

GUERNSEY HOCKEY LBG
LEAGUE & CUP COMPETITIONS RULES

1. DEFINITIONS

“Administrator” – the GHLBG League and Cup Administrator appointed by the Board;

“Board” – the Board of Directors of GHLBG and any committee, sub-committee or person to whom the Board has delegated any responsibility;

“EH” - England Hockey;

“FIH” – Federation Internationale de Hockey;

“GHLBG” - Guernsey Hockey LBG;

“League” - the Men’s division 1, division 2, division 2a and the Ladies division (as applicable from time to time);.

“Member Hockey Club” - any hockey club that is a member of the GHLBG;

“Playing Season” - as from the 1st September to the 31st May;

“Start Time” - the time that a match is to commence;

“Team” - any team from a Member Hockey Club;

“Umpire” - any umpire who is registered with GHLBG;

“Umpires’ Co-ordinator” – responsible for umpire appointments;

2. TEAM AND PLAYER REGISTRATION

2.1 Each Team from a Member Hockey Club wishing to participate in a League or Cup competition must advise the Administrator which League and Cup competitions the Team is to be registered in and full details of the Team colours in writing by letter or e-mail by no later than 31 August, or such other date as the Administrator may require.

2.2 All player registrations must be received by the Administrator in writing by the appropriately agreed medium at least forty-eight (48) hours before that player is allowed to represent the Team in League or Cup competition matches, provided that the player is eligible to be registered. It shall be at the Board’s

discretion whether the registration of any individual player to a Team is accepted.

- 2.3 A player is only eligible to be registered if ordinarily resident in the Bailiwick of Guernsey for at least one month prior to the date that the player is to represent a Team in the League or in a Cup competition match or if intending to remain in the Bailiwick of Guernsey for at least one month or at the discretion of the Board.
- 2.4 In the League, any other registration rules will be set out in the Leagues Format document (see Rule 5.4).
- 2.5 For Cup competition matches, a player will be cup tied, that is ineligible to play for any other Team in that Cup competition, after playing one (1) match for a Team in that Cup Competition.
- 2.6 For Cup competition matches, any other registration rules applying to specific teams will be set out in the Cup Competitions Format document (see Rule 6.1).
- 2.7 No female player is permitted to play for a Men's Team taking part in a League or Cup Competition match in the Men's Division 1, Division 2 unless
- 2.7.1 no eligible male player is available for the relevant match; and
 - 2.7.2 the captain of the opposing Team has agreed.
- Without prejudice to Rule 2.7, a Ladies Team may be permitted to play in the Men's Division 1 or Division 2 League or Cup Competitions at the discretion of the Board.
- 2.8 No male player is permitted to play for a Ladies' Team taking part in a Ladies League or Cup Competition unless:
- 2.8.1 an exception has been made in the League Format Document (see 5.4)
 - 2.8.2 without prejudice to this Rule 2.18 a Junior Boys' Team may be permitted to play in the Ladies League or Cup Competitions at the discretion of the Board.
- 2.9 Only players over the age of 13 are eligible to play in the Men's and Ladies' Leagues and Cup Competitions.
- 2.9.1 Junior Players' eligibility to register and play for a Hockey Club taking part in a League or Cup Competition match in the Men's or Ladies' League(s) is subject to the relevant Junior player rules agreed by the

Junior Committee and set out in the League Format Document (see 5.4)

- 2.9.2 At the discretion of the Board, a pool of players aged under 18 on 1st September will be set up (“Pool Players”). Pool Players will be organised by a designated person or persons (the “Pool Manager(s)”). Teams and Member Hockey Clubs are only permitted to contact Pool Players through the Pool Manager. Pool Players may only play if assigned by the Pool Manager. Any Team playing a Pool Player who has not been assigned for that match will be deemed to have played an unregistered player (see Rule 8.9).
- 2.9.3 Pool Players can play for any Team from any Member Hockey Club in a League or Cup Competition Match without being subject to any other rules in relation to registration, with the exception of any relevant rules in the League Format Document (see Rule 5.4):

