

CLUBS OUTDOOR REGULATIONS MASTER

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1. INTRODUCTION

These Clubs Outdoor Regulations set out the general administrative responsibilities of club teams participating in Hockey Ireland competitions together with separate Appendices which set out any specific rules, regulations, or requirements for the Irish Hockey League – Division 1 and 2 (Appendix A), Irish Cups (Appendix B) as well as competitions played under Tournament Regulations - Champions Trophy and Play-offs (Appendix C).

Club outdoor competitions will be played in accordance with the current FIH Rules of Hockey except in so far as these regulations specifically provide. A copy of the FIH Rules of Hockey are available on both the FIH website and Hockey Ireland website and a copy of these Club Outdoor Regulations are available on the Hockey Ireland website. Hockey Ireland has received a derogation from the FIH to play 17.5 minute quarters with no stoppage time for penalty corners in club competitions. Hockey Ireland has adopted the mandatory wearing of face masks for penalty corners at all levels of the game.

1.1 Irish Hockey League

The Irish Hockey League (IHL) consists of the following:

- IHL Premier league (18 rounds of the league), referred to herein as EYHL
- IHL Champions Trophy (last 4 finalists)
- IHL Division 2, referred to herein as EYHLD2

The IHL Premier Division and the IHL Champions Trophy are sponsored by EY and shall be called the EY Hockey League or EYHL and the EY Hockey Champions Trophy. For the purposes of these Regulations below, the EY Hockey League has been abbreviated to EYHL.

The IHL Division 2 leagues are sponsored by EY and shall be called the EYHL Division 2. For the purposes of these Regulations below, the EYHL Division 2 has been abbreviated to EYHLD2.

When referring to the entire competition collectively, the term IHL will be used.

The sponsor names, as above, must be so referred to in all correspondence and publicity and in any other circumstances in which the name of the IHL divisions are used.

1.2 Hockey Ireland Cups

Hockey Ireland Cup Competition consist of the following:

- Irish Senior Cup (ISC)
- Irish Hockey Trophy (IHT)
- Irish Hockey Challenge (IHC) [note there may be more than one Challenge Cup competition per gender]
- Irish Junior Cup (IJC)

Where a Cup Competition is sponsored, the use of the sponsor's name, as provided, must be so referred to in all correspondence and publicity and in any other circumstances in which the name of the Cup Competition is used.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

2.1 Authority

The IHL and Irish Cups competitions fall under the authority of all Ireland competitions as defined within the Hockey Ireland Memorandum & Articles of Association and Byelaws and are managed under the auspices of the Competitions Committee specifically through the Clubs Outdoor Sub-Group (Outdoor SG). The Competitions Committee is answerable to the Hockey Ireland Board.

2.2 Rights

All commercial rights sit with Hockey Ireland. Hockey Ireland own the broadcasting rights to all games played under these regulations, be it terrestrial, satellite, cable, or internet streaming. All other broadcast coverage may be permitted with the prior approval of Hockey Ireland.

2.3 Photography

Hockey Ireland has approved the use of photographic equipment at all games under the jurisdiction of the Association. All players who participate in competitions under these regulations freely permit their images to be used without any payment or compensation. It is the responsibility of participating clubs to ensure they have appropriate parental consent for their players, where required.

The flying and operating of drones in Ireland is subject to the European Union Regulation 2019/947. The Irish Aviation Authority (IAA) supervises and implements this regulation in Ireland. In addition to compliance with current regulations regarding a drone in Ireland or Northern Ireland, any club or individual intending to fly a drone at a Hockey Ireland event must inform the Officials or Umpires present and confirm adherence to the additional obligations of Hockey Ireland, including that the drone will not be flown above:

- Playing field area
- Team or Officials bench area
- Spectator areas

2.4 Usage and Distribution

Clubs may use photography and video for the purposes of analysis and promotion of the sport. Any use by a person of photos/ video either in private groups or public must abide with law, social media posting guidelines and not post content that would a) cause embarrassment, b) be deemed an inappropriate photo or video, c) negative commentary directed at a person. Further details on photo /video content usage can be

found in Appendix F – Clubs Social Media and Promotion Obligations.

