

ILLAWARRA DISTRICT INDOOR HOCKEY

COMPETITION RULES

1	COMPETITION RULES	2
2	NOMINATIONS & GRADINGS.....	2
3	COMPETITION STRUCTURE	3
4	COMPETITION POINTS.....	4
5	TEAM CONTACT & TEAM CAPTAIN OBLIGATIONS.....	5
6	TEAM DUTY RESPONSIBILITIES	5
7	INJURED PLAYERS' INSURANCE.....	6
8	CONDITIONS OF PLAY	6
9	SEMI FINALS & GRAND FINALS.....	7
10	ABANDONED, POSTPONED OR DEFERRED MATCHES	8
11	MINIMUM PLAYING STRENGTH OF TEAMS.....	8
12	JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.....	8
13	INTERCHANGE OF PLAYERS.....	9
14	ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS	10
15	PENALTIES	11
16	UMPIRES.....	11

Illawarra District Indoor Hockey (IDIH) Committee

Peter Huk	Chairman
Wesley Johnston	Finance Administrator
Warren Gale	Indoor Director & Competitions Coordinator
Ernie Orth	Coaching Development Coordinator
Greg Condon	Representative Team Administrator
Tyson Street	Umpiring Coordinator
Craig Klaus	Junior Umpiring Coordinator
Wendy Condon	Registrar

The intent of these competition rules is to ensure the teams taking the field are competitive, but at the same time do not get an unfair advantage.

1 COMPETITION RULES

- 1.1 These Competition Rules have been created to ensure a consistent approach to the administration of Indoor Hockey by Illawarra District Indoor Hockey Committee in the Illawarra. They are not intended to be all encompassing, and can be added to (or amended) by the Competition Coordinator, Chairperson plus one other Indoor Committee member. This would only occur if the circumstances justified the change and justification is at the sole discretion of the Indoor Committee.
- 1.2 Any change will be dealt with on a case by case basis and does not automatically imply precedence for any future circumstance.
- 1.3 New copies of these Competition Rules will only be issued during a competition if deemed appropriate by the Indoor Committee.
- 1.4 An updated copy of the Competition Rules is available on the Indoor Hockey Web Site via www.indoorhockey.org.au

2 NOMINATIONS & GRADINGS

- 2.1 Team grading to be on the Indoor Hockey Competition Nomination form and shall be in the hands of the Competitions Coordinator at least two (2) weeks before the commencement of the first (1st) competition game. Failure to complete forms may warrant them ineligible for acceptance.
- 2.2 The Registrar will check all score cards for ungraded and unregistered players and inform the Competitions Coordinator.
- 2.3 Late player nominations may be lodged with the Competitions Coordinator twenty-four (24) hours prior to the commencement of a match as long as this is in line with these competition rules.

- 2.4 No player who is or has been part of an un-financial Team may transfer to another team unless permission has been granted by the Indoor Committee.
- 2.5 All submitted player grading is subject to Indoor Committee approval.
- 2.6 All applications for player re-grades are to be notified to the Competitions Coordinator by 9.00 p.m. two (2) days prior to the next competition match. The Competitions Coordinator shall consider applications and if necessary, shall consult two (2) other members of the Indoor Committee for consideration, before notifying the team contact of the decision.
- 2.7 All applications for re-grades are to be supported in writing, to reach the Competitions Coordinator not later than the following respective competition night. Failure to notify in writing may result in the initial re-grades being declared void.
- 2.8 No player graded in a higher division shall be permitted to play in a lower division. All players are eligible to play in higher divisions. The Indoor Committee will have the final say as to whether a player can play in a particular division.
- 2.9 Players playing in a higher division can play for any team at any time in the higher division (but only one game per round in the higher division). Players CANNOT play for another team in the same division in which they are graded – doing so will result in a forfeit. This rule does NOT apply to goalkeepers who CAN play for any other team in the same division (for a maximum of two (2) times per team) if a team's goalkeeper cannot legitimately play.
- 2.10 If a team legitimately cannot supply their goalkeeper for Semi-Finals or Finals, any other goalkeeper playing in that division that did not make the final series can play for the team. If insufficient time (at least forty eight (48) hours) and / or evidence to substantiate the loss of a team's goalkeeper for the final series, the Indoor Committee may reject the request.

