



Hockey Northland Whangarei

2025 CLUB COUNCIL POLICY

as at 11th February 2025

DRAFT

Table of Contents

Contents

Election of Club Council Executive	6
Meetings - Club Council Executive	7
Meetings - Club Council Forum.....	7
1. Grading.....	8
2. Competition	9
3. Eligibility Rules (Players)	10
4. Result Sheet and or Electronic (Live Scoring) whichever is used	17
5. Commencement of Matches	18
6. Non-Completion of Matches.....	18
7. Deferred Games and Special Game Time Requests.....	19
8. Defaults	20
9. Points	20
10. Cancellation	21
7. Playoff/Finals Formats for All Whangarei Senior Club and Collegiate Competitions	21
12. Penalty Shootout Competition - Appendix	22
13. Promotion/Relegation	22
14. Competition Team Formats	22
15. Club Umpiring Duties (to be updated for 2025)	25
16. Draw	26
17. Practices	27
18. Uniforms	28
19. Fees and Registration: See Hockey Northland Constitution, 7.1 to 7.3.....	28
20. First Aid	29
21. Whangarei ITM Hockey Centre Rules (put these under headings which would be easier to read)	30
22. Judicial Committee.....	32
23. Policies for Clubs	32
CODE OF CONDUCT.....	35
SCHEDULE 1 - Guideline for Suspension Offences	43
SCHEDULE 2 - Guidelines On Process For Hearing and Determining any Complaint, Protest or Appeal	49
SCHEDULE 3 - Guideline for Jurisdiction	52
SCHEDULE 4 - Checklists for use of this Code of Conduct	53
SCHEDULE 5 - Complaints, Protests and Judicial Process Templates	55
5a Red Card Awarded	56

5b	Allegation of Misconduct (Complaint)	57
5c	Protest relating to a match or competition	58
5d	Formal Notification of a Charge	59
APPENDICES		60
Appendix 1 – FIH Tournament Regulations – Outdoor Competition October 2012.....		60
Appendix 2 – Consensus Statement on Concussion in Sport:		60
Appendix 3 – Concussion Tools.....		60
Appendix 4 – ACC National Guidelines		60
Appendix 5 – Concussion Assessment Tool		60
Appendix 6 – Concussion - Return to Hockey		60
Appendix 7 - HNZ Concussion Awareness Policy		61
Appendix 8 – Combined Grade Rules (UPDATED 22-03-2025)		63

2025 Important Dates and Information

Grades	Start	Finish	# Teams	# Rounds	# Playoffs	2025 COMP.	PREMIER COMB.	RESER. COMB.	TOTALS
Premier Men	29/03/2025	2/08/2025	3	9	2	6	2	6	14
Combined Men	28/04/2025	19 or 20/06/2025	9	9	-				0
Reserve Men	20/03/2025	31/07/2025	6	10	3	10	3	5	18
Div 1 Men	29/03/2025	31/07/2025	7	21	3	18			18
Div 2 Men	20/03/2025	31/07/2025	6	20	3	20			20
Premier Woman	22/03/2025	2/08/2025	4	12	3	12	3	2	17
Combined Women Tier1	9 or 10/05/2025	6 or 7/06/2025	6	5	-				0
Combined Women Tier2	9 or 10/05/2025	6 or 7/06/2025	5	5	-				0
Res A Woman	21/03/2025	1/08/2025	7	14	3	12			17
Res B Woman	22/03/2025	2/08/2025	8	21	3	21			21
Div 1 Woman	22/03/2025	2/08/2025	7	21	3	18			18
Div 2 Woman	22/03/2025	2/08/2025	5	20	3	16			16

Senior Prize Giving on the turf (directly after playing)			
Collegiate	1/05/2025 22/09/2025	29/07/2025 22/09/2025	2 Rounds x 8 week competitions
JMC Kwik Sticks	1 & 2/05/2025 19 & 27/06/2025	20/07/2025 20/09/2025	Thursday & Friday (2 x 8 weeks)
JMC Kiwi Sticks	3/05/2025 21/06/2025	20/07/2025 20/09/2025	
JMC Mini Sticks &Dev			Saturday (2 x 8 weeks)
JMC Fun Sticks			Friday & Saturday (2 x 8 weeks)
JMC Prize Giving (tbc)			
Hikurangi Trophy / Powell Cup	7/09/2025	9:00 a.m.	Bay of Islands
Umpire Open Forum	5/05/2025	9/06/2025	04/08/2025
Club Council Forum	10-02-2025 @ 6pm	16-06-2025 @6.30pm	13/10/2025 @ 6pm
Annual/Special General Meetings	AGM 16 June 2025 @ 6pm		SGM 17 Nov 2025 @ 6pm
Funcrions	Volunteers Dinner 10 Sep 2025 (Wed)		Awards Dinner 7 Nov 2025

Election of Club Council Executive

The Club Council Executive will comprise of two representatives from each of the Men's, Women's, and Collegiate competitions, who are elected annually from the February Club Council Forum, as well as the Hockey Northland CEO, Northland Hockey Umpires, a JMC observer with speaking rights. If there are further competition groups that wish to join the Club Council they will have the opportunity to do so. The Chairperson will be elected at the February Club Council Forum. This will be called the Club Council Executive. If the Chairperson position is not filled then the Club Council Executive can appoint someone suitable to fill the position.

Club Council Executive Vacancy procedure

The purpose for this policy is to provide guidance to the CCE for replacing members who have resigned from the CCE after the election at the Club Council Forum in February of each year.

- After a resignation has been received and accepted, the CCE will instruct the secretary of Hockey Northland to call for nominations from the clubs.
- There will be a timeline of 3 weeks (15 working days) to receive the nominations from the clubs.
- If after this time only one nomination has been received, this person will be duly appointed.
- If more than one nomination is received, then the nominees will submit a bio about themselves. This will be sent back out to the clubs and voting will commence.
- Voting will take a week (5 working days), at the close of business on the fifth day the person with the most votes will be duly elected until the following Club Council Forum in February.
- If no nominations are received after the initial three week period, then the CCE has the ability to appoint a member to fill the vacancy until the Club Council Forum in February.

Club Council Executive (to be updated from CCF 10-02-2025)

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Mark Meyer | Chairperson |
| 2. Lisa Parsonage | Collegiate |
| 3. Hannah Rummery | Collegiate |
| 4. Carol Cottam | Umpires |
| 5. Michele Codlin | Men |
| 6. Angeline Waetford | Men |
| 7. Julie Jenkins | Women |
| 8. Warren Baier | Women |
| 9. Amy Jones | JMC Observer |
| 10. Tama Jones | HN CEO |
| 11. Gail Ambler | (HN Minute Taker) |

Meetings - Club Council Executive

1. Shall meet monthly on the 2nd Tuesday of the Month and will meet a minimum of seven times per year.
2. Where a request is made that needs to be dealt with quickly the Club Council Executive will make a decision by email or by google form. If any member is uncomfortable with making a decision this way then they can call for a face to face meeting of the Executive at the earliest possible time.
3. The CCE will endeavour to respond with their decision within 3 working days.
4. All members CCE members will be included in the emails, if a member believes they have a conflict of interest then they can choose to abstain from the decision making.
5. All Club Council Meetings shall have minutes. Where a club has requested a dispensation or disputes a decision then the outcome will be sent to the affected clubs.
6. Dispensation Request form can be located on the Hockey Northland website. All dispensation requests applied for shall be listed on a spreadsheet on the Hockey Northland website with the result either Granted / Declined listed beside it.

Meetings - Club Council Forum

(Open to all Open Grade and Collegiate Clubs) 6pm or 7pm

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 10th Feb | Clubs to adopt the rules for the coming season, confirm team entries and Hockey Northland information sharing. Hockey Northland Board may present topics for discussion relevant to the AGM. |
| 16th Jun | Clubs to raise any issues that have occurred during season to date. (Refer clause 21) |
| 13th Oct | Clubs to bring any suggested rule changes with briefing paper distributed earlier via the office. Clubs to indicate intention of team entries. (Circulated 3 weeks before) |

Club Council Policy amendment Process

- Policy in place
- Clubs requested to submit changes 3 weeks prior to October Forum.
- Club Council Forum discusses submission.
- CCE follow-up and develop Policy dependant on outcome of discussions as above.
- February Forum – Clubs have further opportunity to discuss policy and then adopt for the season.

PRE-SEASON TIMELINES FOR CLUBS

21. List of dates for clubs to note e.g.

- Unfinancial players HN to be informed one week before the first games
- Registration of players Rule 19.5 one week before your first game
- Player transfer requirements
 - Association to Association
 - Transferring club to club
- Nominated players Rule 4.8.3. Dv2W,
- Club committees contacts Start of the season
- Club trainings
- Deferred games Rule 8.1
- Special game requests Rule 8.3 i.e. school tournaments, school ball

1. Grading

- 1.1. No club shall be permitted to nominate more than one team in the premier grade.
- 1.2. Clubs in Premier Grade must have at least one team in a lower grade, such lower grade to exclude those grades under the control of the JMC.
- 1.3. Each grade shall be limited to a maximum of 10 teams.
- 1.4. Should any club enter two (2) teams in any one grade such teams shall be distinguished by name and no member shall play for one team after having played for the other team, if a player breaches this rule, then the games played in by the player in the second team shall be forfeit losses to that team. A different playing strip is to be worn when playing each other.
 - 1.4.1. Where a player plays up from **collegiate to open grades** these players may only play for their club, but where that club has two teams in the same grade the player may play in either or both of those teams as a fill in player.
- 1.5. Any team that plays a player from another team/club that is not registered or aligned (Refer Rule 19.4) to their own club then they forfeit the game.
- 1.6. Grading will be controlled by the Club Council Executive for that season's hockey. Prior to the next year's competition, the teams will be graded in line with the final placing of this year's round robin competition and subsequent promotion relegation series with the PROVISIO that the Executive MAY place teams into ANY grade that the Executive considers to be in the best interests of a successful competition.
 - 1.6.1. Where a competition has 4 teams entered or less, the Club Council Executive may combine the affected grade with a grade immediately above or below to play a grading round. The purpose of this grading round will look at the best option/s available for the overall health and growth of the competitions.
 - 1.6.2. THE CCE will consult with the teams in the affected grades.
 - 1.6.3. At the completion of the grading round the CCE will make a decision to split or not the combined grade based on the results from the grading rounds.
 - 1.6.4. The split may or may not be equal in terms of the number of teams, again the grading results will determine the split.
 - 1.6.5. Where the combined grades number of teams is greater than the 10 teams (Rule 1.3) an exception will be made.
- 1.7. In most situations new teams entering Open Grade competitions will enter into the lowest grade. If there is an opportunity to fill a bye slot in a higher grade or a request is made to play in a higher grade, then the Club Council Forum MAY place teams into ANY grade that

the Forum considers to be in the best interests of a successful competition. In the event that such a request comes at/after the February Club Council Forum then a special meeting of all clubs shall be called. At this meeting a decision shall be made by the clubs present. Any such decisions made under this rule shall not be considered as a precedent for ruling on any other requests.

- 1.8. Eligibility of players shall be entirely in the hands of the Club Council Executive with direction from the Hockey Northland Board.
 - 1.8.1. Players requesting a re-grade down: in the event that a player that requests a re-grade down then he or she shall be permitted to only play in the grade that they have been re-graded to for the remainder of the season. The re-graded player is not permitted to play up at all.
- 1.9. Collegiate Grading: Teams shall nominate which grade they wish to play in. Collegiate grades will be limited to 8 teams. Re-grading should be looked at, where teams are obviously too good or are struggling to compete, this should be done with a minimum amount of disruption to the competitions. (Grading will take place beforehand).
 - 1.9.1. Where a Collegiate team requests or is requested to re-grade that team will take none of their points from the competition which they moved from.
 - 1.9.2. Any Collegiate teams wishing to re-grade must do so prior to the last day in June. Any applications received after the last day in June will be declined.

2. **Competition**

- 2.1. Easter – NO PLAY
- 2.2. There will be a minimum of two (2) complete rounds.

The following formats will ideally play the number of rounds specified.

 - 2.2.1. 10 teams will play 2 complete rounds (18 games + play offs)
 - 2.2.2. 9 Teams will play 2 complete rounds (16 games + play offs)
 - 2.2.3. 8 Teams will play 3 complete rounds (21 games + play offs)
 - 2.2.4. 7 Teams will play 3 complete rounds (18 games + play offs)
 - 2.2.5. 6 Teams will play 4 complete rounds (20 games + play offs)
 - 2.2.6. 5 Teams will play 4 complete rounds (16 games + play offs)
 - 2.2.7. 4 Teams will play a minimum of 5 complete rounds (15 games + play offs)
- 2.3. Games will be scheduled when Representative teams are away and will only be changed if requested that the game be deferred (refer Rule 7) by the team/s concerned.
- 2.4. All games in Open grade hockey will be played in quarters.
- 2.5. **Conduct of play : Goalkeepers**
 - A goalkeeper must not take part in the match outside the 23 metres area they are defending, except when taking a penalty stroke.
 - Protective headgear must be worn by a goalkeeper at all times, except when taking a penalty stroke.
 - When the ball is inside the circle they are defending, and they have their stick in their hand: Goalkeepers are permitted to use their stick, feet, kickers, legs or leg guards or any other part of their body to deflect the ball over the back-line or to play the ball in any other direction.
 - Goalkeepers are not permitted to conduct themselves in a manner which is dangerous to other players by taking advantage of the protective equipment they wear.

- Goalkeepers must not lie on the ball.
- When the ball is outside the circle they are defending, goalkeepers are only permitted to play the ball with their stick.

Removal of goalkeeping privileges for substitute field player

This rule has been changed for safety reasons.

Umpiring Tips:

Always stop time when you substitute goal keepers (off and on to the field).

If a penalty corner is awarded when only field players are on the field, then the 5 defenders are entitled to wear face masks only.