2.5 Binding Force of these Regulations

Members of Hockey Ireland (Clubs, IHUA and Provincial Branches) are bound by the Regulations as outlined herein and each club, by its entry into and participation in the Club Outdoor competitions, and each player by registering with Hockey Ireland, shall be deemed to have given consent to abide by the Rules of Hockey Ireland, Hockey Ireland Bye Laws, Hockey Ireland Code of Conduct, Hockey Ireland Safeguarding Policies and these Club Outdoor Regulations, and to any amendments that may be ratified by the Board of Hockey Ireland.

All participating clubs will be in good financial standing with Hockey Ireland. Failure to ensure accounts are up to date may result in exclusion from competitions and events.

Each club and/or player shall be deemed to have agreed to abide by the decisions of the Outdoor SG in relation to these Regulations or any matter not covered in these Regulations and any penalty or sanction it may see fit to impose.

The Board of Hockey Ireland reserve 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 competing in such competitions. All such updates or amendments shall be binding on participants and other members from the date communicated by the Board of Hockey Ireland. In addition, the Chair of the Competitions Committee reserves the right to interpret any Hockey Ireland rule, regulation or code governing competitions. Matters of interpretation shall be determined by the Chair of Competitions at his/her sole discretion.

2.6 Competition Hierarchy within Hockey Ireland

The IHL and Irish Cups are the premier outdoor club competitions within Hockey Ireland.

- Hockey Ireland outdoor competitions sit above club competitions structures of every provincial branch.
- Each provincial branch is required to have an open pathway for clubs to be eligible to participate in Hockey Ireland competitions.
- Promotion from a Provincial League to EYHLD2 is based on nominations from each province as per their qualifying regulations (see Appendix A – EYHL Regulations).
- Relegation from the EYHL is to the top league within each province.

2.7 Club Eligibility

- Except for the Irish Junior Cup, all Hockey Ireland outdoor club competitions are open only to the 1st team within a club (subject to also meeting qualification criteria).
- Except for the Irish Junior Cup, clubs may only enter their 1st team in a Cup competition (See Appendix B – Cups Regulations for eligibility criteria).

2.8 Hockey Ireland Membership

Every player, Coach, assistant Coach, Manager and Physiotherapist participating in Hockey Ireland Club Outdoor competitions as covered by these regulations must hold a current Hockey Ireland membership number. Penalties will be applied if players or members of the management team do not have a current Hockey Ireland membership.

2.9 Safeguarding

All members of the management team must have a current Safeguarding One certification. Failure to provide proof of same may result in the exclusion of the person from roles with the management team.

2.10 Competition Entry Fees

- The competition entry fee (where applicable) must be paid by the date stated on the application competition entry form. Failure to do so will result in a fine – see the applicable competition appendix section on Fines.

2.11 Prize Money and Club Support Payments

- Where applicable, the Prize Money and Club Support Payments will be determined annually by Hockey Ireland and notified to the clubs concerned. Club Support Payments will be made in January (subject to no outstanding club debt with HI) and Prize Money Payments made within 2 months of the competition completion.

2.12 Return of Trophies

Competition trophies must be returned to the Hockey Ireland Office no later than 31st January. Trophies must be returned polished and engraved unless otherwise notified. Penalties will be imposed for late return of trophies, for damage to trophies and/or if trophies have not been engraved.

3. PLAYER PARTICIPATION

3.1 Player Eligibility

Any bona fide member of a club who meets Hockey Ireland Clubs Outdoor Competition Eligibility Regulations may play in competitions governed by these regulations (see Appendix D). *(Note the number of overseas players permitted on teams will be reviewed from the 2027-28 season onwards)*

3.2 Player Registration

Registration of players is as per Hockey Ireland Clubs Player Registration Regulations for all HI Competitions (see Appendix E).

3.3 Player Transfer

The regulations regarding player transfer, whether from within Hockey Ireland or from abroad are governed under the Hockey Ireland Clubs Outdoor Competition Eligibility Rules (see Appendix D).

4. CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 Club Entry to HI Competitions

All clubs who qualify for EYHL must confirm their participation by the due date requested.

All clubs wishing to enter teams in an Irish Cup (subject to the qualification criteria) must return the Entry Form by the closing date (Entry Form will be sent to the Club Secretary as notified to Hockey Ireland).