3 COMPETITION STRUCTURE

- 3.1 The competition shall be conducted in divisions as decided by the Indoor Hockey Committee. Players shall be invited to nominate teams in each grade. Once the nominations have been received (with a core list of players), the Competition Coordinator shall confirm or deny the nominated preferred division.
- 3.2 The Illawarra District Hockey Committee run competitions that allow either gender to participate. The committee may also run girls only competitions if the demand is warranted. All players should be at a standard appropriate to their division. All female players who wish to play in the top division must be at a standard appropriate to that division. The Indoor Committee has the right to refuse a player from playing in a division or the competition if they feel there is a legitimate risk of injury to the player or to other players in the competition.
- 3.3 All players playing in the senior competition must be at least 15 years of age. A player under 15 years of age can play in the senior competition as long as the Competitions Coordinator or Chairperson has received a written letter or email from the young players parent / guardian giving the young player permission to play in the senior Indoor Hockey competition. This written authority must be received by the stated Indoor Hockey Committee representative prior to the young player taking the court.
- 3.4 Illawarra District Indoor Hockey (IDIH) Committee have adopted the Hockey NSW Policy that all players MUST wear properly fitted mouth guards (it is recommended that mouth guards be

fitted in accordance with guidelines from the Australian Dental Association) and moulded approved shin pads for all competitions and representative trials / trainings run by IDIH.

Players seeking exemption from wearing a mouthguard must supply a suitable letter from their dentist or doctor to the IDIH Competitions Coordinator or Chairperson.

4 COMPETITION POINTS

Win - 3

Draw - 1

Loss - 0

Bye - 0

Forfeit - 3 (5 goals to Nil win)

JUNIOR COMPETITION STRUCTURE

The Indoor Committee is committed to continually improve the running and experience of Junior Indoor Hockey in the Illawarra. As such, a number of options are tried over the years to achieve a number of goals. These goals include:

- Giving players (as much as possible), an even competition to play in.
- Develop our youngest players to learn the basics of Indoor Hockey.
- Give opportunity for our more talented players to stay engaged in the game.
- Enjoyment of the game is of paramount importance.
- Being mindful of our duty of care to our young players

Development of our Junior umpires is very important so we give our keen junior players the opportunity to umpire junior games appropriate for their current skill level.

Currently, Junior Indoor Hockey is club based and age divided (i.e. Under 11, Under 13 & Under 15). Only U13 & U15 year old age groups are played for premierships.

The Indoor Committee will make whatever changes are necessary to the Junior competition to ensure it's smooth running. Suggestions for improvement are very welcome.

- 4.1 In line with our duty of care, the Indoor Committee insists that all Junior players wear mouth guards, shin pads and a left hand padded glove. It is highly recommended that players DO NOT defend the goal on a penalty corner if they are not athletically suited to do so (and wear a face mask if they are). In some cases, the first shot at goal on a penalty corner must hit the back board.
- 4.2 If a club has two or more teams in an age division, players can only play across once into **one** other team during the competition rounds (players cannot play across during Semi Finals or Grand Finals without prior permission of the Indoor committee).

- 4.3 If a club has a team in a higher age division, the lower division player can play in **one team only** of the higher division as many times as required (eg U13 player in an U15 team).

5 TEAM CONTACT & TEAM CAPTAIN OBLIGATIONS

- 5.1 Each team contact shall be responsible to collect and pay all fines and dues on the date, as stipulated by the Indoor Committee. Failure to do so may result in the loss of competition points gained while being un-financial or being prevented from competing until all outstanding fees are paid.
- 5.2 The captains shall ensure a list of their players are on the results sheet (adding those not listed) before the commencement of their match.
- 5.3 Each team shall nominate at the beginning of the season, a minimum of two (2) players from each team, who are willing to umpire if required.
- 5.4 Each team shall supply one (1) competition Indoor ball per match.
- 5.5 Teams must take the court in consistent uniforms that are approved by the Indoor Committee. If uniforms are deemed to be too similar for the umpires to distinguish, the first named team on the draw will provide an appropriate alternative shirt.