A reminder that no substitutions can be made once a penalty corner has been awarded (with the exception of an injured or suspended goalkeeper)

- 2.6. If at the end of the competition two or more teams have the same number of points for any place, these teams will be ranked according to their respective number of matches won.
- 2.7. Should there still remain equality between two or more teams, then these teams will be ranked according to their respective goal difference (which means 'goals for' less 'goals against').
A positive goal difference always takes precedence over a negative one.
- 2.8. If there remains equality between two or more teams, then these teams will be ranked according to their respective number of 'goals for'.
- 2.9. If there remains equality between two or more teams, then the result(s) of the match(es) played between (only) those teams involved will be taken into consideration to determine the ranking of the tied teams.
- 2.10. If more than two teams are involved, then a ranking based upon the results of the matches between (only) them shall determine their respective position.
- 2.11. Should there remain equality between two teams, then the matter will be settled by a penalty shootout competition between those teams (refer Rule 12).
- 2.12. Please note that play-offs and finals will use the penalty shootout if required, please note this applies to Collegiate hockey also.
- 2.13. Playing quarters all open grades.

3. Eligibility Rules (Players)

- 3.1. Before any player can take part in any of the Association's competitions, he or she must be registered as a member of an affiliated club via the Hockey Northland system in use.
- 3.2. Age eligibility
 - 3.2.1. Players must be Year 9 or above to play Open Grade Hockey.

NB: Year 9 players are not eligible to play Premier Hockey

- 3.2.2. Year 10 players wishing to play Premier Hockey will be required to seek dispensation to be eligible to play in this grade.
 - 3.2.2.1. Year 10 Premier dispensation requests will be based on the following criteria:

- Be a top performer in the U15 age group
 - Display emotional maturity on field
 - Display a reasonable degree of social maturity
 - Have on field physical presence (speed, aerobic capacity, strength, stature)
 - Hockey ability and nouse (know-how, "street smart")
- 3.2.3. There will be a limit of three year 10 players per team for school teams and two year 10 players for all other clubs. Year 10 players are also permitted to play from Reserve A to Premier Hockey, up to seven (7) times to cover for player absence, if approved by the process outlined in **Rule 3.2.2.1** is followed. It is highly recommended that older players be used in preference if of suitable ability.
 - 3.2.3.1. Most of the criteria are not easily measurable and, in all cases, they will be measured in a very conservative way, that being if there is any doubt then the decision will err on the side of caution. Consultation will take place with the player. Players' parent/s, team coaches. Each of the players team coaches (Premier and U15 Coaches) should outline their opinion on why the player dispensation request should be or shouldn't be granted in a written format (bullet points are acceptable)
 - 3.2.3.2. The Player, Player's parent/s and team coaches shall meet with the Operations Manager to discuss the request.
 - 3.2.3.3. The Operations Manager shall consider all information supplied and will meet with the player/players parents and coaches (optional) within 1 week of the initial meeting.
 - 3.2.3.4. The final decision shall be the Operations Manager responsibility. Suitable documentation shall be kept on file (may be used for future reference).
- 3.2.4. An up-to-date list of dispensation requests and their outcomes will be posted on the Hockey Northland website. Year 11 and above are eligible to play in all open grades.
- 3.2.5. Other Dispensation requests will be dealt with on a case-by-case scenario.
 - 3.2.5.1. The Player, Player's parent/s and team coaches shall meet with the Hockey Northland Operations Manager to discuss the request.
 - 3.2.5.2. The Operations Manager shall consider all information supplied and will meet with the player/players parents and coaches (optional) within 1 week of the initial meeting.
 - 3.2.5.3. The final decision shall be the Operations Managers responsibility. Suitable documentation shall be kept on file (may be used for future reference).
 - 3.2.5.4. An up-to-date list of dispensation requests and their outcomes will be posted on the Hockey Northland website.
 - 3.2.5.5. If there is conflict between the player and the school/club team then - Player development/retention outweighs other considerations.

- 3.3. There shall be no movement of players between teams in the same grade. Playing a player from another team in the same grade will result in forfeiture of that game.
- 3.4. Players may only play for one open grade club. The exception to this is **Rule 4.3.18** "Where a College/High School does not have a team in the Premier competition/s then players wishing to play for their school may also play premier hockey" or **Rule 4.3.16** the clubs are aligned.
- 3.5. Clubs entering existing teams into the next year's competition shall be required to have a minimum of 13 players per team. Clubs will be required to submit player names for each team three weeks prior to the start of the season.
 - 3.2.1. For the 2025 season and Premier Women must register a minimum of 13 players and the Premier/Reserve combine Men must register a minimum of 11 players per team.
- 3.6. 16 Field players, 2 Goalkeepers
Rule to be trialled for the Premier/Reserve men and Premier & Reserve A Women for the 2025 season.
 - 3.6.1. A team consists of a maximum of eighteen (18) players may be used by a team in a match, of whom **two (2)** must be goalkeepers wearing full protective equipment.
 - 3.6.2. If one of the goalkeepers becomes injured or is suspended during a match, that team can continue to use **seventeen (17)** players including **one (1)** goalkeeper.
 - 3.6.3. If a team chooses not to include a second goalkeeper in the 18 players, they are limited to using **sixteen (16)** players in a match.
- 3.7. Playing between grades
 - 3.7.1. It is highly recommended that NHC Tier 1 players are registered in the Premier grade.
 - 3.7.2. The Club Council Executive reserves the right to regrade any player that has played in the NHC Tier 1 competition in the past two seasons registered in Reserve grade.
- 3.8. Playing Up: Any player may play up one team only, up to seven (7) times, if they play another game (8th) then they must stay up in that grade. This means that players may only play in 2 teams per year except under **Rule 3.18**). If a player plays in more than 2 teams the 3rd, 4th team/s shall forfeit the matches played in by that player. Please note that this rule applies to **Open** grade hockey only. The two (2) team rule still applies and where the player is regraded to the higher grade, they can then only play for that team and are unable to play up another team
 - 3.8.1. For the 2025 season an exemption will be in place to allow 3 nominated players unlimited games up from Reserve A Women and Reserve Men to Premiers.
 - 3.8.2. In 2025 with the Premier / Reserve combine grade reserve grade players will be able to play up unlimited in the Combined round.
 - 3.8.3. For the 2025 season an exemption will apply to allow the Men's Division 1 players to play unlimited games up in Prem/Res combine teams
 - 3.8.4. Draws would be published in manner that will allow players to play for both teams when required. Games will take precedence over trainings
 - 3.8.5. This model will work effectively if used correctly by the teams and will be operated on a trust model.

- 3.8.6. For Division 2 teams that have no team below, will be able to name up to six (6) nominated players from Division 1 at the start of the season. If any of the nominated 6 players are used from Division 1 down, the maximum number on the game sheet must not exceed 13.
- 3.8.7. Please note that teams that use the above bullet point will need to be careful as players, may still only play in 2 grades maximum. For example, if a Div1 player plays up in a Res B women game then that same player will not be able to play down in a Div2 game (breaches could result in the game being forfeited).

Nominated players must be named and given to Hockey Northland prior to the start of the Premier Competition.

- 3.9. A nominated (prior to the start of the season) goalie may play down one (1) grade for a maximum of four (4) games. The goalie may only play down if the nominated goalie for the lower team does not play the game
 - 3.9.1. These (4) four games only apply to the round robin games
 - 3.9.2. Where a goalie is unavailable, and you wish to bring the goalie down in play-offs etc. then you will need to apply for dispensation.
 - 3.9.3. A goalie nominated to play down is not able to also play up a grade above their registered grade. (Refer rule 4.7 players may only play in 2 teams per year.....)
 - 3.9.4. Rule 4.9 applies to open grade competitions only.

[SEE APPENDIX 8 – COMBINED RULES]

- 3.10. Playing Up in Collegiate: Any player may play up one team only, up to four (4) times, if they play another game (5th) then they must stay up in that grade. This means that players may only play in 2 teams per year except under rule 4.3.18). If a player plays in more than 2 teams the 3rd, 4th team/s shall forfeit the matches played in by that player. Please note that this rule applies to **Collegiate** grade hockey only. The 2 team rule still applies and where the player is regraded to the higher grade, they can then only play for that team and are unable to play up another team.
 - 3.10.1. Any player playing up must be shown as such on the game card that they are playing up
- 3.11. Where a club has two teams in a grade, players from grades below may only play up for one of those teams (they cannot play for both of these teams), these players are able to play up for that one team up to the number stipulated above.
- 3.12. No player is permitted to play in two or more games or be named on two or more game cards where the games are played simultaneously. In the event that this rule is breached both teams that the player plays for or is named on cards for shall forfeit their matches. Please note that if a player finishes one game (game has ended) then goes to another due to staggered starting times then the time that the players enter the game shall be noted on the card.
- 3.13. Playoff Qualification: A player must have played the required number of qualifying games as a minimum as listed below. This rule applies for Open Grade competition as per table below : **to be updated once competition is set**

Competition	Teams	Games	Qualifying Games
Premier Men	4	12	4
Premier Women	5	12	4
Reserve Men	6	18	5
Reserve A Women	8	21	5
Reserve B Women	7	21	5
Division 1 Men	5	20	5
Division 1 Women	8	21	5
Division 2 Men	7	21	5
Division 2 Women	5	18	5

- 3.13.1. Where a team / club registers a player late in the year (4 weeks or under to go to playoffs) to play in a lower grade team and the player also plays in a higher grade, the players game number shall reflect only the games he or she has played in the team he or she has been registered in.
- 3.13.2. **Any Player who fails to play a minimum number of games (or part thereof) as mentioned in 3.13** in round robin competition for their club team/s may not take the field in any play-off series or promotion/relegation games without first obtaining permission from the Club Council Executive, decisions made by the Club Council Executive on such requests will be circulated to all club contacts The Club Council in making decisions about such applications will pay due heed to the intent of the Association's strategic plan which is to encourage players to play hockey and to encourage "province of origin" players to return to play their Hockey in Northland. For the avoidance of doubt the Club Council Executive in considering an application for permission for a player who has not played the requisite number of games to take the field in a play-off or promotion/relegation game, should focus on how that player can be granted dispensation rather than on why that player should not be granted dispensation. (**NB:** The original intention of this rule was to stop players being brought in from other Associations to stack teams. It was also intended to allow a team that was short for one reason or another to bring up a player from a grade below to play; this would ensure that the team were at least able to field a full team in the play-offs.).
- 3.14. Playoff Exception: Serious Injury or Medical reasons is the only circumstance (with proof from Registered Doctor) before a Club Council Executive meeting that mitigates the Playoff Qualification rule. This is only for the injured player and is not for replacement of such an injured player. These requests shall be dealt with at the regular monthly meeting of the Club Council Executive.
- 3.15. Amalgamation of clubs. Where two clubs wish to amalgamate written confirmation shall be required from each party signed by a minimum of two club officials (relevant meeting minutes must accompany confirmation)
- 3.15.1. Amalgamations must be actioned prior to the start of the current season
- 3.15.2. Where amalgamated clubs de-amalgamate the club shall confirm in writing to Hockey Northland their intention to do so (relevant meeting minutes must accompany confirmation),

- 3.15.3. Where teams/clubs cannot agree who shall retain the current grade spot then each club shall relinquish the current grade that they play in.
- 3.15.4. Each de-amalgamated club shall be re-graded to the lowest available grade by the Club Council Executive unless agreed by teams/clubs in rule 3.15.3
- 3.16. Alignment between clubs: A player's club may nominate another club as an Aligned-Club for the purposes of players playing in higher grades where the lower grade club does not have a team in that higher grade. Please note that rule 3.8 still applies. This aligned club arrangement must be registered by both clubs in writing (these letters of alignment need to be signed by the Club's Secretary, Chairman, President or Treasurer) at the start of the season and lodged with the Hockey Northland Office and is valid for the current season only. The alignment cannot be changed during a season. Lower grade clubs can only align with one higher grade club. Higher grade clubs can only align with one lower grade club. Players from the higher grade cannot play down a grade for their aligned club.
 - 3.16.1. Where a club has both Men's and Women's teams, they may enter into alignments with two other clubs where the other clubs are Men's only and Women's only
 - 3.16.2. Aligned players must play 5 games over 5 weeks for the aligned club (Example; Old Girls and Bream Bay align, Bream Bay players must have played 5 games for Old Girls over 5 weeks to be eligible to play in the play-offs for Old Girls) - Refer table in 3.13.
 - 3.16.3. Players playing for an aligned club must be shown as such on the game card that they are from an aligned club.
- 3.17. Umpires to sign on card if a player is placed on card but does not take the field. Team representative is to make this point known to umpire (Refer 3.4.4). In relation to 3.13.2 this game is not counted as one of the 5 games for play-off qualification as the player did not play.
- 3.18. Where a College/High School does not have a team in the Premier competition/s then players wishing to play for their School may also play in the Premier grade for another club. This rule is to extend to players from sub-associations playing in lower grade teams from their sub-association that wish to play premiers also. Players eligible for this must be Year 9-13 student attending school and will need to register their intent to do this at the start of the season.
- 3.19. Women Playing in Men's Competition
 - 3.19.1. No women shall play in the Mens Premier, Reserve, Division 1 or Division 2 competitions. Dispensation may be given in the case of a National team Women's player.
 - 3.19.2. Only where a Senior National Team Coach requests that a Player plays in the Premier Men's competition will consideration be given for a woman to play in the Men's competition. These requests will be required to be made in written form. Northland Hockey Association will require a letter from the player and/or players parent or guardian acknowledging risks associated in playing against men.
- 3.20. To be eligible to play in the Senior Men's and Women's competition players must be in Year 9 or above.
- 3.21. Where a player transfers clubs out of season or in season a **"Club to Club electronic transfer"** must be completed prior to playing for the new club. Email a request to Hockey Northland to request a transfer from club to club transfers, or an Association to Association transfer - it is the sole responsibility of the club/teams to follow up on their transfer ensuring that they are completed in a timely manner. *Club to club transfers: these need to*

be actioned prior to the player playing for their new club. Failure to submit the transfer will result in the team forfeiting the results of those matches played by the new player.

