

New Rules of Hockey 2015 (Effective from 1st September 2015)

The implementation of the new Rules of Hockey 2015 shall take effect from 1st September 2015 at all levels of hockey in Hong Kong with the exception of the following.

Rule 9.7 – playing of the ball at any height including above the shoulder will ONLY be permitted in the Premier Division competitions of the Men’s and Women’s leagues. Players in all other levels of hockey shall continue to observe that playing of the ball above shoulder height is still prohibited.

The other key points in the Rules of Hockey 2015 are summarised below.

Rule 7.4 (b) - When the ball is played over the back-line and no goal is scored if played unintentionally by a defender or deflected by a goalkeeper or player with goalkeeping privileges, play is re-started with the ball on the 23 metres line and in line with where it crossed the back-line and the procedures for taking a free hit apply. With the ball being placed on the line, the re-start is effectively within the 23 metres area and the provisions for taking a free hit are applicable.

i.e. the former long corner is now DELETED.

Rule 9.13 - Players must not tackle unless in a position to play the ball without body contact. Reckless play, such as sliding tackles and other overly physical challenges by field players, which take an opponent to ground and which have the potential to cause injury should attract appropriate match and personal penalties.

Rule 12.4 - The previous rule regarding awarding a penalty stroke arising from defenders persistently crossing over the backline before permitted during the taking of a penalty corner is now DELETED.

Rule 12.5 - The previous rule regarding a free hit may be progressed up to 10 metres if there is another offence or misconduct before the awarded penalty has been taken is now DELETED.

Rule 13.2 - The previous rule regarding a free hit awarded within 5 metres of the circle to the attack is taken at the nearest point 5 metres from the circle has been is now DELETED.

Rule 13.7 – A player if defending a penalty corner breaks the backline before permitted, that player is required to go beyond the centre-line. A player if taking the push or hit the back-line from a penalty corner feints at playing ball, that player is required to go beyond the centre-line. An attacker enters the circle before permitted, that player is required to go beyond the centre-line.

Rule 14.1 (b) - A player is suspended for two (2) minutes if given a green card.