3. PLAYER TRANSFER

- 3.1 A Player Transfer Form for players transferring between Member Hockey Clubs or Teams of a Member Hockey Club during the Playing Season must be received by the Administrator at least five (5) days before the next proposed League or Cup competition fixture for their new Team. Any Player Transfer form must be signed by the Team Captains of each team. Any forms not containing both signatures will be rejected.
- 3.2 Player transfers cannot take place:
- 3.2.1 if that player owes any fees to GHLBG (see Rule 3.4);
 - 3.2.2 or after the 1st January of the current Playing Season unless at the discretion of the Board due to special circumstances.
- 3.3 Each Player Transfer must be approved by the Administrator who shall confirm to the Member Hockey Clubs or Teams of a Member Hockey Club if the Player Transfer has been approved before the Player is eligible to play for the new Member Hockey Club or Team of a Member Hockey Club.
- 3.4 Any player who wishes to transfer between Member Hockey Clubs must first clear any debt owed to GHLBG and no transfer will be approved and the player will not be eligible to play for the new Member Hockey Club until the debt has been cleared in full.

4. TEAM UNIFORM

4.1 Any intended changes to any part of a Team's uniform should be submitted, in writing by letter or e-mail, to the Registration Secretary for approval.

4.2 All players must be uniformly and neatly dressed at all times during a League match or Cup competition match as organised or sanctioned by the GHLBG.

4.3 A player must wear shin guards, worn inside of socks, at all times during a League match, Cup competition match, friendly or any other match as organised or sanctioned by the GHLBG. Any players under the age of 18 must wear a mouth guard at all times and a face guard during penalty corners.

4.4 Team uniforms shall comprise:

Men

Shirts (sleeved, short sleeved or sleeveless)
Knee length socks
Adequate footwear
Shin pads
Shorts - solid colour
Dark running/exercise shorts may be worn under shorts

Women

Shirts (sleeved, short sleeved or sleeveless)
Knee length socks
Adequate footwear
Shin pads
Skirts, Skorts or shorts
Skirt/Skort length may not fall below the knee
Dark running/exercise shorts may be worn under skirts

4.5 Shirts for both men and women must be:

4.5.1 Numbered on the back and numbers must be clearly visible. No two players from the same Team participating in a League match or a Cup competition match shall have the same number.

4.5.2 Team logos or Team sponsor logos are permitted and names/sponsor logos may appear on the front, back or sleeve of the players shirts;

4.5.3 The size of the Team names, logos and/or sponsorship names/logos shall not exceed 350 sq. cm on the front/back of the shirt and 40 sq. cm on each of the sleeves;

4.6 Players shall remove jewellery before playing (necklaces, bracelets, protruding rings on fingers or face, dangly earrings, watches) and any other dangerous items.

4.7 The Umpires assigned for a match shall solely determine what constitutes a dangerous item and they should prohibit a player participating in a match until the item is removed.

5. LEAGUE FIXTURES AND FORMAT

5.1 The number of divisions which the League will comprise and the number of Teams in each division will be decided by the Board.

5.2 The Fixtures Schedule will be drawn up by the Administrator and ratified by the Board prior to the start of the Playing Season.

5.3 The Fixtures Schedule will be communicated to the Member Hockey Clubs and Teams in writing by letter or e-mail from the Administrator by no later than 31 August.

5.4 The format of each division of the League, along with any specific rules applying to each League, will be decided before the start of the Playing Season by the Board and set out in the “League Format” document which will be communicated to the Member Hockey Clubs and Teams in writing by letter or e-mail from the Administrator along with the Fixtures Schedule.

5.5 All League matches, friendly matches or any other matches as organised or sanctioned by the GHLBG, will be played in accordance with the GHLBG League & Cup Competition Rules and the FIH Rules of Hockey as adopted by EH, as amended from time to time.