- 3.21.1. All clubs/schools to notify the Hockey Northland Office of any un-financial players they have no later than 1 month before the start of the season. Players not on this list at this date will be cleared to transfer to another Club / Association.
- 3.22. Returning University players; these players that are returning to Northland for their University holidays are required to send an email to Hockey Northland requesting an Association transfer via electronic process. Failure to do so will result in the team that the player plays for forfeiting the match/s he/she plays in. The player when returning to the University/Association will be required to submit electronically an Association-to-Association transfer again. Please note that transfers relating to 3.21 & 3.22 will only be actioned during regular work hours Monday to Friday (9.00am to 4.00pm).
- 3.23. Playing ineligible players will result in teams forfeiting the matches that those ineligible players played in.
- 3.24. Collegiate year 9–13 players can play in the senior competitions. Players must be registered on both teams' registration forms or electronically.
- 3.25. Year 7 & 8 JMC players wishing to play in the collegiate competition will need to submit a dispensation request. Such requests for dispensation will be considered for approval after the first eight (8) weeks of the Collegiate competition. Teams should play the Year 9-13 players in the first instance and use the year 7 & 8 players as substitutes and fill-ins.
- 3.25.1. Written application for dispensation will need to be submitted to the JMC Committee and Club Council Executive for approval (If either JMC or CCE decline dispensation then the player/s concerned will not be allowed to play in collegiate hockey competition/s). Names, ages, school year, team list of players in team that player is applying to move to and reason for request must be included. Failure to include all relevant information shall result in the dispensation request being declined.
- 3.26. **Dispensation requests will be dealt with by the CCE within 10 working days of receipt of the request.**
- 3.26.1. Dispensations will only be considered 14 days prior to the completion of the round robin. On the multiple days of competition i.e. Thursday, Friday or Saturday competition days. Where a competition is played over multiple days the 14 days shall be counted back from the first day the competition is played. !

An application for dispensation for a goalkeeper will be accepted for consideration by the Club Council Executive provided that the applicant can first demonstrate that:

- a) there is no goalkeeper available from one of the club's lower grade team/s,
- b) none of the team's own field players has played three or more games as substitute goalkeeper
- c) dispensation is not being sought for the purposes of 'stacking' the applicant's team.

In the event that information provided to the Club Council Executive in a dispensation application is later found by the Club Council Executive to be incorrect or misleading, the team shall lose all points earned in all games played by that team subsequent to the granting of the dispensation.

Note from the Board: the Board requests that the Club Council Executive consider the wider interests of Northland Hockey when considering requests for dispensation.

- 3.26.2. Teams can view player stats on the Hockey Northland website under competition stats www.northlandhockey.org.nz
- 3.27. International students shall not necessarily be eligible to play in the play-offs/finals if they have not played the required games.

Collegiate

- 3.28. Hockey Northland strongly recommends that collegiate students play in Collegiate hockey in the first instance.
- 3.29. Collegiate players must play a minimum of 5 games (or one third of the round robin games - whichever is the lesser amount) or part thereof over 5 weeks for their club/school in the Collegiate Competitions to Qualify for the play-off series.
- 3.30. Collegiate girls & boys playing the Senior Premier competition may play in Collegiate Division 1 & 2 but not play in Collegiate Division 3 or lower.
- 3.31. Club Council Executive may grant dispensation in the instance where a player may have had the majority of the season out through injury. Early notification is essential.
- 3.32. Schools/Clubs may enter a mixed team into the Collegiate competition. These players must only play in one collegiate team per grade. Players may still play up from a lower grade (refer to rule 2.9).
- 3.33. Where a collegiate player leaves school part way through the playing season, the school/club shall decide whether that player may continue to play collegiate hockey or not.
- 3.34. Tertiary students do not qualify to play in the collegiate competition.

4. Result Sheet and or Electronic (Live Scoring) whichever is used

- 4.1. Captains/Managers are to ensure that the game sheet or electronic option on PlayHQ is completed the night before the game.
- 4.1.1. Players turning up late or unexpectedly must be written on the sheet or entered electronically prior to taking the field. If late changes are made electronically you will need to check the game sheet to make sure the amendments have been completed.
- 4.1.2. Players written on the sheet or entered electronically but not taking the field shall be crossed off the game sheet or removed from the electronic list by the captain of the team before it is signed at the end of the match.
- 4.1.3. If written on the game sheet the name must be legible first name and last name of the player as per their registration on PlayHQ.
- 4.1.4. Teams may name (on the sheet or electronically) up to a maximum of sixteen (16) players only for each game (unfair to use more players than the opposition have).
- 4.2. No sheet = no game unless online option is used.
- 4.3. If sheet not found then blank cards available at the Canteen, Hockey Shop or the Upstairs Bar.
- 4.4. **Sheets Not Filled Out correctly.** Teams failing to complete the game sheet or electronic option correctly will be given a warning on the first and second occurrences that this happens (and they will be notified each time that they make a mistake). Subsequent breaches will result in the team losing two (2) competition points. This is for all competition games

- 4.5. Highlight (or asterisk) the players that are not registered to the team (i.e. coming up from lower) on game sheet, this is to also include collegiate players and players from aligned clubs.
- 4.6. Umpires are encouraged to complete the game sheet during the match to ensure goals and penalty points are recorded correctly to the players concerned.
- 4.7. The team representative/captain of each team is required to check that the game sheet is correctly filled in and to check that players listed actually played in the game. They then sign the game sheet as a true and correct record of the game. The signature has to be legible.
- 4.8. The team representative/captain of the winning team is responsible for the safe return of the game sheet to the result box on the day of the game. It is not the umpire's responsibility to place the game sheet in the result box. The HN staff member is under no obligation to pursue the missing game sheet
- 4.9. Please indicate clearly if the allocated Umpires did not attend.
- 4.10. The Office will process the game sheets and where inaccuracies are found then the penalties will be imposed. (Refer rule 4.4)
14.10.1. All penalties imposed on teams will be notified to the team and club concerned.
- 4.11. Where a team disputes the result or player eligibility this should be entered on the card or an email sent to admin@northlandhockey.org.nz within 48 hours of the completion of the match.
 - 4.11.1. Once a dispute has been lodged then it will be dealt with by the Hockey Northland office according to the rules.
 - 4.11.2. Both teams involved in the match will be emailed. The team manager and club contact along with the umpires (when required) will be emailed; this email shall outline the complaint and acknowledge the receipt of the complaint.
 - 4.11.3. The team managers and club contacts will be required to explain their side of the situation by email or typed hard copy within 48 hours of receipt of the email from Hockey Northland.
 - 4.11.4. Decisions will be made as per the rules covering the situation following input from those parties concerned.

5. Commencement of Matches

- 5.1. Any team not on the field ready to play within ten (10) minutes after the scheduled time of the match shall forfeit the match.
- 5.2. Matches may not start unless each team has a minimum of seven (7) players on the field.
- 5.3. Teams with 7 or more players present must take the field when asked to by the Umpires.
- 5.4. Games that start late **MUST** still finish in time for the following game to start on time.

6. Non-Completion of Matches

- 6.1. Any team that fails to complete a match shall forfeit the points for that match.
- 6.2. Where a team forfeits the game, but the game is still played (with less players or borrowed players) each of the teams shall cover the cost of that game.
- 6.3. Where teams forfeit, the registered players on the game sheet will be deemed as having played.
- 6.4. Where a team forfeits it will be deemed as a 5-0 loss for that team. "The winning team" shall be awarded a 5-0 win.
- 6.5. A Senior game will be deemed completed if it is stopped due to weather or serious injury after 3 quarters of the game time has been played and the score at the stoppage shall be recorded as the final result. If the game is still in the first half and is called off due to

weather, serious injury then the game shall be replayed in full (the score shall be wiped clean). If the game is called off in the 3rd quarter of play, then the remaining minutes left in the game shall be played at a later date with the score from when the game was stopped is to be carried forward when the game is continued. Failure to play the rescheduled game or part game will result in that team/s forfeiting the game.

- 6.6. A Collegiate game will be deemed completed if it is stopped due to weather or serious injury after 35 minutes of game time has been played and the score at the stoppage shall be recorded as the final result. If the game is still in the first half and is called off due to weather, serious injury then the game shall be replayed in full (the score shall be wiped clean). If the game is called off after half time but prior to 35 minutes play, then the remaining minutes left in the game shall be played at a later date with the score from when the game was stopped is to be carried forward when the game is continued. Failure to play the rescheduled game or part game will result in that team/s forfeiting the game.

7. Deferred Games and Special Game Time Requests

- 7.1. Deferred game requests (refer 8.6) should be notified to the draw steward where possible prior to the start of the season.
- 7.1.1. If a request to defer a game is made after the start of the season it must be eight weeks prior to the scheduled fixture.
- 7.2. Where possible deferred games will be played prior to the scheduled date of the original game.
- 7.3. Clubs, Teams and Schools should make special requests for games to be deferred in writing
- adhere to Rule 8.6
 - prior to the start of the season or
 - eight weeks prior to the scheduled fixture
- 7.4. Under exceptional circumstances, e.g. funeral, a team can apply to the Club Council Emergency Committee for a deferral.
- 7.5. All deferred game requests, to be submitted to the Draw Steward via email and the other team affected shall be informed. Where possible two alternate options of date / time for the game to be played will be offered to the other team affected by the deferment. If no agreement between the teams, then the Club Council Executive shall decide the date and time of the game.
- 7.6. **Games shall only be deferred, where four or more players are away for Northland representative hockey fixtures or Northland Secondary school hockey fixtures (teams are encouraged to bring players up from lower grade teams)**
- 7.6.1. The above clause may also relate to players going away as part of the official **team management (coaches, managers, umpires and parent helpers) of** Northland Representative Hockey teams or Northland Secondary School teams.
- 7.6.2. Where a secondary school team attends a Hockey New Zealand sanctioned tournament the school team games for that period will be deferred. Schools need to inform Northland Hockey before the end of March if they intend competing in HNZ tournaments

Players Representing Northland. Where Representative Coaches don't want their players to play club hockey immediately prior to National Tournament they shall notify the Draw Steward and all affected club teams 3 weeks prior to the representative Tournament.

8. Defaults

Definition of default. Where a team concedes the game without any play taking place

Definition of Forfeit. Where a team concedes the result, but play is undertaken (further info on forfeits in 7 Non-completion of matches).

- 8.1. Barring exceptional circumstances, defaulting teams must notify the Draw Steward, on the day preceding the match, of their intention to default.
- 8.2. The captain or representative of the defaulting team shall then notify the opposing team captain and the umpires. Teams are encouraged to contact the office to request opposition and umpire contact information if they do not know whom to contact.
- 8.3. A team, that defaults a game, will be liable for all the turf fees applicable for that scheduled game.
- 8.4. Where a team defaults a game, it will be deemed as a 5-0 loss for that team. "The winning team" shall be awarded a 5-0 win. Default win will result in 3 points being awarded to the winning team.
- 8.5. Where a team defaults their game, the players from the defaulting team will not be accredited with having played that game. The other team (that was available for the game) will have their registered players accredited with having played this game.
- 8.6. Where a team flaunts the rules and is defaulting and or forfeiting 5 or more of their games, the team will not be eligible to play in the play-offs (there will be no refund for these un-played games) and in the event that they finish last in round robin and a challenge is received from a team in the grade below then the challenged team will be automatically relegated.

9. Points

- 9.1. Pool Play Points 3 pts for Win
 1 pts for Draw
 0 pts for Loss
- 9.2. Bonus points: One point (1) will be awarded to each of the open grade that are represented by their club delegate at each of the Club Council Forums. This will be limited to a maximum of three (3) points for the season (i.e. a maximum of 1 point per forum).
 - 9.2.1. Hockey Northland will inform clubs within two weeks the non-attending clubs that they did not attend the forum, clubs will then have one week to apply for the points to be given to them due to exceptional circumstances,
 - 9.2.1.1. No response from the clubs equals no points.
- 9.3. Bonus points: One point (1) will be awarded to each of the open grade teams that are represented by the team nominated player/umpire at the Umpire Coaching Forums. Please note that a person attending these forums may only represent one team or club (School clubs can have someone representing one open grade club as well as represent the collegiate club at the same time). This will be up to a maximum of three (3) points per team. for the season (i.e. A maximum of 1 point per forum).
 - 9.3.1. Hockey Northland will inform clubs / teams within two weeks the non-attending teams/clubs that they did not attend the forum, teams/clubs will then have one week to apply for the points due to exceptional circumstances,
 - 9.3.1.1. No response from the teams/clubs equals no points.
- 9.4. Forfeit /(default) games will result in three (3) points for a win, zero (0) for a loss, forfeit win will be awarded as "five (5) goals for" forfeit loss "five (5) goals against".

- 9.5. If at the end of the competition two or more teams have the same number of points for any place, these teams will be ranked according to their respective number of matches won.
- 9.6. Should there still remain equality between two or more teams, then these teams will be ranked according to their respective goal difference (which means 'goals for' less 'goals against'). A positive goal difference always takes precedence over a negative one.
- 9.7. If there still remains equality between two or more teams, then these teams will be ranked according to their respective number of "goals for".
- 9.8. If there still remains equality between two or more teams, then the result(s) of the match(es) played between (only) those teams involved will be taken into consideration to determine the ranking of the tied teams.
- 9.9. If more than two teams are involved, then a ranking based upon the results of the matches between (only) them shall determine their respective position.
- 9.10. Should there still remain equality between two teams, then the matter will be settled by a shoot-out competition between those teams (refer Appendix).

10. Cancellation

- 10.1. All cancellations will be notified by Facebook, website, and phone bulletin board.
- 10.2. The decision to cancel once hockey has commenced on any day may be made by mutual consent of the two captains and both umpires. In the event of any disagreement, the umpires will make the final decision. Should the umpires then disagree, the game will continue.
- 10.3. The CEO or his nominee shall have the power to cancel hockey at any stage due to ground and/or weather conditions.
- 10.4. Inter association games/tournaments should be cancelled where possible the night before the scheduled games and it is the duty of the cancellation person to inform Sub-Associations, Whangarei coaches and umpires.

11. Playoff/Finals Formats for All Whangarei Senior Club and Collegiate Competitions

- 11.1. All play-offs including quarter final, semi-final, finals and promotion / relegation games: if at the end of normal time the scores are equal then the teams will be required to complete a shoot-out competition (Refer Appendix).
- 11.2. Teams playing off for positions 3 downwards may be required to play on different days to their regular day they played on during the season.
- 11.3. Teams forfeiting their play-off/finals matches will be required to pay all match fees + 50%. Double forfeit each team pays turf fee plus 50%.

12. Penalty Shootout Competition - Appendix

- 12.1. Shootouts will be taken in line with the latest FIH Tournament Regulations as applicable.

