Strike through any player on the Match Card not used in the match)

Both team managers and the Umpires need to check the Match Card and sign as an accurate record of the match.

The **winning team** needs to photograph and send the completed and signed Match Card immediately after the game to Hockey Ireland at (competitions@hockey.ie). Failure to return the Match Card will result in a fine.

Where there is not TO appointed, the Umpires will complete any relevant yellow/red card report forms and return them to Hockey Ireland.

6. CUP COMPETITION PENALTIES AND FINES

6.1 Penalties

Any club found to be in breach of these Hockey Ireland Club Outdoor Regulations or Code of Conduct may be subject to the following penalties:

- A fine and/or
- deduction of a number of points, and/or
- suspension of players and/or
- Such other penalties as the Outdoor SG consider appropriate.

6.2 Fines

To facilitate the smooth running of Cup Competitions and ensure fairness for all, Outdoor SG will impose fines when a club fails to meet its obligations and responsibilities. Automatic fines and the Euro amount that will apply (STG at the equivalent prevailing rate) in the following situations:

Fielding of an ineligible player is a very serious matter and can lead to expulsion of the team from the relevant competition and/or a fine of up to €1,500 and/or deduction of points and/or award of a 5-nil walkover to an opposing team	
Withdrawing from a Cup Competition (Fine and/or a period of suspension may be imposed on clubs withdrawing from Cup Competitions)	€750
Failure to adhere to the contacting regulations for Umpires & Officials (in first instance, increasing by €50 per instance for subsequent breaches)	€50
Failure of the home club to update Gameday with the match time/venue	€50
Failure of the winning team to submit the match sheet and update the Gameday system	€50
Failure of home club to adhere to the Live Score requirements	€100
Late return of Trophy	€150

ADDENDUM 1 – PROVINCIAL ALLOCATION TABLE *(extend as necessary)*
KEY

Irish Senior

Challenge I

Challenge III

Irish Trophy

Challenge II

WOMEN - Irish Senior Cup			
10 x EYHL Div 1 clubs			
Leinster	Ulster	Munster	Connacht
1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8
9	9	9	
10	10	10	
11	11	11	
12	12	12	
13	13	13	
14	14		
15	15		
16	16		
17	17		
18	18		
19	19		
20	20		
21	21		
22	22		
23	23		
24	24		
MEN - Irish Senior Cup			
10 x EYHL Div 1 clubs			
Leinster	Ulster	Munster	
1	1	1	
2	2	2	
3	3	3	
4	4	4	
5	5	5	
6	6	6	
7	7	7	
8	8	8	
9	9		
10	10		
11	11		
12	12		
13	13		
	14		
	15		
	16		
	17		