5.6 Points shall be awarded for League matches as follows:

- Win - 3 points
- Draw - 1 point
- Loss - 0 points

5.7 The winner of each division of the League shall be the Team with the most points at the conclusion of all the League fixtures in the Playing Season, unless the format of the League is specifically amended by the Administrator (see Rule 5.4). In the event of two Teams finishing the Playing Season on equal points, the League winner will be determined by a play-off match. In the event of three or more teams finishing the Playing Season on equal points, the two highest placed teams will be determined first by goal difference (which means “goals for” less “goals against” and a positive goal difference will always takes precedence over a negative one), and if still equal by the number of goals scored, and if still equal by the results of the League matches between the Teams on equal points and if still on equal points by a coin toss. The League winner will then be determined by a play-off match between these two highest placed teams.

5.8 The League shall be known by the name of the current sponsor.

6. CUP COMPETITION FIXTURES AND FORMAT

6.1 The fixtures and format of the Cup competitions for each division of the League, along with any specific rules applying to each Cup competition, will be decided before the start of the Playing Season by the Board and set out in the “Cup Competitions Format” document which will be communicated to the Member Hockey Club and Teams in writing by letter or e-mail by the Administrator prior to the first fixture being played.

6.2 All Cup competitions matches will be played in accordance with the GHLBG League & Cup Competition Rules and the FIH Rules of Hockey as adopted by EH, as amended from time to time.

6.3 The first named Team on the Fixture Schedule will be the Home Team. The second named Team on the Fixture Schedule or the Away Team must change shirts or wear contrasting colour bibs if the Umpires, in their sole discretion, deem that there is a colour clash between the two Teams.

7. RESCHEDULING MATCHES

7.1 It is intended that all matches are to be played on the published dates as set out in the Fixtures Schedule.

7.2 Fixtures can only be rescheduled if:

7.2.1 a rescheduled new Fixture date is available, which new date must be agreed by

7.2.2 the Administrator, the Umpires Co-ordinator and the captains of the two Teams involved.

7.2.3 notice is given before midday on the Thursday before the scheduled game

Unless and until all the requirements of Rule 7.2 have been complied with, and all necessary agreements obtained, the Fixture shall remain as scheduled and if any Team fails to fulfil the Fixture the other Team will be awarded a win which if a League Fixture will be recorded as a 3 – 0 win and match fees will be applied to the cancelling team..

- 7.3 No Team may reschedule more than 2 Fixtures (whether in a League or Cup competition) in any Playing Season.
- 7.4 All Fixtures must be played within the relevant Playing Season. If any Team fails to fulfil a Fixture within the relevant Playing Season the other Team will be awarded a win which if a League Fixture will be recorded as a 3 – 0 win. No Team will be declared a League winner if they have failed to fulfil all their allotted fixtures, unless such failure is agreed by the Board as being through no fault of that Team.

8. MATCHES AND CONDITIONS OF PLAY

- 8.1 Umpires should be prepared to start a match as near to the Start Time as possible.
- 8.2 The Home Team on the Fixture Schedule shall provide a match-grade dimpled hockey ball to the Umpires prior to the Start Time of the match.
- 8.3 It is the responsibility of both Team captains to ensure that their respective Team Sheets (as set out in Appendix C) are correctly completed listing all the players and substitutes and handed to the Umpires prior to the Start Time of a match. No amendments to the Team Sheets shall be permitted once the match has started. Any players not listed on the Team Sheets will not be allowed to take part in the match.
- 8.4 The first named Team on the Fixture Schedule will be the Home Team. The second named Team on the Fixture Schedule or the Away Team must change shirts or wear contrasting colour bibs if the Umpires, in their sole discretion, deem that there is a colour clash between the two Teams.
- 8.5 Each Team will comprise a maximum of eleven (11) players on the field of play, in accordance with FIH Rules of Hockey as amended from time to time, and a maximum of five (5) substitutes on the team bench.
- 8.6 Each Team must have a captain, on the field of play, who is responsible for the behaviour of the Team players on the field of play and the substitutes on the team bench and who must wear a distinctive arm band or ribbon. Upon suspension of the captain, a team player on the field of play must take over the arm band or ribbon.
- 8.7 Only players who are duly registered (see Rule 2) for the Team that they are playing for are allowed to take to the field of play and represent that Team.
- 8.8 At the Start Time both teams should be on the field of play and ready to commence the match.