13. Promotion/Relegation

- 13.1. Teams finishing in first place (Round Robin winner) may challenge the bottom placed team from the grade above.
- 13.2. Where the first placed team (Round Robin winner) chooses not to challenge for promotion the second placed team (from Round Robin) may challenge the last placed team from the grade above to gain promotion.
- 13.3. Teams do not have to challenge if they don't want to.
- 13.4. Teams wishing to challenge for promotion will need their club committee to indicate their intention to do so to the Hockey Northland office prior to Grand Final day.
- 13.5. Hockey Northland Office will confirm any challenges to the teams affected and the umpires within 5 working days of the Grand Final.
- 13.6. Games for promotion/relegation will be played on the **Saturday (30-08-2025)** the week after the open grade Grand Finals.
- 13.7. Dates for Premier challenges will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.
- 13.8. Times to be set by Draw Steward.
- 13.9. Club Council Executive shall set criteria (for teams to achieve) to promote a team that will fill a vacancy in a higher competition.
- 13.10. All NEW teams registering in the Hockey Northland winter competition must have 14 registered players before the team can be entered. (CCE Feb 2008).
- 13.11. In the event that there is promotion/relegation games the teams and clubs involved shall incur no turf fees for these games.

14. Competition Team Formats

- 14.1. 3 TEAM (2 weeks) 12 rounds + 2
- i. 1 goes to the final
 - ii. Semi Final
 - iii. G1 Game 1 2v3 loser finishes 3rd
 - iv. Final
 - v. G2 Game 2 RR1 V W1 - Grand Final
- 14.2. 4 TEAM (3 weeks) 18 rounds + 3
- i. G1 Game 1 1 v 2 winner to the final loser to preliminary semi final
 - ii. G2 Game 2 3 v 4 winner to preliminary semi-final loser to playoff for 3rd & 4th
 - iii. Semi Finals:
 - iv. G3 Game 3 L1 v W2 winner to the final loser to playoff for 3rd and 4th
 - v. Note: This game will be played mid-week
 - vi. Finals:
 - vii. G4 Game 4 L3 V L2 - 3rd and 4th
 - viii. G5 Game 5 W1 V W3 - Grand Final
- 14.3. 5 TEAM (3 weeks) 20 rounds + 3
- Top 3 go straight into semis
- Play Offs:

G1	Game 1	4 v 5 (Game 1), Play off winner goes into semis
Semi Finals:		
G2	Game 2	1 v Game 1 winner
G3	Game 3	2 v 3
Finals:		
G4	Game 4	L2 V L3 - 3 rd & 4 th
G5	Game 5	W2 V W3 - Grand Final

14.4. 6 TEAM (3 weeks) 20 rounds + 3

Playoffs:

G1	1 v 6
G2	2 v 5
G3	3 v 4

Winners into semis & Highest placed (from Round Robin play) loser.

Two losers from play -offs play for 5th and 6th

Semis:

G4	Game 4	W1 v highest placed loser
G5	Game 5	W2 v W3

Finals:

G6	Game 6	L4 v L5 -3 rd & 4 th
G7	Game 7	W4 v W5 - Grand Final.

14.5. 7 TEAM (3 weeks) 21 rounds + 3

Top team goes straight into semis

G1	2 v 7
G2	3 v 6
G3	4 v 5

Winners go into the semis

Semis:

G4	Game 4	"1" v Winner G3Game 3
G5	Game 5	W1 v W2
G6	Game 6	L1 V L2 Play off game

Finals

G7	Game 7	W6 v L3 - 5 th & 6 th
G8	Game 8	L4 v L5 - 3 rd & 4 th
G9	Game 9	W4 v W5 - Grand Final)
	Loser Game 6	= 7 th
	Winner Game 7	= 5 th place
	Loser Game 7	= 6 th place

14.6. 8 TEAM (3 weeks) 21 rounds + 3

Quarter Finals:

G1	Game 1	1 v 8
G2	Game 2	2 v 7
G3	Game 3	3 v 6
G4	Game 4	4 v 5

Winners into the Semis & Losers from games 1-4 into 2nd 4 play off

Semi Finals:

G5	Game 5	W1 v W4
G6	Game 6	W2 v W3
G7	Game 7	L1 v L4
G8	Game 8	L2 v L3

Finals

G9	Game 9	L7 v L8 - 7 th & 8 th
G10	Game 10	W7 v W8 - 5 th & 6 th
G11	Game 11	L5 v L6 - 3 rd & 4 th
G12	Game 12	W5 v W6 - Grand Final

14.7. **9 TEAM (4 weeks)**

Top 7 go through to quarter finals

G1	Game 1	8 v 9
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Loser finish 9th.

Quarter Finals:

G2	Game 2	1 v W1
G3	Game 3	2 v 7
G4	Game 4	3 v 6
G5	Game 5	4 v 5

Semis Finals:

G6	Game 6	W2 v W5
G7	Game 7	W3 v W4
G8	Game 8	L2 v L5
G9	Game 9	L3 v L4

Finals:

G10	Game 10	L8 v L9 - 7 th & 8 th
G11	Game 11	W8 v W9 - 5 th & 6 th
G12	Game 12	L6 v L7 3 rd & 4 th
G13	Game 13	W6 v W7 - Grand Final

14.8. **10 TEAM (4 weeks)**

Top six go through to quarters.

Play offs

G1	Game 1	7 v 10
G2	Game 2	8 v 9

Winners go to quarters, losers to G3

G3	Loser Game 1 v Loser Game 2	Winner = 9 th , loser = 10 th .
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Quarters

G4	Game 4	1 v Winner Game 1
G5	Game 5	2 v Winner Game 2
G6	Game 6	3 v 6
G7	Game 7	4 v 5

Semi Finals

G8	Loser Game 4 v Loser Game 7
G9	Loser Game 5 v Loser Game 6

Semis

G10	Game 10	W4 v W7
G11	Game 11	W5 v W6

Finals

G12	Game 12	L8 v L9 Winner = 7 th , Loser = 8 th	
G13	Game 13	W8 v W9	(Game 14). Winner = 5 th & Loser = 6 th
G14	Game 14	L10 v L11	(Game 13). Winner = 3 rd & Loser = 4 th
G15	Game 15	W10 v W11	(Game15) Winner = 1 st & Loser = 2 nd

15. Club Umpiring Duties (to be updated for 2025)

- 15.1. That for the 2025 season open grade clubs will be required to provide the names of players that are prepared to umpire up to the numbers in the table below. By doing this we will lessen the issue of games with no umpires. There is the opportunity for these player umpires to be paid as happens now with the payments to umpires and to clubs. Clubs that have named umpires will reduce the number of club umpire names by the number of named umpires.

Clubs	Number of Umpires per club in 2025	
	Teams	Duties (less named umpires)
Bream Bay	5	10
Hikurangi	5	9
Hora Hora	5	10
Kamo High School	1	2
Old Girls	4	6
Maungakaramaea	9	16
Mangapai	8	10
Marist	3	5
Ruatangata	1	2
Springfield	8	14
WBHS	1	2
WGHS	3	6

- 15.1.1. When teams are submitting their players that agree to umpire, they must specify the highest grade that these players would be capable of umpiring
- 15.1.2. Hockey Northland and or Umpires Council will reserve the right to moderate the suitability of the players and highest grade to umpire put forward by teams
- 15.1.3. Teams that are unable to provide the required number of players to umpire may liaise with other teams from within their club to cover any shortfall in numbers
- 15.1.4. These player umpires will be directly contacted when they are appointed to the games.
- 15.1.5. This proposal covers 2025 Winter Open grade season and does not remove or alter teams or clubs requirements to provide umpires for the 2025 Winter Colligate season.
- 15.1.6. Umpires Council will provide umpire education opportunities for these player umpires.
- 15.1.7. Discussions will be undertaken with school teams playing in open grade to see how many player umpires they can supply.

Note if clubs/teams do not provide the numbers requested then it is likely the captains of the respective teams playing will be required to umpire, or for games to be defaulted.

- 15.2. Where teams fulfil umpire duties, the umpire fee will be credited to the club.
- 15.3. Each Premier, Reserve A grade, Reserve B grade, Division 1 grade and Division 2 grade team will be required to supply a minimum of one player to attend umpiring forums (dates listed on page 3). These players will be responsible for organizing their teams allocated open grade umpire appointments. Clubs may look to subsidize these players (Player umpires) as an incentive to get volunteers.
- 15.4. Collegiate clubs are required to supply one representative per club to attend umpiring forums (dates listed on page 3).
- 15.5. The Umpire Appointments Committee is required to distribute team/club umpire allocations as evenly as possible.
- 15.6. Umpiring Allocations: All teams will be required to fulfil their umpire allocations; this may be across all grades. Collegiate umpiring will remain compulsory (teams may elect to umpire all their Collegiate allocation in a block or spread out across the season).
- 15.7. The Umpire Appointment Committee is, to the best of their ability, advise teams and individuals of umpire appointments a minimum of two weeks prior to the fixture.
- 15.8. Umpire coaching is available to the clubs as required, please contact the Hockey Office on (09) 437-3830.
- 15.9. Where there is a complaint around the umpire/umpiring then this needs to be addressed to the Umpires Council Secretary.
- 15.10. Failure to carry out allocated umpiring duties communicated to the club representative by email as required in 14.7 will be penalised
 - 15.10.1. Where short notice (less than two weeks) is given for umpiring duty, the appointment steward shall make personal contact with the team manager (by email or phone). If the appointment steward is given an assurance by the team manager that a team will supply an umpire, and fails to do so, then the team will be penalised as if the 2 weeks' notice had been given (intent of this rule is the obligation to give two weeks' notice is clear, but there is also an obligation to keep one's commitments).

The penalties are:

- 15.10.2. First offence \$50 to be charged out by the office and two (2) additional umpiring duties.
- 15.10.3. Second offence \$50 to be charged out by the office, lose two (2) competition points and two (2) more umpiring appointments
- 15.10.4. The \$50 fines are to be paid to Umpires Council and to be used for umpiring development.

16. Draw

- 16.1. October Club Council Forum – Teams are to indicate whether playing next year. Teams not confirmed or in contact with Hockey Northland around feasibility of having a team will be excluded from the draw (2 weeks from the beginning of the season).
- 16.2. A draw steward will control the overall allocation of the use of turfs for club competitions and practices.
- 16.3. The draw steward is to bear in mind the financial well-being of the Hockey Centre.
- 16.4. The draw steward will be accountable to the Club Council Executive and the Hockey Northland Board
- 16.5. The draw steward will attempt to produce and publish a year's draw in advance for the games run under the auspices of the Whangarei Club Council.

- 16.6. Games to be scheduled with days, fields and times.
- 16.7. Provide a copy of the draw to umpire appointments person for allocation of umpires.
- 16.8. Post a copy of the draw on the Notice Board in the Hockey Centre.
- 16.9. Write up the game game sheets for all matches.
- 16.10. Keep proper records of the scores of all games.
- 16.11. Advise the Chief Executive Officer of suspensions or warning cards given to players as noted on the back of the game sheet.
- 16.12. Advise players and clubs when they achieve nine demerit points.
- 16.13. Advise the relevant Clubs and the Umpires Council of non-attendance of umpires.
- 16.14. Send account for non-attendance of club allocated umpires and further umpiring duties.
- 16.15. The draw steward shall notify the team contact and umpires and the relevant team management of any late changes to fields, dates and times, and it shall be the duty of the team contacts to notify their players.
- 16.16. Priority Turf Allocation
 - 16.16.1. National Team Games
 - 16.16.2. National Team Practices
 - 16.16.3. National Tournaments
 - 16.16.4. Representative Team games
 - 16.16.5. Premier Games
 - Reserve Grade Games
 - Division 1 Games
 - Division 2 Games
 - Collegiate Division 1 Games
 - Collegiate Division 2 Games
 - Collegiate Division 3 Games
 - (All club games are deemed as being equal)
 - 16.16.6. Representative Practices
 - 16.16.7. Club Practices

17. Practices

- 17.1. Teams that over run practice time when lights are operating will be required to pay extra turf fees to cover costs.
- 17.2. Teams that use the facilities without pre-booking shall incur the charges for the time used at double the normal rate.
- 17.3. Teams practicing or playing last at night are to ensure that the turf lights are switched off, scoreboards turned off, dugout lights are switched off, changing rooms secure and gates locked. Hockey Northland reserves the right to recover additional costs from teams that fail to comply with this request.
- 17.4. Damage caused to Hockey Northland facilities or individual's property including neighbours' property (this excludes vehicle damages in Hockey's car park) will be the responsibility of the transgressor to make good repairs or where covered by insurance then the transgressor **may be** required to pay the Insurance excess.
- 17.5. Teams/individuals wishing to practice using the goals are required to use the blue practice circles situated on the sidelines of the main field. (Real Deal Tyres and Currie Electrical Turfs)

18. Uniforms

- 18.1. Uniforms must be worn as registered with the office. All changes to uniforms, and new clubs, must have prior approval from the Chief Executive Officer. Uniform socks must be worn as part of the uniform. **From 2015 onwards photographs of team uniform to be filed electronically in Hockey Northland Office.**
 - 18.1.1. Where a club is purchasing new uniforms then they should try to avoid possible colour clashes or similarities.
 - 18.1.2. Clubs/Teams purchasing new playing strip must have legible numbers on Shirts or Dresses and are required to seek approval for the new uniform from the CEO prior to purchase.
- 18.2. Goalkeepers and umpires are to wear contrasting colours to both teams.
- 18.3. Where teams of the same club play in the same grade one team must undertake to wear alternative gear. This also applies to teams from different clubs having similar colours.
- 18.4. Where there are two clubs with uniforms that appear to cause a clash. The team that is listed on the left side of the draw shall be required to change to an alternate uniform.
- 18.5. Where the two teams in a play-off, semi, of finals match have a colour clash, the team with the higher ranking in the Round Robin competition shall choose the strip (colour) to play in. This team must notify the other team/club and the Hockey Northland office of the choice they have made a minimum of five days prior to the next game.
- 18.6. Clubs/Teams/Umpires that have concerns regarding possible clashes shall bring this to the attention of the Club Council Executive.