No participating club may alter its title, nor incorporate any part of a sponsor's name therein, without the prior approval of Hockey Ireland.

4.2 Club Contact Points

Club contacts details (e.g. Fixtures Secretary, Team Manager, etc.) must be provided, where requested, on the applicable Entry / Participation Form to support the smooth operations of the competition. Details should include the name, email address and telephone number. Any change in contact details throughout the season must be advised to the HI Competitions Manager immediately. General communication between Hockey Ireland and the club/team will be with the Fixtures Secretary. There will be no communication with club coaches.

4.3 Promotion, Social Media, Communications and Marketing

Each club must adhere to the current promotion and social media obligations - see Appendix F – Promotion and Social Media Obligations). Failure for a host club to provide live social media posts for IHL or ISC matches may be subject to a fine.

4.4 Outdoor Club Forum / Requests for Information

Each club is required to send a representative where the Competitions Committee or Outdoor SG call a club meeting. In addition, each club shall respond to requests for information by the Outdoor SG or HI Competitions Manager by the due date. A fine will be levied for failure to comply with this regulation.

4.5 Scheduling Matches

The dates for every IHL match and for each round of every Cup Competition is set prior to the beginning of each season and published in the Events Calendar and available on Hockey Ireland website.

The Outdoor SG is responsible for the IHL Fixtures Schedule and for conducting Cup draws.

Specific requirements and responsibilities for arranging and agreeing the time (and in some cases, the date) between clubs is set out in the respective competition regulations appendix for the competition. The regulations include the latest notice time for agreement, restrictions around time window that match can start, etc.

4.6 Postponements / Request to change

Any club request to change the scheduled match date or to play outside the prescribed times must be emailed to the HI Competitions Manager a minimum of 16 days prior to the scheduled match date (or within 48 hours of a cup draw for that round if the draw is held less than 16 days before the scheduled date for the match). The request should be copied to the opposition club, the IHUA and Technical Officials Group (if applicable). The decision of the Outdoor SG will give consideration as to whether there is agreement from the opposing club, including agreement on the proposed re-fix date.

The Outdoor SG retains the right to change the date/time of a match due to operational reasons, weather conditions and/or conflict with the Hockey Ireland calendar.

A postponement is assumed for a Club participating in a EuroHockey club competition on the same scheduled date as a HI competition fixture. The club is required to re-arrange the match with the opposition club by the date requested by Outdoor SG /HI Competitions Manager.

4.7 Match Setup Responsibilities – Home Club

The home (first named club) club must setup the match date and time on both Gameday and the Umpires Appointments System as early as possible as soon as agreed and at a minimum of two weeks in advance of the match or as per the notification period requested by the IHUA and/or the Outdoors SG.

The home club must contact the visiting team to confirm arrangements by 8.00pm on the Monday prior to the match day. Team colours to be established and if there is a clash, the away team need to change.

The home club must contact Umpires (and Technical Officials, if appointed) to confirm arrangements by 8.00pm on the Monday prior to the match day. Travel arrangements, time of departure, team colours and any pick-up requirements should be confirmed. Please see the HI website for a useful email template which covers match notification details for umpires, officials and opposition.

4.8 Match Card Responsibilities - Both Clubs

Both clubs must create their Team List on the GameDay system in accordance with the specific competition regulations, refer to Appendix A – EYHL Regulations, Appendix B – Cups Regulations). Both teams must print and bring the printed Match Card to the game.

The specific regulations in relation to the Match Card for each competition include:

- Latest time by which the Team List must be entered on GameDay system
- Match Card completion actions and responsibilities on match day (including data required)
- Return of the Match Card to Hockey Ireland

Both teams must take a photo of the completed Match Card and any other paperwork and retain as a record in event of issues arising. Clubs may be requested to provide the Match Card by their Provincial Branch to confirm the players used in a match for provincial registration purposes.

4.9 Match Result Responsibilities – Home Club

Each team is responsible for updating their scores, goal scorers and any players who have received Green, Yellow or Red Cards, onto the Gameday system. A fine will be levied for failure to comply with this regulation.

A new Livescore App will be rolled out at the start of the 2026-27 season and further information along with training will be provided prior to go-live.

