

**Minutes from the ISCH Men's Field Competition Committee general meeting on Monday 7 March, 2016 at 7.30 pm at the Illawarra Hockey Stadium**

**Present:** Garry Bull (ISCH Board member, acting Co-ordinator), John Pemberton (Secretary & Registrar), Janet Cowan (Fixtures), Tyson Street (Officiating), Keith Maywald & Jamie McDonald (Albion Park), Michael Thomas & Craig Schofield (Dapto), Tony Bain & Paul Haddon (Fairy Meadow), Brendan Gilmore (Kiama), Glen Isedale & Mark Stafford (Mittagong), Jamie Murray (Robertson), Leo Hughes & Matt Davis (University), Craig Arthur (West's).

**In attendance:** Wes Johnston (ISCH Finance Director).

**Previous minutes:** The minutes of the MFCC general meeting of 1 February, 2016 were accepted.

**MFCC positions:** Garry reminded all club delegates that he is acting as MFCC Co-ordinator in an interim capacity only. If anyone is interested in the Co-ordinators role, please contact Garry.

**Final team nominations:**

	1s	2s	3s	4s	5s
Albion Park	1	1	1	2	1
Dapto	1		1		1
Fairy Meadow	UniFalcons		1		1
Kiama		1	1	1	1
Mittagong	1				
Robertson	1	1			
University	1	1	1	2	2
West's	1	1	1	1	1
total	7	5	6	7	7

Delegates were reminded of the relevant ISCH competition rules:

*2.3 For Senior Competitions a club with a team nominated and accepted in the highest grade are guaranteed inclusion of one team in each consecutive lower grade for which they nominate.*

*2.4 Where a club has more teams than there are grades, the Competition Committee shall decide the grade/s that the additional teams of the club are to play in.*

The meeting agreed that the final team nominations cannot be arranged into a competition draw that would allow club teams to play together at the same venue and as per the 2015 MFCC committee decision the meeting would allocate teams to grades to produce the best possible competition format outcome for all grades (emphasising the importance of the 1<sup>st</sup> grade format as the cornerstone of the draw).

Garry confirmed that the ISCH Board intend to review all competition formats this year and any decisions on the 2016 draw should be viewed as a short term solution to the 2016 team nomination issue.

He also noted the ISCH Board's decision that any teams playing in ISCH competitions should nominate an ISCH based field as their home field. Glenn noted that Mittagong would only nominate for the 1<sup>st</sup> grade competition if Welby was their home field. He confirmed Welby Field was not available on Sundays (as SHHA women have field preference) and that Friday nights were their preferred home day. He suggested that a 3 round 18 game 1<sup>st</sup> grade competition would mean clubs would travel to Welby either once or twice only during the competition and felt this was not a severe impost on clubs to allow Mittagong to play home matches.

The meeting voted to accept Mittagong into the 2016 First grade competition with home games at Welby Field.

Wes tabled five possible team nominations maps based on 6, 8 & 10 team draw cycles. After vigorous discussion, the meeting decided to vote on two possible formats:

A 7 teams in 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and 6 teams in 3rds, 4ths & 5ths

Or

B 8 teams in 1sts to 4ths.

Option B would force Kiama to 1sts and Dapto and Fairy Meadow to 2nds and this was strongly argued against by these clubs.

Another options was mentioned where Mittagong played in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade competition. Mittagong responded that this would lead a loss of players for the team and they would remove their nomination. They noted that the MFCC had given prior acceptance to play 1st Grade.

The meeting voted to accept option A for 2016 whilst recognising that this was only a short term solution to the current problem.

	1s	2s	3s	4s	5s
Albion Park	1	2	1	1	1

Dapto	1		1		1
Fairy Meadow	UniFalcons		1	1	1
Kiama		1	1	1	1
Mittagong	1				
Robertson	1	1			
University	1	2	1	2	1
Wests	1	1	1	1	1
total	7	7	6	6	6

Janet will prepare the Rd 1 draw by this coming Friday.

