

SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA

12 YEARS & UNDER HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP RULES & GUIDELINES

1. COMPETITION RULES

a. Rules of the Game

- i. These rules are to be read in conjunction with the School Sport Australia General Championship Rules, and the Operational Guidelines applying to Hockey.
- ii. Unless otherwise stated, the matches in each Championship shall be played in accordance with the Rules of the Game of Hockey, as approved from time to time by the FIH and these Rules.

b. Player Participation

- i. Qualifications for selection in teams to compete at the Championship, shall be 12 years and under on the 31st December of the year in which the Championships is held.
- ii. School Sport ACT is granted an age dispensation for 2017 up to a maximum of four (4) players who are no more than six (6) months overage.

Amended September, 2017

c. Team Size

- i. All teams will be limited to a maximum of fourteen (14) players.
- ii. Each team may change the composition of its team from one match to another, on the condition that only those players whose names appear on the entry form participate.

2. COMPETITION STRUCTURE

a. Draw

- iii. Where up to and including five (5) teams are competing there should be two full rounds of competition.
- iv. When there are six (6) teams competing in the Championship the draw shall be constructed so that: The current Host State/Territory plays the previous year's Host State/Territory in the opening match. The last Round Robin match is between the current Host State/Territory and the next year's Host State/Territory.
- v. One (1) complete round of State/Territory v State/Territory matches.
- vi. At the completion of the round the teams are divided into two pools based on position at the end of the Round Robins.
- vii. The two further matches are to be played by each team in their respective pool.

- viii. The pools are to be arranged at the completion of the Round Robin matches. Pool A to consist of teams placed first, second and third. Pool B to consist of teams placed fourth, fifth and sixth.
- ix. The draw for pool matches to be as follows:
 - Pool A: 1v3 2v3 1v2
 - Pool B: 4v6 5v6 4v5
- x. Where possible, all teams at the Championship should have a two match rest break between games. If this is not possible, then no team should have only one match rest break between games on consecutive playing days unless all competing teams are subject to the same conditions. The exception to this is when teams are split into the final pools (1st – 3rd and 4th – 6th).
- xi. Boys and girls teams from the same State/Territory are not to have games scheduled at the same time where possible, to allow for teams to support their other team.
- xii. Where 7 or 8 teams are competing, a full round of competition is to be played.

b. Program

- i. The SSA National Secretary is to formulate the draw based on the previous year's results for the 12 years and under SSA Hockey Championships. The program should avoid imposing three matches a day on any of the teams and where possible there should be a spread of early and late matches for all teams.
- ii. Should time permit, in addition to two full rounds, a seven-a-side format should be conducted as part of the Championship *See Appendix C*.
- iii. An educational excursion/cultural activities will be held during the Championships.

c. Points Allocation

- i. The following points shall be awarded for each match:
 - Three (3) points for each win – including a forfeit
 - Two (2) points to each team for a drawn game
 - One (1) point for a loss
- ii. The scoring system is to be carried through to the pool matches. Points scored in the Round Robin are to be carried through to the pool matches.
- iii. If necessary, the following criteria are to be used to determine places at the completion of the Round Robin matches:
 - Round Robin match result
 - Goal difference
 - Goals for
- iv. In the event that all the above are still equal, penalty corners and penalty strokes officially recorded by the technical bench in the Round Robin game between the two teams, be considered. Should these be equal then total penalty corners and penalty strokes earned during all Round Robin games will be considered.

- v. First, second and third positions for the Championship will come from those teams in Pool A.
- vi. If at the conclusion of the series of matches, two or more teams finish in equal first place, they will be declared joint winners. Only points are to be used to determine final placings.

d. Duration of Matches

- i. Matches shall be two equal halves of twenty-five (25) minutes with a five (5) to seven (7) minute interval at half time.
- ii. There should be time off for injury at the discretion of the umpires. In the event of serious injury all players of both teams should return to their respective dugout. Play shall be suspended whilst the player is dealt with safely. If the match is not able to be resumed before the time of commencement of any subsequent match, then the National Secretary (or their delegate) and/or Championship Convenor are to meet with all coaches of the teams that are impacted to discuss the rescheduling of the times/duration and/or location of matches. This is to ensure that each team is given the opportunity to play their full quota of matches.

Amended September, 2017

3. FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

a. Venue

- i. The Host State should provide at least two playing surfaces. Where possible, water base is the preferred surface.

b. Games Equipment

- i. The Host State will provide match balls.
- ii. Competing teams are responsible for providing their own playing equipment sticks, kickers etc.
- iii. Mouth guards and shin pads are compulsory when any supervised Hockey activity is being undertaken – i.e. practice, sevens, and matches.
- iv. The Host State is to provide stop watches for all matches.
- v. No jewellery to be worn. If jewellery cannot be removed it must be covered.

c. Team Lists – Score Sheets

d. Uniform

- i. No team shall take part in any match unless its playing uniform has been approved by its state association.
- ii. Before the start of the Championship each state shall allot a number to each of its players including goalkeepers, which shall remain the same throughout the Championship.