4.10 Hosting

Home clubs must offer the option of post-match hospitality, including a post-match meal, to visiting teams and match officials only where travel is from outside of the home province. Visiting clubs must notify home clubs sufficiently in advance if they do not require post-match hospitality to avoid un-necessary arrangements.

Home clubs must provide showering facilities when hosting out of province clubs.

4.11 Match Day Responsibilities

Further competition specific regulations related to the match day are contained in the applicable regulations (see Appendix A – EYHL Regulations, Appendix B – Cups Regulations).

5. PITCHES

All matches are to be played on synthetic pitches, the only exception being for Challenge Cup which may be played on shale, provided the pitch is the regular home surface. It is the responsibility of the home club to ensure the markings, goals and nets are satisfactory.

The pitch must be available to both teams for a minimum of 15 minutes warm up time (20 minutes for IHL matches) prior to the scheduled start time.

Additional competition regulations related to pitches for IHL matches are included in Appendix A – EYHL Regulations.

If the pitch facilities are inadequate, the umpires and/or Technical Official, may direct that the match be postponed, or the venue changed. Every effort must be made to find a suitable replacement pitch to enable the match to proceed and avoid the need to re-schedule.

6. DURATION OF MATCHES AND TIME-KEEPING

All HI Club Outdoor matches shall be four quarters of 17.5 minutes with no stoppage time for penalty corners. Timekeeping will be controlled by the Umpires whose responsibility will be to signal the end of any period of regulation time. Quarter time

breaks to be 2 minutes and the half time of 7 minutes or a duration which has been clearly agreed between the umpires or officials and teams prior to the start of the game.

Where a ground clock is available and in use, it is for spectator information only and not the official time of the match. It is recommended that any such spectator clock is stopped one minute before a quarter time and the end of the match to avoid any player or spectator confusion.

7. ABANDONED / SUSPENDED MATCHES

Once a game has started, the decision on whether it should be abandoned rests with the umpires. A match is considered abandoned if it cannot be completed on the same day that the match was started.

For the avoidance of any doubt, if a match is suspended temporarily and completed later in the same day, the match will resume at the same score line and elapsed time as when it was suspended, with the same team of players.

If a match is suspended temporarily the Official (if one is in place, otherwise the umpires) may then decide to abandon the match, at their discretion.

In the case of floodlight issues or failure, sufficient time must be given to the restarting of the lights for technical reasons and every effort must be made to restart the game.

When a game has been abandoned, the Match Card is completed and signed and returned to Hockey Ireland in line with the procedure for completed games (see Appendix A – EYHL Regulations, Appendix B – Cups Regulations).

Abandoned matches must be arranged through the Outdoors SG, in liaison with the HI Competitions Manager. The re-scheduled match will be played in its entirety from the start.

8. BAD WEATHER PROCEDURE

For all HI Club Outdoor Competition matches, clubs must follow the Hockey Ireland Bad Weather Procedure (see Appendix G). The Bad Weather Procedure provides guidance on actions to be taken by both clubs in the days prior to the match and on the match day itself.

9. RE-FIXING ABANDONED OR WEATHER POSTPONED MATCHES

The Outdoor SG will set the re-fix date for any postponed or abandoned matches.

The Outdoor SG will seek to communicate the new date within 3 days of the match being abandoned, subject to being able to successfully address any conflicts in the Calendar.

Once the re-fix date has been notified to both clubs, the home side must lead the process to agree the new time and ensure it is updated on Gameday and the IHUA Appointments System and emailed to the HI Competitions Manager no later than 14 days before the match date or within 48 hours of being notified of the new date, if the

match is within 14 days.

The Outdoor SG may, in exceptional circumstances, decide that a postponed or abandoned match does not need to be re-scheduled and played. In such a situation, the Outdoor SG will decide the outcome of the match, applying the principle of fairness to all clubs in the competition.

10. COMPOSITION OF TEAMS FOR MATCHES

10.1 Number of Players

A maximum of 18 players may be used by each club in each match (of whom 2 must be goalkeepers in full goalkeeping equipment). If a team chooses not to include a second goalkeeper on the bench, then they are limited to 16 players (in line with FIH Regulations)

10.2 Players Shirt Numbers

Players must wear numbered shirts. This number must be of contrasting colour to the shirt. Each player's number must be the same as that entered on the Match Card. Teams must have player names on shirts for nationally televised matches, if there is a request by the broadcaster.