**Action: Janet**

Wes noted with Albion Park, Kiama and Robertson in three different draw cycles some matches will need to be played on CR2 in the lower grades (unless 4.30 pm and 6.00 pm matches are played on CR1).

**Officiating:**

1 Tyson discussed the 2016 rule change.

**Adjustment rule to 13.2** - The specific issue relates to Free Hits within 5 metres of the circle edge, where an attacker just touches the ball for another attacker to run onto or alternatively hit the ball hard, and possibly dangerously, into the circle.

The proposed adjustment is not seen as a major variance to the Rule, but a sensible clarification to avoid unfair and potentially dangerous play for all attacking Free Hits within the 23 metres area.

Specifically, the adjustment to the existing Rule and its guidance are as follows: -

*At an attacking Free Hit within the 23 metres area, the ball now cannot be played into the circle until it has travelled at least 5 metres or been touched by a defending player i.e. the possibility for*

*the attacker to just touch the free hit for a team mate to run on to and play the ball into the circle is removed.*

There is one additional piece of guidance added that - *Following a time stoppage after the award of an attacking free hit inside the 23 metres area, upon the re-start all players other than the player taking the free hit must be at least 5 metres from the ball*

2 Robertson asked who would umpire matches at Welby Field? Tyson will try to appoint neutral umpires to these matches. Mittagong have contacted two neutral badged SHHA umpires to officiate on Friday nights at Welby.

**Action: Glen to contact Tyson with the umpire names**

3 Wes will distribute Umpire Payment Vouchers to all clubs. He will discuss with SHHA umpires how they can retrieve their payment for matches at Welby Field.

**Action: Wes**

4 Clubs are asked to contact Tyson with the name of their Umpire Co-Ordinator and any umpires interested in officiation for the season.

**Action: Clubs & Tyson**

5 Technical Officers should be appointed to all matches. They will be in charge of inputting match results and player data into HockeyNet for their match. If no TO is appointed, the match duty team must enter the HockeyNet data.

John will be able to gain match results from HockeyNet on Sunday afternoons to send results to the media by the 6.00 pm deadline. He will ask Keith Maywald & Brendan Gilmore and Robertson HC to collect CR match sheets and send them to him for match data checks on HockeyNet.

**Action: John**

6 The Officiation Committee plan to organise an Umpires Rules Night in April.

**Action: Tyson to advise clubs of the timing.**

### **Grading matters:**

1 A reminder that all players must be registered before they play. All players must also be graded before they play and grading sheets (a copy under forms on the ISCH web site) must be sent to John before round 1 matches (due on Thursday 17 March).

**Action: John**

2 Club gradings officers are: Keith Maywald (Albion Park), Craig Schofield (Dapto), Paul Haddon (FM), Brendan Gilmore (Kiama), TBA Robertson, Tim Windsor (Uni), Craig Arthur (Wests).

**Action: John to contact**

3 John reviews all gradings requests. If there are any contentious issues, he contacts gradings committee members Tyson & Janet.

### **Other Business:**

1 Tyson was concerned about the number of deferred matches played last season and when they were rescheduled. Wes noted the Board had reviewed competition rules with regards deferments

and has changed them so that any deferred matches must be played within three weeks of the original date.

2 Working With Children checks are mandatory from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2016. Clubs will be informed of their responsibilities.

**Action: Garry**

3 A reminder to all clubs – do you have any Under 15 players who wish to play grade hockey? If so, they must complete the relevant form from the Resources section of the web site and submit to the MFCC.

4 A reminder that the wearing of shinpads and mouthguards are compulsory for all players. If a player wishes an exemption from using a mouthguard, they must contact the MFCC.

5 The next general committee meeting will be held on Monday 6 June at 6.00 pm at the Stadium

John Pemberton  
Secretary