- iii. All such numbers shall not be less than 20cm high, and be clearly visible on the back of the players' uniform.
- iv. Goalkeepers shall wear a playing uniform contrasting in colour with playing uniforms worn by each of the competing teams in any match. The Goalkeepers uniforms to be numbered front and back.
- v. *Any obvious clashes in uniform will be discussed at the Pre-Championship Meeting*

4. GAME PROTOCOL

a. Match Day

- i. Teams are encouraged to watch and support the opposition teams.
- ii. Positive coaching shall take place during the actual play.
- iii. No one, except the players and the umpires properly engaged in a given match, may enter the field of play during the match, unless invited to do so by an umpire. This includes officials entering the field of play to assist an injured player.
- iv. No player may be admitted to the field of play during a match unless he/she is wearing his/her team's approved uniform and his/her designated shirt number.
- v. Each team engaged in a given match may have up to six persons on the bench; namely the team manager, three (3) substitute players, the coach, the assistant coach or team doctor, or masseur.
- vi. The team manager is responsible for the proper conduct of all persons occupying the bench.

b. Interchange

- i. Each team should interchange all players during a game.
- ii. All available players must play in every game.
- iii. At no time shall there be on the field more than one goalkeeper in each team.
- iv. All interchange players shall be chosen from amongst the players whose names appear on the entry form.
- v. No interchange shall be permitted for a suspended player.
- vi. Interchange of a player may only be made with the agreement of the Technical Officials on duty, and only after a player from the same team has left the field of play when permitted by the Technical Official, and at the Technical Official's discretion.
- vii. Players entering or leaving the field shall do so from the designated area, except in the case of a goalkeeper or an injured player, where the point of interchange is at the discretion of the Technical Officials.

5. MATCH OFFICIALS

a. Umpires

- i. All competing member bodies should select a minimum of one umpire to officiate as part of an Umpire's Panel.

- ii. Umpires shirts should be provided by the Host State as part of the Championship levy.
- iii. It is the Host State's responsibility to roster umpires, and decide upon suitable payment (where applicable).
- iv. It is desirable that the minimum umpiring level for student umpires attending the championship be Community Accreditation.
- v. Where possible, the Host State, through Hockey Australia appoints an accredited umpire manager to accredit umpires on their performance at the championship.
- vi. In the case of junior umpires, it is the responsibility of the Umpire Manager to write a report on each umpire. A copy of the report should be sent to their school sport association and their state hockey association. (See Appendix B)

b. Bench Officials (See Appendix B)

c. Judiciary

- i. A group of no more than three (3) persons should be nominated and elected at the Preliminary Conference to act upon the Judiciary. One of these persons should be the Championship Convener.
- ii. The Judiciary will act upon matters dealing with the conduct or otherwise of players, coaches and managers. Any player who receives multiple yellow cards and/or red card, will be dealt with by the Judiciary.
- iii. Any reports of inappropriate player conduct shall be lodged with the Championship Convener within one (1) hour of the completion of the match concerned, and dealt with by the Judiciary as soon possible thereafter, in the presence of the umpires, team officials and/or Convener who made the report, or upon the lodging of a written report.
- iv. The Judiciary shall have the power to impose a suspension of one or more games on any player reported by an umpire in accordance with Section 5.3.3
- v. Protests must be made with the championship Convener within one (1) hour of the match concerned, and shall be dealt with by the Judiciary.

6. AWARDS – TROPHIES

- a. Hockey sticks will be available as Championship “trophies/mementos”. These sticks are to display an engraved plaque each year of winning State/Territory team.
- b. School Sport Australia medallions will be presented as per School Sport Australia policy.
- c. School Sport Service Awards.

SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA - SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

NAME	STATE	YEAR
Denise Collins	SA	2002
Rob Tyler	QLD	2002
Dick Cornish	ACT	2004
Marion Higman	QLD	2005
Jan Vincent	VIC	2005
Pat Munn	NT	2006
Melissa Winks	QLD	2013
Alison Aleksic	QLD	2016
Bro Paul Creevey	QLD	2016
Vicki Sparkes	QLD	2016

7. CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT - See General Championship Rules

8. OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES - APPENDIX A attached

9. OPERATIONAL LINKS

- a. Link School Sport Australia / State school sporting associations with Hockey Australia / State Hockey associations.
- b. Operations to be in line with current Memorandum of Understanding between SSA and HA.

APPENDIX A

DEFINITIONS

“State” means a member body of School Sport Australia. “Host State” means the state, which has been allocated a particular Championship “Team” means a team representing a state or territory.

“Championship” means the annual competition conducted by School Sport Australia between 12 Years and Under teams from its primary member bodies.

ROSTER

The venue of each Championship shall rotate from state to state in accordance with the School Sport Australia roster The dates on which each Championship is held each year shall be confirmed by the of School Sport Australia Annual General Meeting.

ORGANISATION BY THE HOST STATE

The Host State shall appoint, not later than three (3) months prior to the opening dates of the particular Championship an Organising Committee of such members as it shall think desirable and which will be entrusted with the following duties.