Numbers must

- Appear in distinctive filled (not outlined) figures
- Be not less than 16 cm and not more than 20 cm in height on the back of the players shirt
- Be not less than 7 cm and not more than 9 cm in height on the front of the players shorts/skorts at thigh level.

10.3 Captains

In line with the FIH Rules of Hockey (see Captains), each team must have a captain or acting captain who is responsible for the behaviour of their team players on the field of play and who must wear a distinctive arm band or similar in line with FIH Regulations. Upon suspension of the captain, a team player on the field of play or the team bench must take over the armband or ribbon and role of team captain.

11. TEAM MANAGEMENT / BENCHES AND SUBSTITUTION OF PLAYERS

11.1 Team Bench

The team manager, team coach, the physiotherapist and substitute players nominated for that match, plus a team registered (evidenced) medical doctor, must remain seated on the team bench during regulation time, including time stoppages, unless the umpire(s) / Match Officials 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. All members of the bench must remain seated (where possible), the only voice permitted is that of the team coach.

11.2 Assistant Coach

If there are any assistant coaches (outside the field of play) intending to join the team

huddle during the quarter time breaks, they must be named on the Team List and they are expected to conduct verbal communications as expected of any person, other than the team coach, sitting on the team bench (see 14.4). Failure to adhere to the appropriate code of conduct may result in the assistant coach being refused the right to join the team during quarter breaks and/or subject to a personal penalty and the appropriate sanction per 14.4 as if they were sitting on the team bench.

11.3 Video Tower

If a Video Tower is available, a team may only have their video operator present in the tower. The team video operator is not allowed to audibly coach but can utilize radio to communicate with the team bench.

12. ADMISSION TO THE FIELD OF PLAY

12.1 Injury

No incapacity treatment will be permitted on the field of play except for goalkeepers.

In the case of an injury to a field player, the umpire may authorise the registered team medical doctor and/or physiotherapist or, if a team does not have either, the team manager, to enter the field of play to assist and remove the player concerned from the field of play as soon as it is safe to do so. Coaches are not permitted to enter the field of play at any time.

If any person from the team bench enters the field to attend to a player other than the goalkeeper, that player must leave the field of play and return to the team bench area for a minimum of 2 minutes. The player required to leave the field may be substituted, subject to the provisions of the Rules of Hockey. However, if a team has decided not to put a reserve goalkeeper (in goalkeeping equipment) on the bench then no time will be allowed to pad up another player.

If blood staining to the field of play occurs, then immediate cleaning must take place by rubbing with a cloth soaked in 80% alcohol solution for approximately one minute. It is the responsibility of the home team to carry such a solution.

12.2 Half Time

Teams may leave the area surrounding the field of play during half time only with prior permission of the umpire (or Technical Official if in attendance) and must return not less than two minutes before the match is due to be restarted.

13. TEAM CLOTHING, COLOURS AND ADVERTISING

13.1 Clothing and Club Colours

Each team must wear the colours of its club (either first choice or alternative), or as pre-arranged and agreed with the Technical Official or Umpires.

Undershirts are only allowed when they are the same colour as the predominant colour

of the shirt. Undergear worn under shorts/skirt can only be in the predominant colour of the shorts/skirt, or black.

If, in the opinion of the Umpires and Technical Officials, the colours of opposing teams might lead to confusion, the away team must change. This decision will be at the discretion of the Umpires and Technical Officials.

13.2 Goalkeepers

Goalkeeper clothing colours and equipment must adhere to the FIH Rules of Hockey. The GK smock must be a distinctly different colour to the player shirts of both teams. Goalkeepers must wear a number on either or both the front and back of the shirt which must

- Appear in distinctive filled (not outline) figure(s)
- Be not less than 16 cm and not more than 20 cm in height on the back of the goalkeeper's shirt
- Be not less than 7 cm and not more than 20 cm in height on the front of the goalkeeper's shirt

13.3 Sponsors Logo on Kit

Currently, Hockey Ireland only has a mandatory regulation for clubs to have the competition sponsor logo (EYHL) displayed on both full sets of clothing and in the correct position (back of shirt, below the number). All clubs considering replacing 1st team kit, irrespective of whether they are currently in the EYHL should bear this regulation in mind. Where a new club joins the EYHL, a derogation for the location of the EYHL logo may be granted and only if the shirts are not being replaced and the EYHL reserved spot is committed under contract to an existing club sponsor. Failure to display the EYHL logo on both sets of the full clothing will be liable to a fine.