19. Fees and Registration: See Hockey Northland Constitution, 7.1 to 7.3

- 19.1. The annual affiliation and game fees for all affiliated groups shall be fixed at the Hockey Northland November Special General Meeting and shall be paid by a date specified annually by the Board. Registration fees and other levies shall also be fixed at this Special General Meeting. Fees may be fixed at different rates for different categories comprising the affiliated groups.
- 19.2. No team belonging to a club that has unpaid fees that are overdue shall be entitled to participate in the play-off series nor the finals.
 - 19.2.1. Teams/Clubs affected by **Rule 18.2** shall not be entitled to any credits for any unplayed games.
 - 19.2.2. No team belonging to a club that has unpaid fees at the end of the round-robin series shall be entitled to issue a promotion/relegation challenge.
 - 19.2.3. Before any player can take part in any of the Association's competitions, he or she must be registered as a member of an affiliated club via the Hockey Northland system in use. Such registration to be applied for in writing to the Chief Executive Officer or respective sub-association secretary no less than six (6) hours before the time of the competition. Registrations stand for the current season only.
 - 19.2.4. Any player that takes the field in a game scheduled by Hockey Northland shall be for financial purposes be deemed as a registered player and the club will be charged accordingly.
 - 19.2.5. Any player that is registered during the season must have all the relevant details submitted via online registration process to the Hockey Northland office before taking the field.

The Board shall have the power to impose penalties against all affiliated groups that are in arrears with any fees or against any members or any affiliated group guilty of any breach of these rules or the regulations governing the Association's competitions.

- 19.3. In addition to any fees fixed by **Rule 18.1** above, the Board shall have the power to pass on to affiliated groups any extra levy charged to the Association by Hockey New Zealand after the Annual General Meeting of the Association
- 19.4. Teams in all open grades are required to register their players prior to the first game of their competition (byes are irrelevant) electronically. The teams must furnish all the required information on each of the players. Failure to do so will result in the teams forfeiting the games they play until the players are registered electronically. Minimum number of registered players to be registered online 1 week before the competition starts.
- 19.5. Where a member wishes to keep his or her details private, please contact the Hockey Northland Draw steward for assistance.
- 19.6. **Policy for Affiliation and Match Fees and Practice Fee**
- 19.7. **(Ratified at the February 2007 Board Meeting)**
 - All Open grades affiliation and match fees will be invoiced as soon as possible after teams and draw are finalised. The payment date will be the 31st of May of the year of invoice for affiliation and match fees.
 - All Collegiate grades affiliation and match fees will be invoiced as soon as possible after teams and draw are finalised. The payment date will be the 31st of May of the year of invoice for affiliation and match fees.
 - All JMC grades affiliation and match fees will be invoiced as soon as possible after teams and draw are finalised. The payment date will be the 31st of May of the year of invoice for affiliation and match fees.
 - All practice fees will be charged monthly and are payable by the 20th of the following month
 - That 2% per month interest be charged on any outstanding balances after the above payment dates unless prior arrangement is made with the CEO. Such requests will be made in writing and the CEO, or their representative will respond in writing setting out the terms arranged.
 - Failure to fulfil any arrangements made with the CEO or their representative will result in the 2% per month interest being charged to the club.

20. First Aid

- 20.1. Please be advised that there is an AED in the yellow AED box situated outside the umpires room (middle of the building downstairs facing RDT turf).
- 20.2. All teams should provide basic first aid as may be needed.
- 20.3. Team Managers, Coaches and players should be encouraged to attend first aid and sports medicine courses.
- 20.4. Hockey Northland will offer Clubs a Hockey related First Aid Course early in the season. Ice should be available from canteen or bar.
- 20.5. Each team is encouraged to have their own First Aid Kit.
- 20.6. Hockey Northland supports the Hockey New Zealand Concussion Awareness Policy. Hockey Northland views head injuries as potentially very serious and requests that Clubs, team coaches, managers and game officials closely monitor any player/umpire that sustains a head injury during a match or any other time. Head injuries can cause serious long-term issues and common sense should prevail. Any player that has a suspected concussion must provide a medical clearance to the Hockey Northland CEO admin@northlandhockey.org.nz) prior to playing again.

See HNZ Concussion awareness policy in Appendix 6.

We will be using this document and the processes within it, in the event that a participant sustains a head injury.

21. Whangarei ITM Hockey Centre Rules

- 21.1. This facility is a valuable asset owned by all hockey members. Please treat it with respect.
- 21.2. Attention is drawn to the rules (listed below) for the Whangarei ITM Hockey Centre.
- 21.3. In particular, all turf games **will run to time**. This means that if you start late, for whatever reason, then you will not have the full game time, your game **MUST** finish allowing the following game to start on time. (Playoffs are an exception)
- 21.4. Entrance and exit to the Northland Hockey Centre is via main pedestrian gateway.
- 21.5. Entrance and exit to turfs via the dugout gateways only or from the JMC practice pitch on Grandstand turf. Do not jump over, or sit on the hoarding fence.
- 21.6. The dugout is for the players and team officials only – **no spectators or children are permitted in the dugout, team management to enforce**. Use the dugout for storage of gear, bags etc. No gear allowed on the sideline.
- 21.7. Substitutes and team officials should remain in dugout unless a substitution is being made
- 21.8. No warming up on turf while game(s) in progress.
- 21.9. All gates (including dugout gates) to the turf must be closed during play.
- 21.10. Turfs will be sufficiently watered prior to the first practice / competition game of the day. After this, it is the duty of team management to make requests to water to the bar staff.
- 21.11. Electronic scoreboards; Remote control will be available in the dugout, teams to enter their game details prior to the match. Goals to be entered by the team manager/s during the game (Umpires to check halftime score is correct).
- 21.12. Abusive or foul language will not be tolerated and may result in expulsion from the Complex.
- 21.13. Spectators must remain behind the hoarding fence.
- 21.14. Please use rubbish bins provided in dugouts. This includes drink bottles.
- 21.15. Lost property will be hung on the rack outside the men's changing room or in the tunnel. Please only take what is yours.
- 21.16. No food/drink on turfs and in indoor training centre. This includes chewing gum, oranges.
- 21.17. All footwear must be clean. Players that have warmed up on the grass will need to clean their footwear prior to entering the turf. Scrubbing brushes are located by the taps near the entrance of the dugouts. No sharp footwear on surface.
- 21.18. Only players involved in current game may practice at half time.
- 21.19. Damage caused to Hockey Northland facilities or individual's property may be the responsibility of the transgressor to make good repairs or cover the insurance excess.
- 21.20. Hockey New Zealand 'Blood Policy' applies. For injuries which involve blood: the player(s) must leave the field and have the wound covered. Any blood on the turf surface must be cleaned off (alcohol solution and cloth available at the dugout, canteen, bar, office, turf shop, umpires room) and the player must change any article of uniform which is blood stained before recommencing playing.
- 21.21. Hockey Northland Complex is completely Smoke free and Vape-free
- 21.22. No skateboards, bikes, rollerblades, or scooters to be used in the Complex.
- 21.23. No hockey/rugby/soccer balls etc. to be used on concrete or asphalt area.
- 21.24. No animals (dogs, sheep etc.) allowed in the Complex, due to Whangarei District Councils bylaws of "NO Dogs" on Kensington Park.

- 21.25. Please ensure that if you are the last to leave the Complex then you need to make the facility secure. This includes turning off changing room lights, turf lights and locking changing rooms and main gate. (If you are unsure, ring the duty person displayed on front door of Complex and office window).
- 21.26. Teams must book training times with the Hockey Northland office to use the indoor training centre or turfs.
- 21.27. Bookings with office required for use of upstairs facility. Teams/groups are instructed to lock up after they leave if they are the last to use it.
- 21.28. Parents will be held accountable for their children's actions that result in damage to the facility.
- 21.29. Unauthorised removal of Hockey Northland property will be deemed as theft.
- 21.30. Unauthorised use of facilities will result in charges to group or individuals at twice the current club rate.
- 21.31. All association patrons shall have a responsible attitude while using the lounge.
- 21.32. Where a junior (JMC) team is using the lounge, an adult will be required to be in charge of those junior players.
- 21.33. A reasonable standard of dress is required in the lounge – we insist that footwear is clean and the wearing of playing gear is discouraged.
- 21.34. Spillage of food/drink – please ask at the bar for something to clear up any spillage. Use rubbish bins provided.
- 21.35. Vinyl covered chairs only to be used on balcony. Chairs are to be returned to lounge when finished.
- 21.36. **No alcohol is to be brought into the Complex - No exceptions**
- 21.37. No drinking of alcohol in the car park.
- 21.38. All alcohol is to be purchased from the bar.
 - 21.38.1. PlayHQ membership must be presented on request at the bar (Liquor Licence requirement)
 - 21.38.2. 2025 PlayHQ is used to ID the players membership. The players details must belong to the person that is the member e.g. cannot be registered by a club management.
- 21.39. Bar manager is responsible for appropriate standard of patron's behaviour in lounge while operating the bar. Inappropriate behaviour including swearing or abusive language will result in you being asked to leave the premises.
- 21.40. Players must not place stick bags in the doorways as these are fire exits and blocking these contravenes our liquor license requirements. Please do not be upset if someone moves your stick bag
- 21.41. Please tidy up after yourselves by placing rubbish in containers provided and returning glasses etc. to the bar.
- 21.42. Players are required to change into dry clothes if they have played in wet weather. Otherwise we do not want you sitting on the chairs if you have not changed.
- 21.43. Please report to the Bar any damaged items you notice.
- 21.44. Match officials, Association officials and HN Staff will ensure that rules above are adhered to. (RESPECT YOUR FACILITY).
- 21.45. Where conflict arises, please discuss issue in a rational manner with staff and if not fully satisfied contact the CEO or the Hockey Northland office.

22. Judicial Committee

- 22.1. Judicial Committee shall comprise of any three of the following that are available at the time for a Judicial Meeting
- Jill Christie
 - Raewyn Douglas
 - Sandy McKenzie
 - Sue Shepherd
 - Murray Lints
 - Ngaire Graham
 - Dave Wilkinson
 - Jackie Lints
- 22.2. The Committee shall be bound by the judiciary rules (Code of Conduct) of Hockey Northland and Hockey New Zealand.
- 22.3. The Chairman for the meeting shall be elected from the Judicial members present.
- 22.4. Where a complaint is lodged with the Judiciary at least two members of the committee shall be given the complaint to decide whether there is a case to be heard or not. These members may decide to convene a Judicial Hearing, hold a mediation meeting, or decide there is no case to answer to.

23. Policies for Clubs

- 23.1. **All teams, which may be away at tournament during their competition, should state the dates of their absence, at the time of registration, so the committees may consider subsidiary competitions for these times.**
- 23.2. Clubs/individuals wishing to suggest rule changes must supply the Hockey Northland office with a briefing paper 3 weeks prior to any Club Council Forum meeting. Such papers will then be forwarded (at least two weeks prior to the meeting) to the clubs for them to discuss and vote according to the clubs wishes. Submissions will only be considered at the latest, at the October Club Council Forum to avoid any disruption to the decisions for rules which are confirmed at the February meeting for the upcoming season.
- 23.2.1 Any alterations to the Club Council Policy rules or issues regarding team entry into a competition outside the existing procedures (refer rules 1. Grading and 2. Promotion/Relegation) will need a 75% agreement of all the clubs present at the Club Council Forum. Each registered club with a representative present is entitled to one (1) vote only.
- 23.3. Any complaints from an individual, club or committee, regarding the draw or allocation of fields' dates and times, should be in writing to the Draw Steward with a copy to the Club Council.
- 23.4. Disputes/Grievances in writing from club secretary to Club Council Executive via the office. These will be passed on to the Chairperson of the Club Council Executive and will be dealt with at their next scheduled meeting
- 23.5. Where three or more letters of Disputes/Grievances are received regarding the same issue the Club Council Executive shall meet within one week where possible and deal with the issue.
- 23.6. Appeals Process
- 23.6.1 Where a club wishes to appeal a decision made by the Club Council Executive, the first course of action will be to appeal to the Club Council Executive. This will involve a face-to-face meeting.

- 23.6.2 Where the appeal is declined by the Club Council Executive, the club may appeal to the Appeals Committee (this will be made up from the Judicial Committee current members).
- 23.6.3 Where a team/club disputes a decision and wishes to appeal, then such appeals need to be submitted within 10 days of the decision.
- 23.6.4 Appeals will cost \$100.00.
- 23.6.5 The decision of the "Appeals Committee" is final and binding on all parties and there shall be no further right of appeal.

Penalties Table		
Rule	Rule & Explanation	Penalty
3.3	There shall be no movement of players between teams in the same grade.	Forfeit of game
3.4	Players may only play for one open grade club. The exception to this is 3.8 "Where a College/High School does not have a team in the Premier competition/s then players wishing to play for their school may also play premier hockey" or 3.15 the clubs are aligned.	Forfeit of game
3.8	Playing Up: Any player may play up one team only, up to seven (7) times, if they play another game (8th) then they must stay up in that grade. This means that players may only play in 2 teams per year except under rule 3.17).	8th , 9 th matches and so on teams will forfeit the matches the player plays in.
3.12	No player is permitted to play in two or more games or be named on two or more game cards where the games are played simultaneously.	Both teams that the player/s plays for shall forfeit the games
3.20	To be eligible to play in the Senior Men's and Women's competition players must be in Year 9 or above.	Forfeit of game
3.23	Playing ineligible players will result in teams forfeiting the matches that those ineligible players played in.	Forfeit the match/s
3.13.1	Where a team / club registers a player late in the year (4 weeks or under to go to playoffs) to play in a lower grade team and the player also plays in a higher grade, the players game number shall reflect only the games he or she has played in the team he or she has been registered in.	Forfeit of game
4.1.1	Players turning up late or unexpectedly must be written on the card prior to taking the field	1 st offence warning 2 nd offence warning 3 rd & subsequent offences lose 2 competition points
4.1.2	Players written on the card but not taking the field shall be crossed off the game card by the captain of the team before it is signed at the end of the match	1 st offence warning 2 nd offence warning 3 rd & subsequent offences lose 2 competition points
4.1.4	Teams may name (on the card) up to a maximum of sixteen (16) players only for each game. (unfair to use more players than the opposition have)	1 st offence warning 2 nd offence warning 3 rd & subsequent offences lose 2 competition points
4.5	Game sheets not filled out correctly. Teams failing to complete the game card correctly will be given a warning on the first and second occurrences that this happens (and they will be notified each time that they make a mistake). Subsequent breaches will result in the team losing two (2) competition points. This is for all competition games. Leniency will be given to minor name errors (e.g. Kath should be Cath).	1 st offence warning 2 nd offence warning 3 rd & subsequent offences lose 2 competition points
4.5	Highlight (or asterisk) the players that are not registered to the team (i.e. coming up from lower) on game card, this is to also include collegiate players and players from aligned clubs.	1 st offence warning 2 nd offence warning 3 rd & subsequent offences lose 2 competition points
4.7	The team representative/captain of each team is required to check that the game sheet is correctly filled in and to check that players listed actually played in the game. They then sign the game sheet as a true and correct record of the game. The signature has to be legible.	1 st offence warning 2 nd offence warning 3 rd & subsequent offences lose 2 competition points

1. Purpose

- 1.1 Hockey is a fast, exciting, global sport popular in New Zealand, and suitable for all age groups. It is through discipline, commitment, mutual respect, and a sense of sportsmanship, that the spirit of the game is allowed to advance. Fellowship, camaraderie and a sense of fair play are essential to the game's on-going success.
- 1.2 For the sport to succeed, it is important that Participants observe rules, respect the principles of fair play, and maintain high standards of behaviour, both on and off the field. A willingness to adhere to these standards will ensure the sport remains an enjoyable and safe recreational and/or competitive option for all Participants at all levels of the game.
- 1.3 This Code of Conduct is established for the purpose of:
 - a. Setting the standards of conduct required by Participants; and
 - b. Providing a process for addressing breaches of this Code of Conduct in a fair and consistent manner.

