

**Tweed Border Hockey Association
Judiciary Committee
Terms of Reference
Final Document**

1. Overview of the Judiciary Committee

The Judiciary Committee is a sub-committee of the Tweed Border Hockey Association [TBHA]. It consists of the members of the Delegates Competition Committee, with the exception of the delegate/s of the Clubs involved in the appeal to the Judiciary Committee.

The minimum number of Judiciary members is three (3)

2. Objectives

The Judiciary Committee will make decisions appropriate to the running of the local TBHA hockey competition that will ensure a fair and well-functioning competition for all member Club's.

The Judiciary Committee aims to assist in the provision of an environment in which all members of the hockey community are able to play, umpire and be a spectator in a safe, non-threatening, respectful and healthy way.

The Judiciary is to meet within seven (7) days if practical of any reported red card incident.

3. Scope

The scope of the Judiciary Committee's authority is limited to decisions specific the following:-

4. Minimum Sanctions

TBHA has a table of mandatory sanctions applied immediately upon any breach listed below. Sanctions apply immediately and a player has the ability to apply for an appeal to the Judiciary. Sanctions remain in place subject to after a Judiciary hearing. For example: A suspended player remains suspended pending the outcome of an appeal to Hockey Queensland

Minimum suspensions for Judiciary Committee -	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Penalties applied do not include byes or wash-outs. If game/s are washed out or a bye falls during the sanction period, they are not counted in the penalty being imposed.</i>
1	Striking, wrestling or hitting a player – minimum suspension six (6) competition weeks
2	Retaliation – minimum suspension four (4) competition weeks

- 3 Striking a player with intent with a hockey stick- minimum suspension competition ten (10) weeks
- 4 Third party or running to participate in a fight –minimum suspension (8) competition weeks.
- 5 Threatening comments or derogatory remarks to an umpire or official - minimum suspension four (4) competition weeks
- 6 Spitting on or striking an umpire, player or official – recommended minimum suspension ten (10) competition weeks to lifetime suspension
- 7 Deliberately confronting or provoking another player to retaliation - minimum suspension two (2) competition weeks
- 8 Matters related to bringing the game into disrepute to be referred to the TBHA Management Board.
- 9 Past history may be considered and taken into account
- 10 Any player required to attend a Judiciary hearing is permitted one (1) Club representative eg. team Coach, Manager or an Executive member as well as one (1) witness for support. If the player is under 18 years of age one (1) parent or guardian must to attend.
- 11 The Judiciary Committee has the discretion to increase the minimum period.
- 12 The Board of Management has the authority to request any individual to appear before the Board for bringing the game or Association into disrepute.

Note: It should always be considered that the Judiciary is only able to act on evidence that is provided by the reports submitted to it.

5. Accountability

The Judiciary Committee works within the boundaries of the Terms of Reference as determined by the TBHA Board.

Recommendations and direction may be requested from the Board

6. Meetings

The Judiciary Committee will meet when required, that is when a player is issued with a Red Card.

7. Roles and Responsibilities

7.1 Judiciary Committee

- The Committee is responsible for ensuring that members facing the Committee are treated in a fair and equitable manner.
- The Committee has a responsibility to conduct itself in keeping with the beliefs and ethics of the Association
- If an authorised Judiciary member witnesses a red card incident, they are required to excuse themselves from sitting on the panel.

7.2 TBHA Secretary

- The Secretary is responsible for taking the Minutes of Judiciary hearings
- Informing in writing, the player facing the Judiciary of the hearing and sanction/s to be applied.

Members of the Judiciary Committee may be a playing or non-playing member of a TBHA member Club. However, when acting in the capacity of the running the Judiciary Committee meeting, all positions must conduct themselves as neutral and impartial individuals and not as representatives of any member Club.

The Judiciary Committee is made up of authorised members of the Delegate Competition Committee with the exception of the club involved in any matter brought before the Judiciary Committee.

All members of the Committee should be familiar with:-

- The TBHA Constitution and Operations Policy
- The role of the Board of Management
- The role of the sub-committees
- The TBHA competition

7.3 Umpires

Any Umpire that issues a Red Card must submit a written Umpires Report within 48 hours of the incident to the TBHA Secretary. Umpires will be required to attend the Judiciary hearing.

7.4 Players

Any player issued with a Red Card will be required to attend a Compulsory Judiciary Committee hearing

7.5 Chairperson

The Committee will appoint a Chairperson who will chair meetings and act as the spokesperson for the Committee. The Chairperson cannot act to make a decision in isolation from the other members of the Judiciary Committee.

It is the Chairperson's responsibility to:-

- Chair the meeting/s.
- Ensure effective and efficient decision-making by facilitating good communication.
- Facilitate discussion and the voting process

- Ensure that the Committee acts as a unified body.
- Represent the decisions of the Judiciary Committee to the TBHA Board, Delegates Competitions Committee, and or individuals where necessary.

8. Communication

All communication between member Clubs and the Judiciary Committee must be conducted through the TBHA Secretary. No communication should be entered into with an individual member of the Judiciary Committee as no individual of the Judiciary Committee has the authority to act in isolation. In regards to urgent matters the Secretary should be advised of the urgency.

9. Voting

While decisions agreed to by consensus is desirable, a process of voting will be invoked for contentious issues where consensus agreement cannot be reached.

No member of the Judiciary Committee has the authority to make decisions as an individual.

10. Code of Ethics

- Members of the Judiciary Committee will behave toward each other with respect at all times.
- Members will ensure that the opinions and decisions of each member is heard and acknowledged as valid and valuable. All discussion is confidential.
- Members will ensure that the ethos of the Association is reflected in decisions made. i.e. that members and spectators are able to participate in a safe, non-threatening, respectful and non-threatening way

11. Appeals and Complaints

The decision of the Judiciary is final. Any further appeal is to be referred to Hockey Queensland

12. Timeframe for Appeal

Appeals must be lodged within seven (7) days of the event resulting in a sanction/s being applied. Players remain suspended until the outcome of the appeals process.

This document has been developed to assist the Judiciary Committee conduct its business in an effective and efficient manner. It may be added to or amended as necessary, however it will never contravene the TBHA Constitution.