



BYLAWS FOR HKHA

SUMMER MIXED LEAGUE 2023 (Final)

1. Composition of Teams

- 1.1 All players participating for a team must be registered for that team prior to the start of the match.
- 1.2 The maximum number of players that may participate in a match for any one team is 16.
- 1.3 Teams shall include both male and female players.
- 1.4 No team shall have more than **6 male field players** on the field of play at any one time.
- 1.5 There is no limit on the number of female players allowed on the field of play provided the total number of players on the field at any point in time does not exceed 11.
- 1.6 A “Field Player with Goalkeeping Privileges” is no longer available.
Teams have now two options:
 - 1) Play with a Goalkeeper who wears protective equipment comprising at least headgear, leg guards and kickers and who is also permitted to wear goalkeeping hand protectors and other protective equipment.OR
 - 2) Play with Field Players only.

Any change between these options should be treated as a substitution.
- 1.7 Suspension of male field players: the number of male field players permitted on the field during any period(s) of suspension of male field players shall be reduced by the number of male field players suspended at that time.

2. Player Registration

- 2.1 All players taking part in the HKHA Summer Mixed League (“summer league”) must be registered with a registered team. Full names and Hong Kong Identity Card shall be provided on the Player Registration Form. **Not more than three** non-Hong Kong residents shall be permitted to play and in such cases their nationality and passport number shall be provided with their registration and shall be subject to approval by the HKHA Summer Mixed League committee.
- 2.2 There is no limit to the number of players that a team is permitted to register.
- 2.3 To register players under the age of 18 the form “*Parental Permission Letter for Players Under 18*” shall be completed, signed by the player’s parent or guardian and submitted to the HKHA. A player under the age of 18 shall not be considered registered until the convener and/or captain has received an acknowledgement of receipt of the “Parental Permission Letter for Players Under 18” from the HKHA.
- 2.4 Female players and goal keepers are allowed to be registered to play for more than one team to ensure inclusivity and ensure any team or club of only one gender can enter the competition. However, players should make sure not to play for more than two clubs or two teams within the same club.**
- 2.5 Teams may register and deregister players at any time during the league. Players registered or deregistered after the initial pre-league registration period shall not be considered registered or deregistered until the convener and/or captain has received an acknowledgement of their registration/deregistration from the HKHA.
- 2.6 Any player taking part in a summer league match shall be obliged to present his/her Hong Kong Identity Card to either of the umpires or to a representative of the HKHA, upon request, immediately before, during, or immediately after the match.

3. League Format

- 3.1 The league will be played on a multi-pool, round robin basis. There will be no play-offs between the pools. If more than one round is played, teams may be moved to different pools for the second round.

4. Rules of Play

- 4.1 All games shall be played in accordance with the FIH Rules of Hockey, with the exception of the changes listed in items 1 through 5 below.
1. Each **goal scored by a female player will count as two goals** **Male players are not allowed to score more than TWO goals in each quarter.**
 2. Hitting is not permitted anywhere on the field, this includes **Forehand Hit** and **Reverse Hit** (aka. Tomahawk). However, whilst a **Sweep** (aka. Slap hit) is not permitted in both circles (attacking and defending), it is permitted anywhere on the pitch outside the two circles.
 3. There will be **no penalty corners**. For an infringement that would incur a penalty corner under Rule 12.3 of the Rules of Hockey, a free hit shall be awarded and shall be taken at the nearest point to the infringement that is 5 metres outside the circle. For an infringement that would incur a penalty corner under Rules 12.3b, 12.3c or 12.3d of the Rules of Hockey, personal penalties may be awarded.
 4. There will be **no penalty strokes**. For an infringement that would incur a penalty stroke under Rule 12.4, a free hit shall be awarded and shall be taken at the nearest point to the infringement that is 5 metres outside the circle. For an infringement that would incur a penalty stroke under Rule 12.4b. of the Rules of Hockey, personal penalties may be awarded.
 5. **The use of the stick above the shoulder shall not be permitted**
 6. **A goal is awarded** when field players position themselves with the intention of stopping the ball from going in with any part of their body.

5. Duration of Matches

- 1.1 A match consists of four quarters of 17 minutes, an interval of 2 minutes between quarter 1 and 2 and between quarter 3 and 4 and a half-time interval of 5 minutes between quarter 2 and 3.
- 1.2 Teams should arrive at the venue in plenty of time to start the game at the scheduled start time. **If a game is started late, the length of the game must be shortened such that it finishes no later than 5 minutes before the scheduled start of the next game** or, in the event of the last game of the day, 5 minutes before the closure time of the pitch.

6. Uniform

- 6.1 The team uniforms listed when registering are to be worn for all matches. It is the responsibility of the Captain of the Away Team (i.e. the second named team in the match schedule) to determine if there is a uniform colour clash for the match and, if there is, to change the uniform of his/her team to ensure that the two teams are easily distinguishable. The Away Team may change to its second uniform, or it may wear a combination of its first and second uniforms, whichever is most appropriate.

7. Match Ball

- 7.1 It is the responsibility of the Home Team (i.e. the first named team in the match schedule) to provide the match ball.

8. Signing for Pitches

- 8.1 For matches at LCSD pitches, the captain of one of the teams playing the first match that day is requested to sign for all the time slots booked by the HKHA for that evening.

9. Recording of Results

- 9.1 **Umpires must report the award of Yellow and Red cards to the HKHA**, by text message, e-mail or fax within forty-eight (48) hours of the end of the match. Captains and umpires may also report any other problems or issues associated with a match, such as pitch problems, failure of opponents to provide a team, failure of a team to provide an umpire, inappropriate or improper behavior etc. in the same way.