13.4 Advertising

No advertisement may appear on any item of clothing used by any player, umpire or official except as may be permitted by these Regulations. Hockey Ireland permits advertising on players' uniforms as below. Any club likely to play in EuroHockey competition and intending to replace their kit should additionally refer to the EuroHockey clothing regulations.

All advertising must be the same for all players on the team. Advertising in the form of a company's name, logo or trademark is permitted on shirts and shorts/skirts as follows and is measured as the area within a rectangle drawn around the advertisement:

Maximum sizes for playing shirts as follows:

- Front of shirt – 350 cm²
- Left Sleeve – 80 cm²

- Right Sleeve – 80 cm²
- Left chest – 40 cm²
- Right chest – 40 cm²
- Left side panel – 100 cm²
- Right side panel – 100 cm²
- Back of shirt – above players number – 100 cm²
- Note Back of Shirt – below players number is reserved for EYHL Logo
- Club Logo

Advertising is not permitted in any other location on playing strip, noting the following additional regulations:

- The shirt can have up to 9 commercial & club logos, excluding the IHL sponsors logo
- The shorts/skirts can have up to 3 commercial and club logos plus 1 manufacturers logo.
 - Back of the shorts/skort below the waistline not exceeding 100cm²
 - On one front leg (left or right) not exceeding 80cm² (but cannot share the same spot with a player number if used)
- The socks can have the club logo, but not any commercial logo
- Temporary skin tattoos are not permitted as advertising media

To ensure compliance with both the Sponsor Logo on Kit and Advertising regulations Hockey Ireland requires that clubs share either a Mock-Up prior to production of new home and/or away kit or an Image (Front & Back/Shirt & Shorts/Skort) of existing kit for approval.

13.5 Manufacturer's Identifications

An article of clothing or equipment may, when worn or used by a player, official or umpire whilst playing or officiating in any event, display the name, trademark or logo or any other distinctive sign of the manufacturer. The display may appear once only on any article of clothing and may not exceed an overall size of 20 cm² per article.

14. DISCIPLINE

14.1 Games Discipline

The Hockey Ireland Games Discipline Regulations provides for the Hockey Ireland Discipline Committee to convene a Disciplinary Hearing Panel on being notified that a Red Card Report has been received or an accumulation of 3 yellow cards (see the Hockey Ireland Games Discipline Regulations for full information on the procedure, sanctions and appeals).

Suspension dates will be notified by the Hockey Ireland Discipline Officer (HIDO) directly with the player and to the Club Secretary. The club secretary is required to confirm by email to competitions@hockey.ie when the sanction has been served.

14.2 Code of Conduct / Discipline other than Games Discipline

Contraventions of the Hockey Ireland Code of Conduct and any non-games discipline issues fall under the Hockey Ireland Discipline Regulations.

14.3 Tournaments

The EY Hockey Champions Trophy will be played under the disciplinary regulations relating to Tournaments (see Appendix C – Tournaments Regulations).

14.4 Team Bench Discipline and Penalties

These Club Outdoor Regulations provide for Umpires to award a personal penalty to a team captain, who is responsible for the conduct of their team, if they experience indiscipline from the non-playing staff on the bench. If a team official receives a yellow card, they sit on the discipline chair by the technical table for 5 mins, and their team plays with one less person (the team captain). If they receive a red card, they leave the playing area altogether and their team plays with one less player for the remainder of the game. It should be noted that if a Captain receives a personal penalty relating to conduct of their team or a non-playing staff on the bench, the yellow card will count in the accumulation of yellow cards (where three yellow cards results in an automatic suspension per the Hockey Ireland Discipline Regulations).