6 TEAM DUTY RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 The first named team on the draw must supply **ONE** person to sit on the duty table during the entire game. A second person from the other named team can also sit on the duty bench but this is not compulsory.
- 6.2 **Note:** Failure to supply a duty person to carry out the listed duties below may incur a one (1) competition point penalty regardless of their competition standing (eg. If a team has not gained any competition points yet they will be on minus 1).

The one or two people (one from each team) will be responsible for the following.

6.3 5 minutes before the game

Have the team captains complete player names on the Game Cards (where the players name is not listed). Goalkeepers must be clearly marked on the Game Cards.

6.4 Before the game

- 6.4.1 Make sure the game starts on time (regardless whether umpires are ready yet).
- 6.4.2 Hand the Game Cards to the Umpires to inspect. Discuss with the Umpires any requirements they may have, such as signals to be used for time out (time out can be called but the clock will not be paused other than for the finals series), length of player suspensions etc. Adjust score. board clock and set goals scored to zero

6.5 During the game

- 6.5.1 Record details of goal scorers on Game Cards. Assist Umpires if requested to manage players/ coaches/ managers on team benches. Manage suspended players, if requested by Umpires. Temporarily suspended players will sit on a chair next to the Duty table on the same side as their team bench.

- 6.5.2 Adjust score board as required, for goals scored and half time
- 6.5.3 Ensure interchange players names are added to the Game Cards before they go onto the court
- 6.5.4 Ensure that suspended players are marked on the Game Cards

6.6 After the game

- 6.6.1 Ensure umpires complete suspension details if necessary and print their names on the Game Cards. Umpires should tick the 'Paid' check box as soon as they get paid (which should occur immediately after the game. Make sure the duty person signs the Game Card and places the Game Card in any folder provided.

7 INJURED PLAYERS' INSURANCE

- 7.1 Each player (junior or senior) playing in the Illawarra Indoor Hockey competition MUST fill out an Illawarra District Indoor Hockey Registration form the first time they play. If the player is not a current field player (i.e. for the winter Field Hockey season just completed & registered with a hockey association adequately covered by an Injured Players' Insurance scheme) they must also pay the applicable Hockey NSW Player Registration and Insurance Fee to Illawarra Indoor Hockey (by the players third game). This fee will get passed onto Hockey NSW.
- 7.2 Teams will be advised of the required fee for those players required to pay it. The fee will be the same as is charged by Hockey NSW.
- 7.3 Registration forms MUST be filled out and handed in to an Indoor Hockey Committee member on a player's first competition night.

8 CONDITIONS OF PLAY

- 8.1 The team with the most points at the end of normal competition rounds shall be the Minor Premiers. In the event of two (2) or more teams being equal on points, the team with the highest goal difference shall be the Minor Premiers. Goal difference is defined as goals for, minus goals against.
- 8.2 In the event of the teams still being equal, the following conditions will apply in order until a winner is determined.
 - 8.2.1 The team with the highest goals for
 - 8.2.2 The team with the lowest goals against
 - 8.2.3 The team who won the most when playing each other
- 8.3 These rules apply to the determination of all team placing within the competition.
- 8.4 The leading teams shall play off for the Premiership in each division as detailed in the current year's competition draw. This may vary between divisions.
- 8.5 Each team must play with a shirt that is the same for each player in that team. The shirt of one team must be different than that of the opposing team in any game. If the shirts are the same or very similar, the second named team on the Draw must use an alternate strip.