- a. To be responsible for the overall organisation of the Championship on behalf of the member body.
- b. To ensure that visiting teams and officials are suitably accommodated.
- c. To make all arrangements regarding the provision and suitable preparation of grounds, facilities and equipment to be used for all matches.
- d. To make all arrangements for the provision and security of dressing rooms for all teams participating.
- e. To make arrangements in respect of any official function which may be conducted.
- f. To arrange suitable publicity of matches through the media of press, radio and television.
- g. To provide where possible and instruct sufficient ball persons for each match.
- h. To make provision for the supply of adequate refreshments at the grounds where matches are played.
- i. To make provision for the attendance of a qualified medical practitioner (if possible) or a first-aid attendant.
- j. To make adequate arrangements, where necessary, for local transport of teams.
- k. To supply a judges’ table opposite the centre line of the playing field and clear of the sidelines and spectators and to provide benches either side of the judges’ table to be used by the officials and reserve players of the teams actually engaged in each match.
- l. To determine, after consultation with the Championship convener, the suitability of the playing area of any match.

DRAW

The Host state in consultation with the National Secretary shall produce a program of matches for the Championship showing the dates and times of the matches and such a draw shall be submitted for approval to the member bodies prior to the date on which the Championship is due to commence.

Each program of matches shall provide for:

- a. A series in which each team shall play every other team. Avoiding imposing three matches a day on any of the teams.
- b. Seven-a-side format/competition may be conducted as part of the Championship.
- c. A minimum of twenty (20) minutes between the scheduled finishing time of any match and the commencement time of the succeeding match.
- d. The allocation of playing times to matches in the Championship referred to above – so that no team is given advantage over any other team by reason of time allocated to matches.

APPENDIX B

CHAMPIONSHIP CONVENER, UMPIRE MANAGER AND JUDGES

The Organising Committee prior to the commencement date of each Championship in each year shall appoint a Championship Convener, and if necessary, an Umpire Manager or Assistant Championship Convener, for that Championship.

Persons holding appropriate qualifications should be appointed as Championship Convener or Umpire Manager, or in the absence of any person suitably qualified and available as Umpire Manager, an Assistant Championship Convener. Regard shall be given to the following guidelines:

- a. Knowledge of Championship rules as well as the ability to administer them successfully.
- b. Knowledge of the Rules of the Game of hockey
- c. Ability to properly and fairly act on behalf of School Sport Australia in respect of all matters associated with the competition.

The duties of the Championship Convener shall be:

- a. To generally supervise the Championship on behalf of School Sport Australia.
- b. To conduct the Championship in accordance with the guidelines approved by School Sport Australia.
- c. The Championship Convener may nominate one of the judges as Chairman of the panel. In appointing judges to matches, the Championship Convener should ensure, wherever possible, that no judge is appointed to a match in which a team representing the state in which such judge resides is taking part.
- d. To approve the daily umpire appointments made by the Umpire Manager, including two umpires and a reserve umpire for each match of the Championship, ensuring wherever possible that no umpire is appointed to a match in which the team representing the state in which he resides is taking part.
- e. To arrange under his control, and only if he considers necessary, any official meeting of team managers and/or captains.
- f. To arrange for the keeping of time in matches of the Championship.
- g. To advise the organising committee on the suitability of grounds and on alternative ground arrangements. To adjudicate upon:
 - i. Any matter raised by any team manager in respect of any aspect of the Championship; and
 - ii. Any matter raised by the officiating umpire relating to the conduct of any representative of any state in respect of any match.
- h. The Championship Convener shall present before the Judiciary any player who has received a red card in any game or two yellow cards within the duration of the tournament. The penalty cards will operate as follows
 - i. Green Card (Temporary suspension – 2 minutes)
 - ii. Yellow Card (Temporary Suspension - 5 minutes)
 - iii. Red Card (Permanent suspension from that game.)

- i. The duties of any Assistant Championship Convener appointed shall be to assist the Championship Convener in the discharge of those responsibilities described above.
- j. The Championship Convener shall provide a written report as part of the host state reports on all matters coming within his responsibility.

The duties of the Umpire Manager appointed to officiate at any Championship shall be:

- a. To assist the Championship Convener in the discharge of his/her duties.
- b. To brief team officials on the rules and interpretations prior to the first game of the Championship.
- c. To appoint two (2) umpires and one (1) reserve umpire to each match of the Championship and to seek approval of appointments by the Championship Convener.
- d. To assist the panel of umpires with coaching and advice.
- e. To make and/or supervise all arrangements necessary for the proper functioning of the umpiring panel.
- f. To act as manager of the umpiring panel
- g. To submit a written report as part of the host state report

APPENDIX C

SEVEN-A-SIDE FORMAT

A seven-a-side competition may be part of the Championship. The format should incorporate the following:

- a. Teams of seven (7) players on the field, one must wear a minimum of goalkeepers' helmet and chestplate.
- b. Less time per game (e.g. 15 minute halves).
- c. Mixture of teams to be left to the discretion of the convener – dependent on participation numbers.
- d. Pushing only allowed - no hitting. Model and rules of seven-a-side component to be advised early to all participating states.
- e. Circle should be full size.
- f. A full round robin (no points) of twenty (20) minute games, to complement the Championship matches, is to be played when six (6) states are involved.