2. Status of Code

- 2.1 This Code of Conduct was adopted by the Board on **18th April 2017**, in accordance with Rule [insert rule) of the Constitution, and replaces all previous Association codes of conduct.
- 2.2 Nothing in this Code of Conduct waives or limits the right of the Board to make its own enquiries or to impose any sanction, that it has authority to impose under the Constitution.

3. Scope and Application

- 3.1 This Code of Conduct is applicable to the following persons, referred to as Participants:

Any person including, but not limited to, players, umpires, officials, coaches, coaching staff, managers, player spectators, medical staff, technical support, video staff, and any duly appointed team representatives participating in:

 - (i) any matches, practices, competitions, events, functions, celebrations or ceremonies run under the jurisdiction of the Association
 - (ii) any matches, practices, competitions, events, functions, celebrations or ceremonies that the Participant is involved in on a regional basis.
 - (iii) together the ("Competitions")
- 3.2 The standards of conduct, set out in this Code of Conduct, apply to Participants on-field and off-field conduct.
- 3.3 The terms of this Code, including any sanctions, will apply regardless of whether criminal investigations or any criminal or civil court proceedings have been instigated by any party and notwithstanding the outcome of any such investigations or proceedings.

- 3.4 This Code of Conduct will not apply to Participants where:
- a. The Sports Tribunal has jurisdiction to determine matters under Hockey New Zealand's Anti-Doping Policy.
 - b. Any allegation of misconduct against a Participant, arising out of circumstances where he/she is involved in a tournament held on or behalf of Hockey New Zealand, sanctioned by FIH or controlled by a Continental Federation or by the International Olympic Committee, in which case the relevant code of conduct and disciplinary rules will apply.
 - c. Any allegations of misconduct outside of sub-clauses **3.2**.
- 3.5 The standards of conduct, set out in clause **5 (Standards of Conduct)**, do apply to all individual players, umpires, officials, coaches, managers, or other persons, who have been selected or appointed to a national squad, team, or position, by Hockey New Zealand during his or her participation in a Competition but who may be covered by the Memorandum of Understanding between Hockey New Zealand and the Hockey Players' Association Incorporated ("MOU"). However, any allegation of off-field Misconduct, as set out in this Code of Conduct, will be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the MOU and not this Code of Conduct.

4. DEFINITIONS

- 4.1 The following words and phrases, used in this Code of Conduct, shall mean as follows:

"Association" means Hockey Northland

"Anti-Doping Policy" has the meaning given to it in the Hockey New Zealand constitution.

"Appeal" has the meaning given to it in clause 13.1.

"Board" means the Board of Association or Association Committee.

"Chief Executive" means the Chief Executive Officer or other duly appointed Chair, President or Manager appointed pursuant to the Association Constitution.

"Club Council Executive" means the group elected at the relevant Club Council Forum

"Competition" has the meaning given to it in clause 3.1.

"Complaint" has the meaning given to it in clause Error! Reference source not found.6.2

"Constitution" means the Rules of Association.

"FIH" means the International Hockey Federation.

"Guideline for Suspension Offences" means the guidelines and recommendations for penalties in relation to Suspension Offences as set out in Schedule 1.

"Guidelines on Process for Hearing and Determining any Complaint, Protest and Appeal" means the guidelines for any Judicial Committee for hearing and determining Complaints or Protests as set out in Schedule 2.

"Hockey New Zealand" means The New Zealand Federation of Hockey Incorporated

"Judicial Committee" means the Association Judicial Committee(s) appointed in accordance with **clause 9** (Association Judicial Committee).

"Jury of Appeal" means the Association Jury of Appeal(s) appointed in accordance with clause 13.4.

"Legitimate Protests" means incorrectly handled aspects of a procedural nature or related to a technical mistake in a match, which impacts on the outcome of a match, including but not limited to:

- a. A suspended player interfering with play;
- b. A significant incident, that affects the outcome not seen by or dealt with by the umpires and/or officials;
- c. A non-registered or ineligible player;
- d. Excessive over-run or shortage of time when both umpires or the technical bench have been negligent; and
- e. Incorrect end to a half or game e.g. non-completion of a penalty corner.

"Misconduct" has the meaning given to it in Clause 5.

“On-Field” means ball-related rules and interpretations (including but not limited to goals awarded, penalty strokes/shootouts, free hits and other decisions relating to play that are encountered during a hockey match and/or the awarding of green and yellow cards (except where an error has been made e.g. the awarding of a card to the wrong person) but does not include Legitimate Protests.

“Participants” has the meaning given to it in clause **3.1**

“Protest” has the meaning given to it in clause **7.3**

“Public Statements” means any statement in which the whole, part, or essence, is made public. Such a statement may be made in a newspaper, magazine, periodical, or by any electronic media (internet, email, social media etc.), or other means through the medium of television, radio, or in any other manner whatsoever, regardless of the circumstances in which the statement was made.

“Rules of Hockey” means the laws for playing the game of hockey as approved by FIH.

“Suspension Offences” includes Level 1 Suspension Offences, Level 2 Suspension Offences, Level 3 Suspension Offences and Serious Suspension Offences as each of these are defined and set out in Schedule 1.

5. Standards of Conduct

- 5.1 All Participants shall, at all times, conduct themselves fairly and in a proper manner, including maintaining a high standard of personal conduct, so as not to prejudice the interests of hockey or bring themselves, the game of hockey, or Association, into disrepute.
- 5.2 In addition, the following shall be regarded as conduct which is improper, unfair and unacceptable:
- a. Verbal or physical abuse, or hostility, towards any other Participant, person or any other member of the public.
 - b. Disputing, protesting or reacting in a provocative or disapproving manner, in an inappropriate way, toward any decision made by an umpire or official.
 - c. Charging or advancing towards an umpire or technical official in an aggressive manner while appealing.
 - d. Using rude or abusive language or hand signals.
 - e. Abuse of any hockey equipment, or clothing, or venue equipment.
 - f. Failure to attend media conferences as requested, or failure to meet ceremonial obligations.
 - g. Any verbal or physical abuse, or hostility, towards any anti-doping officials, ball attendants or other support personnel.
 - h. Making any detrimental Public Statements, in respect of any Participant, person or other member public.
 - i. Committing any Suspension Offence.
- 5.3 Participants shall not participate in, support, or promote, any form of betting or gaming activities, including online betting or gaming activities or betting with another person, related to the event in which they are a Participant.
- 5.4 Participants shall not accept or induce a bribe or corrupt payment or otherwise allegedly agree to manipulate results in any way or give inside information for betting purposes.
- 5.5 Participants are required to adhere to the dress standards as specified in any Association Tournament Rules.
- 5.6 Breach of any of the standards of conduct, set out in this clause **5**, is regarded as “Misconduct”.
-

6. Complaints

- 6.1 An allegation of Misconduct can be made, by any person to the Chief Executive.
- 6.2 The allegation of Misconduct should set out in writing, in as much detail as possible:
- the nature of the incident;
 - the persons involved;
 - the date(s) and time(s) when the alleged Misconduct occurred,
 - together ("the Complaint").
- 6.3 Nothing in this Code of Conduct prevents the Chief Executive initiating an investigation, in his/her own right, if he/she considers there has been Misconduct.
- 6.4 The lodging of a complaint to the Chief Executive should be carried out within two weeks of the incident occurring, at which point the Chief Executive may use their own discretion whether or not to consider the complaint.

7. Protests

- 7.1 Written Protests relating to the outcome of a match, or an issue arising from the awarding or non-awarding of a red card, or accumulation of penalty points, can be made by any Participant to the Chief Executive, provided such Protest is lodged within 24 hours after the end of a match or end of a stand-alone shoot-out competition.
- Where disruption to a match is the cause for a protest the protest shall be forwarded to the Club Council Executive who shall consider the protest
- 7.2 A fee of \$100, or such other amount as set by Association from time to time, must accompany the written protest.
- 7.3 The Protest should set out in writing, in as much detail as possible:
- the nature of the incident;
 - the persons involved;
 - the date(s) and time(s) on which the incident occurred,

together ("the Protest").

- 7.4 No Protest may be considered by the Judicial Committee/Club Council Executive regarding an umpire's On-Field decision.

8. Structure of the Judicial Provisions

- 8.1 The judicial provisions in this Code of Conduct are divided into three parts:
- Part A** which apply to matters relating to Competitions;
 - Part B** contains the penalties available for Misconduct; and
 - Part C** contains the Appeal provisions.

PART A – COMPETITIONS

9. Association Judicial Committee

- 9.1 After investigating the alleged misconduct, and concluding that a hearing may be required, the Chief Executive will appoint a Judicial Committee to consider and determine Complaints and

Protests ("Judicial Committee"), with the exception of protests surrounding the disruption of a match that will be heard by the Club Council executive

- 9.2 The Judicial Committee shall consist of a minimum of three (3) persons including a Chairperson, appointed by the Chief Executive.

10. Proceedings of Judicial Committee

- 10.1 On receipt of a Complaint or Protest, the Judicial Committee/Club Council Executive shall conduct a hearing in accordance with the Guidelines to Process for Hearing and Determining Any Complaint, Protest or Appeal, unless in their sole discretion, a hearing is not warranted.
- 10.2 All proceedings (including the hearing and decision) before the Judicial Committee/Club Council Executive are confidential to the parties unless the Judicial Committee directs otherwise. In the case of a decision involving a sanction, the details of the charge, verdict and sanction will be communicated to the wider hockey community.
- 10.3 Each party shall be responsible for their own costs (if any) associated with the hearing.

11. The Decision

- 11.1 After the hearing of a Complaint, the Judicial Committee/Club Council Executive shall:
- dismiss the matter if it finds that Misconduct has not been committed;
 - issue such penalty as it thinks fit, in accordance with clause **12**. (Penalties and Recommendations) if it finds that Misconduct has occurred;
 - refer the Complaint to the Board for hearing and determination, in accordance with Rule 34.2 of the Constitution, where the Judicial Committee, in its sole discretion, concludes that a hearing, and determination by the Board, may be more appropriate in the circumstances; and/or
 - refer the matter to the Police.
- 11.2 After the hearing of a Protest, the Judicial Committee/Club Council Executive shall determine:
- whether the Protest should be dismissed; or
 - whether the Protest should be upheld and take such action as it thinks fit.
- 11.3 All Decisions of the Judicial Committee/Club council Executive shall be final and binding on the parties, except where the provisions of clause 13.1 apply.

12. Penalties Available for Judicial Committee

- 12.1 If the Judicial Committee finds that Misconduct has occurred, it may impose any one or more of the following penalties:
- a. a warning or reprimand;
 - b. require the Participant to make a formal apology;
 - c. suspension from such activities of the Association, including competitions (local or national), events, meetings, and other functions, for such period(s) and on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit;
 - d. exclusion from a particular competition activity, meeting, event, or events of Association;
 - e. demotion or removal from any position or function granted by Association or as a representative of Association;
 - f. the cancellation of results of a competition or event (including team results if the Judicial Committee considers it appropriate to do so);
 - g. reparation and/or compensation by way of monetary payment to the complainant and/or other parties involved in the matter, in an amount and in such manner as the Judicial Committee thinks fit;
 - h. fines imposed in such manner, and in such amount(s), as the Judicial Committee thinks fit; and/or
 - i. such other penalty as the Judicial Committee considers commensurate with the offence.
- 12.2 In addition to the penalties set out in clause **12.1a** above, where the Misconduct is a Suspension Offence, the Judicial Committee may award penalty points or suspend for 1-3 weeks or more for participants who, in the Judicial Committee's opinion, have committed a Suspension Offence whether before, during or after a match. Suspensions under this rule include all games that the suspended player was due to play irrespective of grade/s when considering penalties for a Suspension Offence, the Judicial Committee must follow the Guidelines for Suspension Offences outlined in Schedule 1.