9 SEMI FINALS & GRAND FINALS

- 9.1 The following will apply unless specifically noted on the competition draw. Please note: Semi Finals & Grand Finals may not always be played.
- 9.2 In Semi Finals, if the result is a draw at full time, five (5) minutes extra time shall be played (sudden death – i.e. first team to score wins) following a three (3) minute break. If the score is still even then a second lot of extra time (sudden death – first team to score wins) will be played with 4 field players each side plus a goalkeeper (i.e. 1 person drop off). There shall be no interval between the periods of extra time. If still a draw, the result of the match will be awarded to the team highest on the Competition Points Table, at the completion of the preliminary round(s).
- 9.3 In Grand Finals, if the result is a draw at full time, five (5) minutes extra time shall be played (sudden death – first team to score wins) following a three (3) minute break. If the score is still even then a second lot of extra time (sudden death) will be played with only 4 field players each side plus a goalkeeper (i.e. 1 person drop off). There shall be no interval between the periods of extra time.
- If still a draw, a one on one between a player and a goalkeeper will occur with the following rules:
- Team players from both teams behind half way,
One player will start with the ball in the centre of the court 5 meters out from the attacking circle after both player and goalkeeper have confirmed they are ready and the umpires whistle is blown,
The attacking player has 10 seconds to score the goal (timed by a timekeeper with a whistle)
Both umpires can confer for the result but each umpire will take turns as the lead umpire who has the authority for the final decision.
A goal is scored if the ball enters the goal after the attacker has touched the ball in the circle without the ball leaving the circle (own goal not allowed in this event) before the 10 second whistle starts to blow.
A goal is also awarded if the Goalkeeper infringes in the course of preventing the attacking player from scoring.
A goal is saved if the attacker infringes in the course of attempting to score
A goal is saved if the ball enters the circle then leaves the circle or field of play (e.g. backline)
A team has won when both teams have had the same number of turns and one team is one goal ahead of the other team (this could be after one turn each).
Four (4) different players from each team must play the attacking role before they can have another turn. This will continue in any order until there is a result.
- 9.4 A player must be registered by the halfway point of the competition and have played at least one game to be eligible to play in the competition after the halfway point. For a player to continue playing in the competition, that player must always be able to play at least half the round games in the competition.
- 9.5 If a player through special circumstances cannot meet these requirements, written application (with at least 1 week notice) may be made to the Indoor Committee for exemption from this competition rule.

10 ABANDONED, POSTPONED OR DEFERRED MATCHES

- 10.1 The umpires shall decide if a match should be abandoned because of lack of light or the condition of the playing courts, provided no decision has been previously made by the Indoor Committee.
- 10.2 If a match is abandoned during play for any reason other than that in Rule 10.1, an Indoor Committee decision regarding rescheduling of the match shall apply. The relevant team contacts shall be notified as soon as the details are confirmed.
- 10.3 Under no circumstances shall a match be postponed if no umpires are available. The captains or players delegated by them shall act as umpires. Details of any missing umpires are to be noted on the game cards.

11 MINIMUM PLAYING STRENGTH OF TEAMS

- 11.1 A captain may request five (5) minutes grace if a team cannot be fielded. When this time elapses, the team will forfeit the match. A minimum team consists of at least three (3) field players plus a properly equipped goalkeeper.
- 11.2 If a team receives a forfeit it shall be entitled to use of the appointed court for the period of the scheduled match.

12 JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

- 12.1 The Judiciary Committee shall comprise of up to five (5) members of the Indoor Committee with a quorum of 3 (three) members.
- 12.2 It shall be the duty of the Committee to enquire into any charges of misconduct against a member of the Indoor Hockey Competition or associated person.
- 12.3 If the charge is proved, the Committee shall take such disciplinary action as it deems necessary.
- 12.4 Any member so suspended shall have the right to appeal to the Indoor Committee, provided that such an appeal must be received within seven (7) days of the notice of the suspension and will only be dealt with on the grounds of severity, or new evidence, provided such an appeal will be heard within three (3) days of written application being received by the IDHI Chairperson. The Indoor Committee ruling shall be final. A player shall not be permitted to play pending an appeal.
- 12.5 If a player receives a Red Card, the player will receive an automatic ONE (1) round suspension and the umpires must allocate a number of points depending on the seriousness of the offense. A points guide is supplied with the score card. If an Indoor Committee member believes the offense warrants greater attention, a Judiciary committee meeting will be arranged and the player will be notified by phone and email (if applicable) within three (3) days of the offence with the details of when that player will be required to front the Judiciary and the nature of the charge. The player CANNOT play in a competition match until the Indoor Judiciary Committee has met to discuss the seriousness of the charge.
- 12.6 The player has the right to appear before the Judiciary Committee to discuss the circumstances of the Red Card. In this situation, the player must inform the Chairperson or the Competitions Coordinator IN WRITING (includes e-mail which must be followed up by direct

telephone contact), by 4.00pm three (3) business days immediately following the issuing of the Red Card if they require their case heard before the Judiciary Committee. The Committee will convene a Judiciary hearing as soon as possible after receiving the correspondence.

