



Requirements for use of the IHA Artificial Surfaces

Ipswich Hockey Association (IHA) advises that users of the Artificial Surfaces (fields 1 & 2) should follow the requirements as listed below. These requirements are in place to protect the surfaces from damage and also to prevent players from injury.

Footwear

- No footwear with leather or metal sprigs, screw in plastic sprigs or moulded rubber/plastic sprigs of less than fifteen per boot.
- Baseball cleats are not to be worn
- All persons **including coaching and management** entering the surfaces must clean their footwear of all mud, grass etc. using the facilities provided before entering the surface irrespective of whether or not they intend going onto the actual playing surface.

Sticks

- Metal sticks or sticks with split or jagged ends are strictly prohibited
- Deliberate hitting of balls against Advertising signs and surrounding walls will not be permitted

Surface Entry

- Entry, where wash facilities are provided, and exit will be only through the designated gates

Prohibited Items

- No alcohol, food, chewing gum, glass or beverages – other than water in plastic water bottles – may be taken onto fields
- No smoking or spitting is permitted on the fields or in the dugouts
- No jewellery such as rings, earrings, watches, chains or body jewellery etc. is to be worn whilst on the artificial surfaces. Umpires and coaching staff in the dugouts are allowed to wear watches. If items of jewellery are unable to be removed, they should be completely covered at all times while on the artificial surfaces.
- No metal hair accessories are permitted. This includes bobby pins.

Enforcement

- Clubs are responsible for their compliance with these requirements and are asked to remind their players to comply
- Umpires are asked to enforce the above requirements
- Clubs are asked to please inform their managers and coaches of these requirements
- Anyone refusing to remove the prohibited items will not be permitted to take part in the game until they do so

Ipswich Hockey Association highly recommends the use of protective gear including mouth guard and shin pads to aid in the prevention of injury to players.