- 8.9 Any Team fielding an unregistered player in a match or a player registered for another Team or Member Hockey Club or a player not listed on the Team Sheets for that match, or a player banned from playing, will automatically forfeit the match and the result will be recorded by the Administrator as a 3-0 win to the opposing Team.
- 8.10 It is the responsibility of the umpire to record any injuries on the Team Sheet
- 8.10 It is the responsibility of the Team Captains at the end of a match to ensure that Team Sheets are correctly completed with
- i) any Pool Players being identified as such;
 - ii) the final result of the match;
 - iii) the names of the scorers and the number(s) of goals scored;
 - iv) any cards issued, clearly marked against the players name together with the colour of card issued;
 - v) any injuries recorded;
 - vi) signatures of both umpires

and placed in the Results box located inside the Hockey Clubhouse.

If for any reason it is not possible for the Team Captains to post the completed team sheet into the Results Box following the match then the Team Captains must ensure that the result is communicated to the Administrator by 5pm on the Sunday following the game and thereafter provide the team sheet to the Administrator within 48 hours of the match in writing by letter or e-mail. Failure to place the Team Sheets in the Results box or to inform the Administrator of the result and provide the team sheet in a timely manner will result in points being deducted from the Team at the discretion of the Board.

9. CANCELLING MATCHES DUE TO BAD WEATHER

- 9.1 There may be up to a 15 minute weather delay at the Start Time of a match. The Umpires assigned to the match have the discretion jointly to determine if the match is delayed or cancelled due to bad weather. The Administrator will reschedule the match
- 9.2 There may be up to a 10 minute weather delay during the match. The Umpires assigned to the match have the discretion jointly to determine if the match is delayed or cancelled due to bad weather. The Administrator will reschedule the match.

- 9.3 The Administrator, in conjunction with the Board, may deem that any fixture or group of fixtures is unable to be played due to bad weather, and that such fixtures are then declared void and are not rescheduled.

10. DISCIPLINE

- 10.1 All Member Hockey Clubs and Teams taking part in League matches, Cup competition matches or any other matches as organised or sanctioned by the GHLBG agree to be bound by the EH Red Card & Match Day Offence Regulations, as set out in Appendix E, which covers red cards, other offences, the length of suspensions and bans, and the appeals process.
- 10.2 A player issued with a red card by an Umpire during a match will be expelled from the match and must leave the field of play as per the FIH Rules of Hockey, as amended from time to time.
- 10.3 Any incident of a red card or other offences must be reported by the Umpire using the EH Red Card & Match Day Offence Report Form as set out in Appendix F and delivered to the Administrator in writing by letter or e-mail within twenty-four 24 hours of the incident.
- 10.4 The Board will then, subject to the provisions of the EH Red Card & Match Day Offence Regulations, decide on any necessary penalty to be issued to the offending player. The decision of the Board will be given to the offending player in the format of the EH Penalty Notification Form as set out in Appendix G.
- 10.5 The offending player may appeal the decision by the Board of Directors and must lodge their appeal using the EH Appeal Notice Form as set out in Appendix H. The Appeal Notice Form must be completed and signed and sent to the Board by letter or e-mail (to the Administrator) within seven (7) days of the issue of the EH Penalty Notification Form to the offending player.
- 10.6 All Appeals will be dealt with as per the EH Red Card & Match Day Offence Regulations.
- 10.7 A player issued with a green or a yellow card during a match will serve their suspension at a place previously agreed by the Umpires and the Teams but in any event this place will NOT be behind either of the two goals.

11. UMPIRES

- 11.1 The Umpires Co-ordinator shall be responsible for appointing Umpires to all League matches, Cup competition matches and any other matches as organised or sanctioned by the GHLBG.

