

REGULATIONS FOR INDOOR COMPETITIONS WITHIN THE MIDLAND REGIONAL HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

1. All matches shall be played in accordance with the FIH Indoor Hockey Rules, or as laid down by the English Hockey Association.
2. The competitions shall be organised by or be under the supervision of MRHA Indoor Competitions Committee. Any question or dispute which may arise in any competition which is not provided for by these Regulations shall be dealt with by the Tournament Referee (or Presiding Official) or committee whose decision shall be final.

3. Eligibility

- a. Club Championship:
 - i) By bona fide playing membership of the club concerned, which must be affiliated via its county association or division.
 - ii) No player may represent more than one club in any one season ie, from 1st September to 31st August, both dates inclusive.
- b. County Championship:
 - i) birth or,
 - ii) bona fide playing membership of a club in that county or
 - iii) bona fide residence in that county on 1st September each season and for at least six months from that date.
 - iv) No player shall represent more than one county in any one season ie from 1st September to 31st August both dates inclusive.
- c. Midlands Leagues:
 - i) by bona fide playing membership of that club, which must be affiliated via its county or division.
 - ii) a player who has played for any Indoor League Club in the Midlands will not be allowed to play for another in the same season, without written approval from the Indoor Secretary.
- d. Any team fielding an ineligible player shall be liable to forfeit the match or matches and may also be subject to Rule 6 Penalties.

4. Teams

- a. Teams shall consist of not more than 12 players (6 players and 6 substitutes) and a Manager.
- b. All teams shall wear shirts bearing a number of at least 9" in height on its back and in contrasting colour to the shirt such number shall be worn in the centre of the back of the shirt and correspond to the number in the team list or programme. Failure to do so may result in disqualification or other penalties.
- c. Goalkeepers of both sides shall wear coloured jerseys different from those of their own team and those of their opponents.
- d. Goalkeepers and kicking backs shall wear masks at corners and penalty strokes. Masks which embrace any dangerous material may be prohibited.
- e. Footwear must be without metal or abrasive protrusions (black soled footwear is forbidden in most sports halls).
- f. Each captain shall wear an armband in contrasting colour to his shirt.
- g. If there be a clash of any team colours whatsoever, the second named team in all competitions shall change to white shirts and socks.
- h. The first named team shall provide indoor hockey balls for each match and shall push-back to start the game.
- i. Teams shall be ready to play 5 minutes before the published time.

5. Disputes

- a. Any protest shall be made by an accredited Team Manager or Captain to the Tournament Referee (or Presiding Official) within five minutes of the end of the game. This must be confirmed in writing within 15 minutes and accompanied by a deposit of £50.00 which will only be returned if the protest is upheld.
- b. At the conclusion of each game, Team Managers or Captains and Umpires shall sign the score sheet at the Officials' table

6. Penalties

- a. In the event of a team failing to appear to start the game at the appointed time the opposition shall be awarded the game and the non-appearing team shall be deemed to have lost. The score shall be decided by the Tournament Referee or Presiding Official.
- b. Non-appearing teams shall forfeit entrance fee. Further action, including fines or suspensions, may be taken by the organising body or MRHA Indoor Competitions Committee in accordance with the Committee's Term of Reference.
- c. The current HA Code of Discipline for players shall apply to all matches.

7. Placings

In any competition teams shall gain 3 points for a win and 1 point for a draw.

a. Leagues

Positions in Leagues will be determined by the following priorities:

- i) Total Points
- ii) Goals Scored
- iii) Goal difference
- iv) Result of games between tying teams

b. Champion Tournament:

Position in Championship Tournaments will be determined by the following priorities (including pool matches)

- i) Total Points
- ii) Goals scored
- iii) Goal difference
- iv) Result of game between tying teams
- v) Penalty stroke competition (as below)

8. Penalty Stroke Competition

- a. In Championship Tournaments should the score of the Semi-Final or Final games (including pool finals) be equal at full-time, the Manager/Captain shall nominate 3 different players of his team to take penalty strokes alternatively against the same goalkeeper of the other team (who shall not be substituted during series unless, in the opinion of the umpires, such goalkeeper is incapacitated through an injury).
 - b. The Captains shall toss to decide which team shall take the first stroke.
 - c. The team awarded the higher number of goals shall be the winner.
 - d. In the event of an equal number of goals being awarded, another series of penalty strokes shall be taken under the same conditions except that it will be on a 'sudden death' basis ie the team having been awarded the most goals after an equal number of strokes shall be the winner.
 - e. The Tournament Referee shall indicate the goal to be used.
9. Should circumstances arise in any competition which are not provided for in these Regulations, these shall be dealt with by the Tournament Referee (or Presiding Official) whose decision shall be final.