PART C – APPEALS

13. Appeals

- 13.1 A party to a decision of the Judicial Committee may appeal such decision, to a Jury of Appeal ("Appeal"), only on one or more of the following grounds:
- natural justice was denied;
 - the decision-maker or decision-making body acted outside of its powers and/or jurisdiction (i.e. acted ultra vires);
 - the sanction imposed by the Judicial Committee was inconsistent with the Guidelines for Suspension Offences.
 - substantial new evidence became available after the decision by the Judicial Committee was made.
- 13.2 An Appeal must be made in writing to the Chief Executive of Hockey New Zealand accompanied by a fee of \$300, within one week of the release of the Judicial Committee decision.
- 13.3 Hockey New Zealand will appoint a Jury of Appeal to hear and determine appeals ("Jury of Appeal") of a Judicial Committee where one of the grounds in clause 13.1 exists.
- 13.4 A Jury of Appeal shall consist of three persons, including a chairperson.
- 13.5 Any person who has taken part in any previous proceedings, in relation to the matter under appeal, must not be appointed to the relevant Jury of Appeal.
- 13.6 The Appeal is not by way of a re-hearing of the evidence but is limited to a review of the matters set out in clause 13.1. However, in exceptional circumstances, the Jury of Appeal may choose to re-hear the matter on a de novo basis. In this case, they may re-consider substantive issues at their discretion where they deem this necessary to fulfil the requirements of natural justice.
- 13.7 Appellants need to be clear that clear evidence will need to be provided to substantiate any claims made by the appellant.
- 13.8 Where a player feels that he/she has been unfairly treated in the issuing of a Red card the player may request a hearing to put forward his/her case.

14. Proceedings of the Jury of Appeal

- 14.1 On receipt of an Appeal, the Jury of Appeal shall conduct a hearing in accordance with the Guidelines to Process for Hearing and Determining Any Complaint, Protest or Appeal.
- 14.2 All proceedings (including the hearing and decision) before the Jury of Appeal are confidential to the parties unless the Jury of Appeal directs otherwise. In the case of a decision involving a sanction, the details of the charge, verdict and sanction will be communicated to the wider hockey community. Each party shall be responsible for their own costs (if any) associated with the hearing.

15. The Decision

- 15.1 After the hearing of an Appeal, the Jury of Appeal has the power to:
- allow or dismiss the Appeal;
 - vary the decision of the Judicial Committee;
 - increase, decrease, remit, or otherwise vary, any penalty included in the decision of the Judicial Committee;
 - impose such other penalty or sanction as it deems fit;
 - make an order that the appeal fee be refunded or forfeited; and/or

f. make an order for costs against any party.

15.2 The decision of the Jury of Appeal is final and binding on all parties and there shall be no further right of appeal.

Adopted by the Association Board on 18th April 2017

SCHEDULE 1 - Guideline for Suspension Offences

The purpose of this guideline is to determine appropriate penalties for Judicial Committees to adhere to.

1. Penalty Point Accumulation System

Clubs in agreement at Club Council Forum 01/11/2021

Intent of amendment

Addition of Team penalty Point Accumulation System

Teams play a major part in the acceptable levels of on field team culture and conduct of players during a game. We believe by introducing this rule teams will play a major part in the lifting of the on field and off field conduct of players and team management.

This proposed amendment is that the adoption of a point's accumulation system based on the awarding of coloured cards by umpires be in relation to teams also.

Team Penalty Point Accumulation System

The Association adopts a team penalty point accumulation system based on the awarding of coloured cards by umpires. This proposal is that if players in a team accumulate a combined 15 penalty points based on the awarding of coloured cards by umpires during games in the championship, then a team will be deducted one competition ladder point. Individual penalty points will stay with the player that incurred them but the team penalty points will stay within the grade and team in which the penalty point/s were incurred in.

These accumulated points are not reset after the loss of the initial ladder point but shall continue to accumulate. If a team then accumulates an additional 10 points (total 25 points) they will have another competition ladder point deducted.

Every 10 points accumulated by players in a team after the initial 15 point threshold will incur an additional loss of a Championship ladder points for the team.

As with individual cards the issuing of a card carries points, which can be awarded by umpires to any Participant including team management associated with the team during a match (which is defined as the period 30 minutes prior to the start of a match until 30 minutes after the match has ended).

Each card will carry penalty points as follows for team:

Green	1 Point.
Yellow	3 to 6 Points as determined by the umpires at the end of the match.
Red	12 points. Automatic suspension of 3 weeks with no judicial hearing required. The suspension may be increased if additional sanctions are applied through the outcome of a judicial process.

Participants accumulating 12 points (through receiving green and/or yellow cards) during a

Competition will automatically be suspended for 7 days and cannot play in all games that the participant would ordinarily play or is scheduled to play within that time frame with no judicial hearing needed. Note: Players that play across multiple grades will not be able to play across any of them until the suspension is deemed to have been served irrespective of points awarded in each grade.

If a game or games are scheduled outside of the 7 day suspension timeframe, or is not played for whatever reason during this timeframe the suspension will be extended until such time as the player serves the intended suspension. The intent is the appropriate penalty is served by the player; it is also felt that a suspended player would not turn out to play in another grade while under suspension.

Further action may be taken at the discretion of the Judicial Committee. Following the suspension, six points will remain credited to the Participant, and shall remain on the record of the Participant for the rest of the calendar year (31 December)."

Team Penalty Point Accumulation System for the Finals Rounds

Ladder points are not accumulated in any grade finals games, therefore penalty points accumulated during these games by players will carry over to the next season staying with the team in which the penalty point/s were incurred in.

As with the championship games the individual penalty points will also stay with the player who incurred them until the point's expiration date.

Where a red card has been awarded to a Participant, the Judicial Committee may decide a hearing is required and, if so, the offender is invited to attend the hearing. The Tournament Director or Judicial Committee may impose whatever penalty or suspension they consider appropriate.

Following the suspension, a minimum of six points will remain credited to the Participant, and shall remain on the record of the Participant, for the rest of the calendar year. If the Participant had accumulated more than six points before the issuing of the red card, then these points will remain on record.

Penalty points are allocated to a particular individual, even when they are participating in a number of grades or competitions within an Association or region. When outlining the details of a sanction to a Participant(s), the Judicial Committee will indicate that the suspension applies to all grades/competitions that the player plays in. In the case of a card being awarded to the wrong player, or any other situation where the Judicial Committee concludes that a gross error or an injustice has occurred, the Judicial Committee may, in its discretion, retract the card and make the appropriate adjustments to the documentation and accumulated points total.

Penalty points accumulated during local Association or regional competitions will not be carried over into national competitions and Vice Versa. A suspension means that a suspended player is suspended from all organised hockey games for the duration of the suspension. A suspended player may still participate in training but may not take part in coaching or be on the bench for the duration of the suspension.

2. **Level 1 Suspension Offence:**

- 2.1 The penalty for a Level 1 Suspension Offence may be a suspension of the Participant for one to three weeks.
- 2.2 For the purposes of the Code of Conduct "*Level 1 Suspension Offence*" means but is not necessarily limited to :
- a. Verbal abuse or hostility towards any other Participant, person or spectator.
 - b. Spitting at another Participant, person or spectator.
 - c. Disputing/protesting, reacting in a provocative or disapproving manner in an inappropriate way toward any decision made by an umpire or official.
 - d. Charging or advancing towards an umpire or technical official in an aggressive manner.
 - e. Excessive appealing of an umpire's decision.
 - f. Throwing a stick or ball at, or near, a player, umpire, or official, in an inappropriate and/or dangerous manner.
 - g. Inappropriate physical contact between players.
 - h. Using rude or abusive language, or gestures that are considered to be obscene, offensive, or insulting.
 - i. Minor sexual harassment, sexual inferences or undertones.
 - j. Racial comments, inferences or undertones.
 - k. Abuse of hockey equipment or clothing, venue equipment or fixtures and fittings.
 - l. Team managers and/or team personnel not taking control of the conduct of their team bench, dugout area, coaching boxes, video towers and other areas specified by the Association to ensure their team and spectator behaviour is appropriate.
 - m. Making public statements that are not fair, constructive or reasonable and involve a personal attack on another player, umpire, appointed official or administrator.
 - n. Engaging in social media activities that are not deemed constructive and/or are offensive, demeaning or intending to belittle Participants, or other members of the hockey community.
- 2.3 Table 1 summarises a range of Level 1 Suspension Offences and gives guidance about the number of matches an offender should stand-down for. Additional considerations should include attitude of the offender, degree of remorse and degree of harm inflicted.

Table 1

Description of Breach or Misconduct	Number of match stand-downs		
	1-3 weeks <i>e.g. Provoked, high levels of remorse. No harm inflicted.</i>	1-3 weeks <i>e.g. Unprovoked</i>	1-3 weeks <i>e.g. Intentional with malice. No remorse.</i>
Verbal abuse, protesting, charging/advancing, appealing, stick throwing, rude language and gestures, harassment, equipment abuse, unsporting behaviour	Without intention to cause harm Evidence of 'mischievous' rather than cruel or nasty	Without responsibility and with no care about impact on other people	Intended to cause harm, be hurtful or offensive Coming from a distance repeating words and gestures
Spitting (spittle does not connect with target person)	With no intent to spit on another person	Careless and irresponsible	With intent to spit on another person, but unsuccessful
Inappropriate conduct with regard to Manager's responsibilities, public statements and social media activities and postings	'Honest' mistake No harm intended Evidence of naivety or lack of understanding	Without responsibility and with no care about impact on other people	Malicious negligence and unwilling to accept responsibility Intention to be hurtful or demeaning

3. Level 2 Suspension Offence:

- 3.1 The penalty for a Level 2 Suspension Offence may be suspension of the Participant for a minimum of three weeks to a maximum of eight weeks.
- 3.2 For the purposes of the Code of Conduct "*Level 2 Suspension Offence*" means but is not necessarily limited to:
- Threat of assault on an umpire or official.
 - Spitting on another player, Participant or spectator.
 - Striking and/or physical assault, without serious injury, of another player, umpire, official or spectator.
 - Persistent and deliberate breach of the Rules of Hockey (generally considered dangerous and intimidating) following a warning from an umpire.
 - Using language or gestures which seriously offends, insults, intimidates, threatens, disparages or vilifies another person on the basis of that person's race, religion, gender, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin.
 - Sexual harassment, racial abuse or verbal attacks
 - Participating in, or any involvement with any form of betting or gaming activities, including online betting or gaming activities, related to the event in which they are Participants.
 - Recurrent breaches of Level 1 Suspension Offence.
- 3.3 Table 2 summarises a range of Level 2 Suspension Offence and gives guidance about the number of matches an offender should stand-down for. Additional considerations should include attitude of the offender, degree of remorse and degree of harm inflicted.

Table 2

Description of Breach or Misconduct	Number of match stand-downs		
	3 - 4 weeks <i>e.g. Provoked, high levels of remorse. No harm inflicted.</i>	5 - 6 weeks <i>e.g. Unprovoked</i>	7 - 8 weeks <i>e.g. Intentional with malice. No remorse. Harm inflicted</i>
Threatening, dangerous or intimidating behaviour	Related to a close contest between opposition players and the ball Excessive, relentless	Coming from a distance to incite violence Actions result in escalation of incident	Actions start a brawl or nasty, objectionable scene
Spitting (spittle connects with target person)	Evidence of frustration or provocation	Unprovoked Malicious	Combined with nasty, hateful, spiteful or repulsive language or gestures
Striking, physical assault (without serious injury)	Evidence of frustration or provocation	Strike to mid/lower body region such as stomach or legs	Deliberate with intent to harm Strike to the head region with stick or fist
Foul language, gestures, sexual harassment and racial abuse	Distasteful or unsavoury	Nasty, mean, spiteful or vindictive	Intended to be hurtful or offensive Inciting violence
Inappropriate conduct with regard to betting and/or gaming	'Honest' mistake Evidence of naivety or lack of understanding	Deliberate act Irresponsible and negligent	Involved in organised money making activities

4. Level 3 Suspension Offence:

- 4.1 The penalty for a Level 3 Suspension Offence may be suspension of the Participant for a minimum of eight weeks to a maximum of twenty weeks.
- 4.2 For the purposes of the Code of Conduct "*Level 3 Suspension Offence*" means but is not necessarily limited to:
- Any act of violence on or off the field of play.
 - Physical assault causing serious bodily injury to another player, umpire, official or spectator.
 - Match fixing involvement or activities
 - Recurrent breaches of Level 2 Suspension Offences.
- 4.3 Table 3 summarises a range of Level 3 Suspension Offences and gives guidance about the number of matches an offender should stand-down for. Additional considerations should include attitude of the offender, degree of remorse and degree of harm inflicted.

Table 3

Description of Breach or Misconduct	Number of match stand-downs		
	8- 11 weeks <i>e.g. Provoked, high levels of remorse.</i>	12 - 16 weeks <i>e.g. Unprovoked</i>	17 - 20 weeks <i>e.g. Intentional with malice. No remorse. Harm inflicted</i>
Act of violence	Provoked, triggered by on-field incident Actions result in escalation of incident	Actions start a brawl or nasty, objectionable scene	Hostile, brutal, vicious, inhumane Incident off field or after being shown a red card
Striking, physical assault (causing serious injury)	Evidence of frustration or provocation	Unprovoked Strike to mid/lower body region such as stomach or legs	Deliberate with intent to harm Strike to the head region with stick or fist
Match fixing involvement or activities	Evidence of naivety or provocation or pressure to partake	Choices made to partake without pressuring others to also partake	Involved in organised cartel with intent to influence and/or pressure others to partake

5. Serious Suspension Offence:

- 5.1 In the case of serious, highly dangerous, and/or life-threatening offences ("Serious Suspension Offence") more than a maximum of a twenty-match suspension may be justified. In these cases, the Judicial Committee should consult with the Board.
- 5.2 In the case of repeat offenders being found guilty of a Level 3 Suspension Offence, a one-year through to a life ban may be appropriate.

SCHEDULE 2 - Guidelines On Process For Hearing and Determining any Complaint, Protest or Appeal

The purpose of this guideline is to ensure Judicial Committees/Club Council Executive follow a consistent process and comply with the principles of natural justice.

1. Receipt of Protest, Complaint or Appeal

- 1.1 On receipt of a Complaint, Protest or Appeal, the Judicial Committee or Jury of Appeal shall notify the complainant and the Participant against whom the Complaint, Protest or Appeal is made, and any other relevant parties of:
- the details of the Complaint or Protest (as set out in paragraph 2.1 of this Schedule) or Appeal (as set out in paragraph 2.2);
 - the time and place of the hearing;
 - where relevant, the names of the people who will be serving on the Judicial Committee or Jury of Appeal for the proceedings;
 - the right of all parties to be represented (this includes the Participant(s) against whom the Complaint or Protest is made having one representative).
- 1.2 The Judicial Committee/Club Council Executive or Jury of Appeal shall hear and determine the Complaint, Protest or Appeal in whatever manner it considers appropriate in the circumstances (including by way of teleconference, videoconference, in person or otherwise).

