

# GUIDE FOR CLUB UMPIRES

## BEFORE YOUR FIRST MATCH

- Be aware of the league rules related to umpiring especially Rule 6, Rule 8, Rule 11 and rule 17
- Check you are aware of the current hockey rules. Have they have changed for this season?
- Sign up for the rules test on the EH website as a refresher. It's free.
- Register to use Hockey Hub on the EH website where there is some very useful umpire guidance. It's free
- Attend a local county Umpire Association coaching meeting
- Useful coaching information may be found on [www.mrhua.org.uk/public/handbook.php?MRHUA](http://www.mrhua.org.uk/public/handbook.php?MRHUA)
- If you wish to undertake neutral umpire appointments or if you require an assessment for level 1 then contact Peter Bell (Birmingham area BCHUA) or David Straker (East Midlands area EMHUA) Contacts are in the League handbook in the Umpiring sections.

## ON THE DAY

Ensure you have the right kit; arrive in good time and if possible have a pre-match chat however brief with your colleague.

Umpire to the rules and the guidance in the rule book. Common sense should prevail.

Captains are responsible for the behaviour of their players not you. Penalise contravention of rules when necessary to the rules. Don't invent your own rules and be honest with the players and your colleague. Use personal penalties to reinforce decisions. Green and yellow cards are an integral part of the game and necessary. Cut out physical play and use of foul and abusive language as soon as possible.

Enjoy your match and remember you are a role model for others and follow Hockey's codes of conduct yourself.

## IF YOU HAVE TO GIVE A SECOND YELLOW CARD TO THE SAME PLAYER

You can give a second yellow card to a player for **2 different offences** e.g. dissent in the first half and then bad tackling later on but the second yellow card must be a longer suspension.

If you have to show a second yellow card for the same **MINOR offence** then that is a RED card but recorded as **category D**. That means the player is suspended for the rest of the match only and it **must still be** reported on a red card report form and as a red card and on the league match report sheet

If you have to show a second yellow card for any other **same offence** (not Minor) then a red card must be shown instead of the second yellow. This is categorised by you the umpire on the form subject to the type of offence. The player is suspended from the rest of the match and will receive a further suspension from his County. The red card form must be filed in and the red card reported on the

league match report sheet.

Definition: A **MINOR offence** is one **not involving** physical play or use of foul or abusive language.

## REPORTING RED CARDS

Do not be put off by the regulations. A good umpire stands by their decision. If you show a red card you cannot retract it later. There are lots of regulations and you are not expected to be an expert. Use common sense and try to stay calm. Familiarise yourself with the red card regulation requirements. A useful guide on completing a red card or match day misconduct is on the EH website <http://www.englishhockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=1165>

Ask for help if you are unsure. Your clubs county has a Discipline Administrator who will be able to help you or contact your County Umpiring Association. The contacts are in the League handbook.

Key points are being timely, ring the County Discipline Administrator (CDA) of the club of the player receiving the red card as soon as reasonably possible to inform them of the expected red card report. Ensure you complete the form accurately with statements not opinions. See the guide on the EH website.

The red card form goes to the CDA of the county of the players club. These are found in the league handbook in the county listings. The RDA contact found on the back of the form is NOT the addressee of the red card form but will advise you if necessary.

Remember it is not you that has suspended a player but their actions on the pitch that have contravened the rule and the code of conduct they have signed up to.

## LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION REQUIREMENT

The League has requirements on all Clubs to provide information on all matches via the team sheet. Some of these are also of use to your umpiring and are not onerous to make sure they are completed.

All match sheets should be provided to the umpires before the match starts. Requesting them when you meet the captains at the toss.

On receipt of the match sheet you should check that club names are correct and that all intended players are listed and have numbers assigned to them. You should also indicate you received the match sheets before the game.

After the game, you should indicate the score, indicate scorers if known, indicate any yellow/red cards issued.

Both umpires to enter their name, sign and show whether Home/Away umpire and if applicable Level 1 registration number. Then hand back both sheets to home captain.

Finally, enjoy your post-match refreshments.