12.7 Any Indoor Committee Member shall have the power to cite any player, whether or not their game is currently being played. This would only occur after the player was appropriately warned that to continue with their current behaviour or action will lead to a citation and subsequent appearance in front of the Indoor Judiciary.

12.8 Examples of behaviour or actions that may warrant a citation are:

12.8.1 Continued audible profane language.

12.8.2 Audible verbal criticism of an umpire's decisions.

12.8.3 Verbal or physical abuse of any Indoor committee member or Umpire.

12.9 The Judiciary Committee shall notify the team contact of the date that the person is to appear, such appearance to be within six (6) days of the citation or offence (eg. Red card). Any person failing to appear before the Judiciary Committee, when required to do so, shall be suspended from playing or barred from entering the Indoor Stadium until such time as the person does appear.

12.10 Any team playing a suspended player will be fined three (3) competition points. The team contact shall be notified of any suspensions before the next competition match.

12.11 Umpires will allocate a number of points depending on the seriousness of each Yellow (min 2 max 5 points) and Red (min 5 max 10 points) card issued. Once a player has reached a total of 10 points from the points allocation – the player is suspended for ONE (1) competition round. For every 3 additional points accumulated by the offending player a further ONE (1) round suspension is added to the penalty

12.12 If no points are listed by the umpire, it will be assumed the minimum points will apply.

12.13 Red Card points allocated will be added to a player's accumulated Yellow Card points.

12.14 In addition, if a player reaches a total of 10 points or more, that player MUST appear before the Judiciary Committee to discuss the situation.

12.15 If a player is given a second yellow card for the same offence during the match, the Umpire must issue a Red Card to the player and the player is suspended for the remainder of the match. Points received for both Yellow Cards must be recorded on the Match Game Cards. The automatic 1 round suspension would only apply if both Yellow cards were adjudged as 5 point offenses (unless the player has accumulated other points which now total over the 10 point total).

13 INTERCHANGE OF PLAYERS

13.1 Each team shall be entitled to use a maximum of twelve (12) players per match (including a goal keeper), a maximum of six (6) on the court (including a goal keeper) at any one time. All interchanges shall be under the rules of the current FIH Indoor Hockey Rules book (unless otherwise stipulated by the Indoor Hockey Committee)

14 ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS

14.1 The Indoor Selection Committee (consisting of the Illawarra Indoor Coaching Coordinator, appointed coach & one or two appointed members of the Indoor Hockey fraternity) shall select representative squads and teams as and when directed by the Indoor Committee. Such squads and teams shall be chosen from all players competing in the Illawarra Indoor competition. The Indoor Committee may consider other players not playing in the Illawarra Indoor Competition on the basis of previous loyalty to Illawarra Indoor Hockey or other criteria (in this case, players must register with Illawarra Indoor Hockey and pay the appropriate IDH Inc. levy). Any player not available for selection shall notify the Indoor Committee of their unavailability.

14.2 **Out of association players:**

Any Hockey NSW registered player can attend trials for their respective age groups if they are interested in trying out for the Illawarra representative indoor teams irrespective of their home association.

If a player's home association is not Illawarra they must attend their home association's Indoor trials and/or make themselves available for that association's representative Indoor Hockey team

If a player is then not selected in their home association Indoor Rep team or their home association is not entering a team in the state champs then they will be considered for selection in Illawarra rep teams. (a clearance from the home association would be required before selection could be confirmed)

14.3 **Clearances to registered Illawarra District players will only be considered if:**

a player who is registered with Illawarra District Hockey as their primary association (Home Association) attends trials or indicates that they are available for selection with Illawarra representative Indoor hockey teams and are not required to participate with an Illawarra District Team at the NSW state championships. This is irrespective of whether the player participates in the Illawarra indoor competition or not.