- 11.2 In the event that at the scheduled Start Time of a match either or both of the Umpires as appointed by the Umpires Co-ordinator to umpire the match are not available to umpire then:
- 11.2.1 The Umpires Co-ordinator may appoint a replacement Umpire to umpire the match if that person to be appointed is an Umpire currently registered with GHLBG and not a member of either of the Teams who are playing the match.
 - 11.2.2 If the Umpires Co-ordinator is not available at the match at the scheduled Start Time, then the two Teams involved in the match, may, by mutual agreement, agree to appoint a replacement Umpire to umpire the match, if that person to be appointed is currently registered with GHLBG and not a member of either of the two Teams who are playing the match.
 - 11.2.3 If an Umpire currently registered with GHLBG is not available then the two Teams involved in the match may, by mutual agreement, agree to appoint a replacement Umpire at their discretion, which may be a player from either of the two Teams.
 - 11.2.4 In the event that there is no mutual agreement under Rule 16.2.1, 16.2.2 or 16.2.3 then the match shall be cancelled. The Administrator will reschedule the match.
 - 11.2.5 Under the provisions of Rule 16.2, there may be a delay of up to 15 minutes from the scheduled Start Time to allow both Umpires to be ready on the field of play. In the event that two Umpires are not available after this time has elapsed the game shall be cancelled. The Administrator will reschedule the match.
- 11.3 Any complaint by a Team concerning the conduct, behaviour or performance of an Umpire during a match should be directed in writing, by letter or e-mail, clearly setting out the reasons for the complaint, to the Umpires Co-ordinator within 24 hours of the end of the match.

12. APPEALS

- 12.1 An Appeals Committee consisting of three senior players shall be appointed by the Board following the receipt of an appeal. The Appeals Committee will have jurisdiction over all appeals lodged with the GHLBG except those concerning Red Cards as such appeals are dealt with by the EH Red Card & Match Day Offence Regulations as set out in Appendix E.

- 12.2 The players shall be registered with Teams other than those involved in the dispute or matter under consideration.
- 12.3 No member of the Appeals Committee shall be a current member of the Board.
- 12.4 The decision of the Appeals Committee will be final and binding on all parties involved.

13. FINANCIAL

- 13.1 At the discretion of the Board, a player can be banned from playing for any Team of a Member Hockey Club if any fees are owed to GHLBG by that Player, until such time as the fees have been paid or a schedule of payment agreed.
- 13.2 Fees and the Budget for the Playing Season will be determined by the Board and presented at the AGM.

14. GENERAL

- 14.1 The GHLBG logo shall not be used on any clothing, correspondence or otherwise without the prior consent of the Board, which consent shall be at the sole discretion of the Board.
- 14.2 In all matters concerning the interpretation or any perceived ambiguity of the GHLBG Rules or the organisation of the League, Cup competitions, or any other related matter, the decision of the Board shall be final.
- 14.3 The Board shall have the power to determine any matter not covered by the GHLBG Rules.
- 14.4 Any proposed amendments to the GHLBG Rules should be submitted in writing, by letter or e-mail to the Administrator and all amendments will be adopted as set out in the GHLBG Memorandum & Articles of Incorporation.
- 14.5 All Member Hockey Clubs, Teams, players and members agree to be bound by policies concerning child welfare, equal opportunities and rights, drug abuse or any other policies as issued or amended by EH, or by any other body such as the Guernsey Sports Commission or other bodies, from time to time and as adopted by the GHLBG from time to time, such policies being set out in Appendix I.



APPENDIX A - Player Registration Form

APPENDIX B - Player Transfer Form

APPENDIX C - Team Sheet

APPENDIX D - Match Report Form

APPENDIX E - EH Red Card & Match Day Offence Regulations

APPENDIX F - EH Red Card & Match Day Offence Report Form

APPENDIX G - Penalty Notification Form

APPENDIX H - Appeal Notice Form

APPENDIX I - EH Policies – various (see <http://www.englishockey.co.uk>)