10. Umpires

- 10.1 Unless teams are notified that an umpire is to be appointed by the HKHA, **teams are required to supply a HKHA registered umpire** to officiate at either the match immediately prior to, **and*/or** after their own game, as indicated in the match schedule.

10.2 The success of the summer league depends very much on teams performing the umpiring duties expected of them. **It is the responsibility of the Team Convener to ensure a HKHA registered umpire is provided for all umpiring duties allocated to his/her team.**

10.3 Failure to provide an umpire as required will be treated very seriously and may result in a team or a club being banned from this and/or future summer leagues.

11. Conduct

11.1 The conduct of all players and officials participating in the summer league and spectators watching the summer league matches shall be governed by:

- The Bye-laws for HKHA Summer Mixed League
- The Rules of the HKHA
- The HKHA Code of Conduct
- All cases of misconduct shall be dealt with in accordance with the Bye-laws for HKHA Summer Mixed League and Rule 16 of the HKHAMS Competition Bye-Laws.

11.2 All conveners, captains, players, officials and spectators are reminded of the importance of fair play, good sportsmanship and proper conduct on and at the pitch.

11.3 HKHA Summer Mixed League related complaints against players, officials and spectators may be made in writing and sent to the HKHA, by text message, email or fax, within forty-eight (48) hours of the end of the match to which they relate or within forty-eight (48) hours of the time of the incident to which they relate, if they did not occur during a match.

11.4 All complaints plus all reports from umpires and captains will be reviewed and/or investigated by the HKHA Summer Mixed League Committee and disciplinary action taken as seen fit by the committee.

11.5 Failure to abide by the Rules and Bylaws and reports of incidents of inappropriate or improper conduct will be treated very seriously and may result in a player, a team or a club being banned from this and/or future summer leagues.

11.6 Umpire abuse and conduct that is considered by the HKHA Summer Mixed League Committee to bring the game of hockey into disrepute will not be tolerated and will be brought before the HKHA Disciplinary Committee.

11.7 All appeals shall be dealt with in accordance with the HKHA Rules and Bylaws.

12. Personal Penalties

- 12.1 A player receiving a green card shall be temporarily suspended for two (2) minutes of playing time during which the offending team shall play with one less player. Upon receiving a green card the player shall immediately leave the field of play and shall not return until 2 minutes of playing time has elapsed.
- 12.2 A player receiving a yellow card shall be temporarily suspended for a minimum of five (5) minutes of playing time during which the offending team shall play with one less player. The duration of the suspension shall be at the discretion of the umpire. Upon receiving a yellow card the player shall immediately leave the field of play and shall not return until advised by the umpire that he/she may do so.
- 12.3 Whilst temporarily suspended, players shall remain close to the field of play but shall not take any part in the match e.g. coaching, supporting etc. Temporarily suspended players are permitted to rejoin their team at half-time but must complete their suspension when play resumes.
- 12.4 A player receiving a yellow card or red card shall also receive penalty points, based on the type of offence for which the card was awarded, please refer to Rule 16 of the HKHAMS Competition Bye-Laws.
- 12.5 Penalty points awarded for yellow card and red card offences will be accumulated throughout the summer league.
- 12.6 A player awarded with a red card shall leave the field of play immediately (staying at the team bench is not permitted) and the red card offences will automatically be investigated by the HKHA Summer Mixed League Committee for misconduct, where necessary, the case may be referred to the HKHA Disciplinary Committee for further review.
- 12.7 The HKHA Summer Mixed League Committee will review all reports of red card offences and may review reports of yellow card offences, following which one or more of the following actions may be taken:
- (a) require the player and/or the team captain to attend an interview;
 - (b) issue a verbal or written warning to the player or team captain;
 - (c) refer a case to the HKHA Disciplinary Committee, regardless of the number of yellow card penalty points that have been accumulated by the player;
 - (d) refer any red card offence to the HKHA Disciplinary Committee.

- 12.8 Team captains and/or convenors are responsible for keeping a record of all penalty points awarded to their players and for initiating a suspension of a player immediately following the end of the game in which the requisite number of penalty points has been accumulated by that player.
- 12.9 The team captain and/or convenor shall promptly notify players by text message or email of the dates of his/her suspension. The notification shall be copied to the HKHA who shall send an acknowledgment within 24 hours (Saturdays and Sundays excluded). If no acknowledgment is received within that time the team captain or club convenor shall telephone the HKHA office to report the case.
- 12.10 Team captains and/or convenors are responsible for ensuring that suspended players do not participate in any matches during their period of suspension.
- 12.11 If a player is unable to complete a suspension due to there being insufficient matches for his/her team remaining in the summer league, the case will be referred to the HKHA Men's Section or Women's Section, as applicable, and the suspension may be continued into the relevant HKHA Winter League.
- 12.12 Penalty points awarded for yellow card offences will not be carried forward to the Winter Leagues or to the following year's summer league.
- 12.13 Any team failing to follow these Byelaws and the Rules of Hockey in respect of player suspensions shall be immediately withdrawn from the summer league. The players registered with that team shall be prohibited from registering with any other team and may also be prohibited from playing in future summer leagues.
- 12.14 Players found to be playing for a team that they are not registered with will be immediately deregistered by the HKHA and will not be permitted to register for any team in the current summer league. They also risk being prohibited from registering in future summer leagues.

Amended 7 July 2023