Should a player trial for Illawarra and not be selected then a clearance would most definitely be considered as long as the player has no outstanding financial commitments to the Hockey Fraternity.

14.4 Team Coaches and Team Managers will be called for as early as practical prior to the New South Wales Indoor Championships and will be appointed by the Indoor Committee. Team Coaches & Managers are to arrange trial & training matches (in conjunction with the Indoor Committee) prior to the New South Wales Indoor Championships in each year. Coach & Manager Positions will be held for the one championship, after which positions will again be made available.

14.5 Team Coaches and Team Managers will be required to write a brief account of the NSW State Championship they attended and email their report to the Indoor Director which will then be made available to other Illawarra Indoor committee members. The purpose of the report is for historical reasons as well as feedback to the selectors on players or the committee on processes that worked and that may need improving.

- 14.6 Players will be required to pay such costs as stipulated to cover expenses for representative fixtures.
- 14.7 The Selectors, in conjunction the team coach, shall appoint a team captain and vice captain (if applicable). In the event of a coach being a member of a representative team, the coach shall automatically become captain.
- 14.8 Team Managers shall be responsible for the conduct of team members, and shall be responsible for such disciplinary action as may be necessary, and shall report on the conduct and discipline of the team to the Indoor Committee (in writing after the championships). Team Managers are also required to carry out all administrative details for the championship (such as players having correct playing uniform, player names on game cards, etc.)

15 PENALTIES

15.1 Penalties will apply for each offense:

- Failure to umpire or supply an appropriate umpire as stipulated by the draw.

Penalty: LOSS OF ONE (1) COMPETITION POINT.

- A team playing a suspended player.

Penalty: LOSS OF COMPETITION POINTS GAINED FOR THAT MATCH.

Their opponents shall be awarded the points for the match and the match classified as a forfeit.

- Failure to fill out the list of players on the supplied score sheet **OR** including players on the sheet and showing them as played when they did not play.

Penalty: LOSS OF ONE (1) COMPETITION POINT.

- Teams failing to perform the Team Duty responsibilities for their respective game.

Penalty: LOSS OF ONE (1) COMPETITION POINT.

16 UMPIRES

- 16.1 The Illawarra Indoor Committee strongly supports our Indoor umpires. Any physical or verbal abuse of our umpires will be dealt with by the Indoor Committee swiftly and firmly.
- 16.2 All umpires will be re-reimbursed for matches controlled as per the current Indoor Umpires Incentive Scheme. The amounts will be consistent and may vary from year to year based on the current Indoor Hockey budget allocation. In the current season the payments will be vouchers worth \$20 per game per umpire for A Division, \$15 per game per umpire for B division & C Division. Junior competitions will be paid \$5 per umpire per game for U11 & U13 age divisions and \$10 per umpire per game for U15.
- 16.3 All payments will be made immediately after each game. Umpires need to print their name on the game card before getting paid then find Warren Gale (Competition Coordinator) or his representative for payment.
- 16.4 **IMPORTANT:** All allocated umpires **must** arrange **their own** replacement if unable to carry out their umpiring responsibility. The replacement umpire must be of an adequate standard

(i.e needs to confirm with the Umpiring Coordinator that the replacement umpire is appropriate). Failure to organise an adequate replacement may result in a fine equal to the payment that would have been made.

16.5 For Junior competitions, umpires will be appointed. For senior competitions, the following umpire roster will occur:

Both teams playing the second time slot (generally 7.50 pm at night) will supply an umpire for the first game of the night (generally 7.00 pm) as well as an umpire for the third game of the night. This is because after the first game, every team **MUST** supply a suitable umpire for the game following their own game. That means the last teams of the night on either court do not umpire. E.g.

1st game (umpires from 2nd game)

2nd game (umpires from 1st game)

3rd game (umpires from 2nd game)

4th game (umpires from 3rd game)

5th game (umpires from 4th game)