Vocal communication by team officials and/or players on the team bench must not in any way be directed at the umpires, technical officials and/or the players of the opposing team and is not tolerated.

Misconduct matters that occur before or after matches fall under the jurisdiction of the Code of Conduct.

15. UMPIRES

15.1 Club Outdoor Appointments

The IHUA is responsible for the appointment of Umpires to Hockey Ireland Club Outdoor matches and appointments are notified by the IHUA via the Umpires Appointment System at least two weeks prior to the match.

15.2 Insufficient Umpires Available for Appointment

If there are insufficient Umpires available for appointment by the IHUA, then the clubs will be notified in advance and the match must proceed with umpires appointed by both clubs (one each). In the event of no umpires being available the match shall proceed with a player from each team undertaking the umpiring role. A player so appointed cannot partake in the match as a player.

15.3 Unplanned Umpire Availability Situation

Should an Umpire fail to arrive to fulfil an appointment, the home club shall make every effort to find another Umpire to enable the match to be played on the same day.

16. TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

16.1 Competitions With Officials

The Outdoor SG will decide in conjunction with the Technical Officials SG the competitions in which to request the appointment of Officials at the beginning of the season and for which rounds of each competition.

16.2 Club Outdoor Appointments

Appointment of Officials will be notified to clubs via the Umpires Appointment System at least two weeks prior to the match.

16.3 Officials Duties

The duties, responsibility and authority of the Tournament Director, Technical Official and Judge, where appointed, shall be as per Hockey Ireland Regulations.

Where a Technical Official has been appointed, they will be responsible for the timing of suspensions, otherwise, the Umpires will manage the suspension timing and the return of the player (or substitute) to the field of play.

17. DISQUALIFICATION OR FAILURE/REFUSAL TO PLAY

A team either disqualified or refusing to play or to complete a match shall be considered as withdrawing from the respective competition.

Please note section 18 in relation to fines and penalties.

18. BREACH OF REGULATIONS & PENALTIES

18.1 Regulation Breach and Authority

Any club found to be in breach of the Clubs Outdoor Regulations may be subject to further penalties, as detailed below, in addition to any penalty imposed by a specific regulation herein.

The Outdoors SG shall at its discretion have the right to impose any penalty, including, but not exclusively, expulsion from a competition, the deduction of points, fines, suspension of players, and power to make teams play matches away from their home venue, on a club for breaches of any or all of the Clubs Outdoor Regulations and/or Hockey Ireland Code of Conduct.

In addition, the Outdoors SG shall at its discretion have the right to require that clubs reimburse opposing clubs, officials or Hockey Ireland for any expenses incurred by breaches of the Clubs Outdoor Regulations.

18.2 Fines and Penalties

Fielding of an ineligible player is a very serious matter, and details of penalties related to eligibility and registration can be found in Appendix D – Clubs Outdoor Competition Eligibility Regulations).

Further details of applicable fines and / or penalties where a club is found to be in breach

of the Hockey Ireland Code of Conduct or the Clubs Outdoor Regulations can be found in the respective competition appendix (see Appendix A – EYHL Regulations, Appendix B – Cups Regulations).

19. APPEAL PROCEDURE

Teams and players have the right to appeal against a decision of the Outdoors SG to the Appeals Committee of the Hockey Ireland Board, as stipulated in Bye Law 20.

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.

The Hockey Ireland Board reserves the right to apply further penalties of a fine of up to €1500 against any club or organisation which is determined by the Appeals Committee (or, on appeal, Just Sport Ireland) to have engaged in frivolous or vexatious appeals against a decision of the Competitions Committee or the Outdoors SG.

20. DOPING

The anti-doping rules of Hockey Ireland are the Irish Anti-Doping Rules as amended from time to time. Doping and doping offences are sanctioned under the Irish Sport Anti-Doping Rules and Procedures as provided by Sport Ireland.

The latest version can be downloaded from [Anti-Doping Rules | Sport Ireland](#)

Decisions of the Sport Ireland Anti-Doping Disciplinary Bodies are recognised by Hockey Ireland and such decisions shall be rendered effective by Hockey Ireland.

In the event of any contradictions between national regulations and the World Anti-Doping Authority (WADA) regulations, the provisions set out in the WADA shall prevail.