2. Details of the Complaint, Protest or Appeal

- 2.1 The details of the Complaint or Protest will be in writing and include:
- the fact of the report of the Complaint or Protest;
 - the identity of the Participant when Misconduct is alleged;
 - the Misconduct alleged or the decision that the Participant or team is protesting;
 - any evidence provided with the Complaint or Protest.
- 2.2 The details of any Appeal will be in writing and include:
- the fact of the report of the Appeal;
 - the grounds on which the Appeal has been made.

3. The Hearing

- 3.1 The Participant(s) who is the subject of the Complaint or Protest is entitled to be present at the hearing. Should the Participant fail to attend the hearing, the hearing shall take place in the absence of the Participant and the facts around the failure to attend shall be taken into account in the determination of the appropriate penalty in the event that Misconduct is found to have been committed.
- 3.2 At the hearing, the Judicial Committee shall:
- provide the Participant with an opportunity to make a statement or provide evidence in relation to the Complaint, Protest or investigation;
 - consider other evidence e.g. umpire reports, technical official reports, witness statements, video evidence etc;
 - provide the Participant with an opportunity to make further submissions or provide additional evidence; and
 - give due consideration to the allegations and the evidence.
- 3.3 At the hearing, the Jury of Appeal shall:

- a. provide the Participant with an opportunity to make a statement or representation at the hearing;
- b. if the Appeal has been raised under clause 13.1 (d) of the Code, consider any other evidence which has come to light after the original decision; and
- c. give due consideration to the Appeal.

4. Proof

- 4.1 The onus of proof will be on the person who has made the Complaint, Protest or Appeal.
- 4.2 The standard of proof is on the balance of probabilities. The Judicial Committee or Jury of Appeal need only be satisfied on the balance of probabilities (more likely than not).
- 4.3 Where there is a direct conflict between evidence of the Participant and other relevant parties and no corroborative supporting evidence exists either way then the Judicial Committee or Jury of Appeal may in their absolute discretion, give a presumptive but not conclusive weight, to an official's account without in any way pre-determining the final decision.
- 4.4 Greater significance should be placed on the Participant's intention than on the actual outcome in reaching any decision. The consequences of the action may however, influence the penalty.
- 4.5 In any case in which it is claimed a Participant was guilty of an offence by reason of provocative conduct on the part of another Participant or person, such provocative conduct shall be no defence for any incident but may be taken into account in determining the penalty or suspension.
- 4.6 A Participant's previous history should not be considered when determining guilt. However, their history should be considered when determining a penalty or suspension. Repeat offenders should expect more severe penalties.

5. The Decision

- 5.1 Any decision in relation to a Complaint or investigation should be in writing and deal with the following matters:
 - a. Whether the Participant(s) accepts that Misconduct has occurred resulting in a breach of this Code of Conduct.
 - b. If the Participant does not accept the breach, a finding as to whether a breach has occurred and why.
 - c. The penalty for any breach.
- 5.2 Any decision in relation to a Protest or Appeal should be in writing and deal with the following matters:
 - a. The outcome of the Protest or Appeal.
 - b. Any implications for other Participants or teams in the Competitions.
 - c. If the Protest or Appeal is upheld, whether the fee for lodgement of the Protest will be returned.
- 5.3 When a decision by the Judicial Committee involves a suspension, such a suspension period shall include all games that the suspended player would have played during the duration of the suspension unless otherwise directed by the Judicial Committee.
- 5.4 While serving a suspension period a Participant shall not participate at any level, nor be involved in hockey in another capacity at any level until completion of the match or matches comprising the suspension period, unless otherwise directed by the Judicial Committee.
- 5.5 A Participant shall not participate in any match if they have been issued a red card, or if they are the subject of a formal complaint, protest or appeal, until the case has been heard and determined before the Judicial Committee, unless specifically authorised to do so by the Judicial Committee.

6. The Penalty

- 6.1 A clear definition of the penalty will include:
- a. The penalty imposed;
 - b. Where a penalty imposed contains a suspension period:
 - (i) The number of matches and/or timeframe for which the Participant is suspended;
 - (ii) The date of commencement of the suspension; and
 - (iii) The match or matches to which the suspension will apply.

SCHEDULE 3 - Guideline for Jurisdiction

The purpose for this guideline is to ensure that all hockey played in New Zealand has the relevant Code of Conduct aligned to its competitions, events and activities. In cases where jurisdiction is not clear, Hockey New Zealand, together with the relevant Association or region will decide on appropriate jurisdiction.

Type of match or event	Jurisdiction	Relevant Code
FIH sanctioned tournament FIH sanctioned test series Other matches involving international teams	Appointed TD	FIH Code of Conduct
National Competitions with an appointed TD	Appointed TD	Hockey NZ Code of Conduct
National Competitions without an appointed TD	Hockey NZ	Hockey NZ Code of Conduct
Other national events including but not limited to: Masters, Maori, Indian, University, Armed Forces	Appointed TD	Hockey NZ Code of Conduct
Hockey NZ squad games, practices and events	Hockey NZ	Memorandum of Understanding /Hockey NZ Code of Conduct
All other related events and activities not under the control or jurisdiction of an Association or region	Hockey NZ	Hockey NZ Code of Conduct
Association, school or regional match, event or activity	Association, school or region	Association Code of Conduct

SCHEDULE 4 - Checklists for use of this Code of Conduct

The following lists are provided as a guide for those involved in a judicial process. Their use should be seen to assist a fair process and to ensure the spirit of natural justice is followed. It is not intended that an omission or oversight would result in the basis of an appeal, unless the provisions of clause 13.1 apply.

For Chief Executives and Judicial Committees:

- The details of Schedule 2 should be considered carefully
- Note that accused Participant(s) involved in judicial proceedings should not partake in hockey until the judicial process has been completed
- The complainant, and the accused should be notified of the details of the complaint or protest. If appropriate, ensure other affected parties are advised
- Advise a timeline for the process
- Initiate an investigation (this task may be delegated egg judicial commissioner)
- Ensure no conflicts of interest or perceived conflicts. Be vigilant with professionalism, confidentiality and privacy. Ensure no pre-judgements are made by people privy to information
- If a hearing is required, the Chief Executive will appoint a judicial committee (a minimum of 3 persons including a chairperson) in accordance with Clause 9
- Complete a formal notification of charge form (*Form 5d from Schedule 5*)
- Notify all parties that a hearing will take place
- Outline the details of the time and place of the hearing to relevant parties
- Detail the names of the judicial committee members
- Invite the accused to the hearing. Note that the hearing will still proceed in the absence of the accused
- Indicate that a support person may be present
- Provide any reports or evidence that is available at the time of notification
- Indicate the alleged misconduct and charge if appropriate

For Participants or those lodging a protest or complaint:

- Complaints should be lodged within a 2 week timeframe. See Clause 6.2. (*Use Form 5b Allegation of Misconduct*)
- Protests regarding a particular match or competition should be lodged within 24 hours. No protest will be heard regarding an umpire's on-field decision (see 4.1 *Definitions*). See 7.3 and 7.4 (*Use Form 5c Protest relating to a match or competition*)
- \$100 fee must accompany a written protest

At the hearing

- The judicial committee should be introduced and the chairperson identified. Accurate minutes of the meeting should be taken by a committee member
- The accused, and support person acknowledged and introduced
- The Chairperson should outline the alleged misconduct and indicate the charge
- The Chairperson should give the accused an opportunity to make an opening statement, and to make a plea
- The accused should then be given the opportunity to give evidence relevant to the alleged misconduct
- The committee should consider all other evidence relevant e.g. reports, video footage, witness accounts (following Clause 3.2 of Schedule 2). At any stage, individuals or parties may be asked to leave the room
- The accused should be given opportunity to make further submissions
- The committee should consider the allegations and evidence
- The committee should make a decision and impose any sanction(s). Note Clause 4 of Schedule 2
- The right to appeal as per Clause 13 should be stated
- The decision should be communicated verbally at the meeting, then in writing as soon as practicable after the completion of the meeting
- The accused and other parties involved in the alleged misconduct should be informed of the decision and sanction. Ensure that this communication is acknowledged as received by all parties

SCHEDULE 5 - Complaints, Protests and Judicial Process Templates

The following templates are designed to allow correct flow of information between the various parties involved with a judicial process. It is not compulsory to use these forms (i.e. a process would not be deemed invalid if alternative documentation was used), but it is recommended so that the correct information flow and communication between parties result in a fair and open process.

Templates listed:

- 5a Red Card Awarded
- 5b Allegation of Misconduct (Complaint)
- 5c Protest relating to a match or competition
- 5d Formal Notification of a Charge

5a Red Card Awarded

Introduction *(Detail the time, date, location, turf/field/pavilion etc., match details, umpires.*

Time:

Date:

Location:

Match between:

Participants:

Umpires:

Name and number of player awarded the red card:

Describe the nature of the incident: *(A detailed factual account of the event including anything leading up to the event and anything occurring afterwards (if applicable), and any verbal comments made surrounding the incident).*

List other potential witnesses:

Signed:

Date:

Name:

5b Allegation of Misconduct (Complaint)

Introduction *(Detail the time, date, location, turf/field/pavilion etc., match details (if applicable), umpires (if applicable)).*

Time:

Date:

Location:

Other details:

Participants: *(identify the person(s) involved, their player number and role as defined by the Code of Conduct Clause 3.1).*

Describe the nature of the incident: *(A detailed factual account of the event including anything leading up to the event and anything occurring afterwards (if applicable), and any verbal comments made surrounding the incident).*

List potential witnesses:

Signed:

Date:

Name:

5c Protest relating to a match or competition

Protest to be lodged within 24 hours of the completion of the match.

Fee: \$100

Grounds for legitimate protests are listed in clause 4.1

Note: Clause 7.4 of the Code of conduct: *no protest may be considered regarding an umpires on-field decision.*

Introduction (*Detail the time, date, location, turf/field/pavilion etc., match details, umpires.*

Time:

Date:

Location:

Match between:

Grounds for protest:

Signed:

Date:

Name:

5d Formal Notification of a Charge

Date:

Name of participant: *(person charged)*

Charge:

On the _____ (day) of _____ (month) _____ (year)

(description of the charge to ensure the participant is fairly informed)

Examples (delete examples and wording that are not relevant)

(egg did excessively appeal an umpire decisions by repeatedly crowding and verbally challenging the umpire _____ (name))

(egg did abuse hockey equipment, namely dugout by throwing their hockey stick)

(egg did use language, namely _____ (words used) which seriously offended _____ (name person) on the basis that is was racially offensive)

(egg did threaten _____ (umpire or official name) by using the words _____.)

(egg did spit at _____(name) which connected with that person or another)

(Egg did strike a person _____ (namely) with a hockey stick causing an injury namely _____(give injury).)

Signed:

Name:

Role:

APPENDICES

The following resources provide useful further information regarding sports concussion. It is suggested that they are used and referred to.

Appendix 1 – FIH Tournament Regulations – Outdoor Competition October 2012

Clubs can use this for the format of the shootout procedure.

<http://www.fih.ch/files/Sport/Regulations/FIH%20Tournament%20Regulations%20-%20October%202012.pdf>

Appendix 2 – Consensus Statement on Concussion in Sport:

Conference on Concussion in Sport held in Berlin, November 2016 (McCrory et al), found here:

<https://bjsm.bmj.com/content/51/11/838>

Appendix 3 – Concussion Tools

1. The Pocket Concussion Recognition Tool (CRT): <http://bjsm.bmj.com/content/51/11/872>

2. The ACC SportSmart Concussion Wallet Card :

<https://accsportsmart.co.nz/assets/Uploads/files/Sportsmart-Concussion-card.pdf>

Appendix 4 – ACC National Guidelines

Sport Concussion in New Zealand. ACC National Guidelines, found here:

http://www.acc.co.nz/PRD_EXT_CSMP/groups/external_communications/documents/reference_tools/wpc136118.pdf

Appendix 5 – Concussion Assessment Tool

- SCAT 5 – Sport Concussion Assessment Tool – 5th Edition, found here: <https://bjsm.bmj.com/content/bjsports/early/2017/04/26/bjsports-2017-097506SCAT5.full.pdf>
- Child-SCAT5- Sport Concussion Assessment Tool (for children ages 5-12 years), found here: <https://bjsm.bmj.com/content/bjsports/early/2017/04/28/bjsports-2017-097492childscat5.full.pdf>

Appendix 6 – Concussion - Return to Hockey

Return to Hockey Stage	Functional Exercise at each stage of rehabilitation	Objective
No activity	Physical and cognitive rest	Recovery
Light aerobic exercise	Walking, swimming or stationary cycling keeping intensity 70% of maximum predicted heart rate. No resistance (weights) training. Light individual drills with gentle change of direction	Increase heart rate
Hockey specific exercise	Running, aerobic exercise with stick and ball, cone work, shooting in the circle unopposed	Add movement
Low impact training drills	Low risk interactive drills preferably under parental or coach supervision, Goalkeeper to use helmet and defend lower shots and there should be no lifted balls at the keeper.	Heart rate, movement, co-ordination and concentration load
Higher impact training drills	Higher risk plays, preferably under parental or coach supervision, increasingly interactive drills and introduce small games. Increase duration & intensity of play in a stepwise manner during this period. Goal keeper Helmet use compulsory Movement, coordination and concentration drills with more difficult tasks.	Restore player confidence.
Normal pre-injury Hockey	Return to Hockey events	Full return to Hockey

Appendix 7 - HNZ Concussion Awareness Policy

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this document is to provide:

1. an increased awareness of concussion in of those involved in hockey – players, officials, supporters and their families
2. guidance on the identification and management of concussion to those involved in hockey in New Zealand.

This summary is prepared specifically for the New Zealand hockey public and is not a medical document. It incorporates the best practice guidelines developed at the 5th International Conference in Concussion in Sport held in Berlin in 2016. Refer Appendix 1.

This guideline primarily pertains to adults and whilst the principals of the document may be applied to children and adolescents, we would advise that all hockey players of this age group with suspected concussion be assessed by a medical professional.

Concussion (and hockey player welfare in general) is everyone's responsibility. Players, parents, coaches and officials need to act in the best interest of hockey player safety and welfare by taking responsibility for the **recognition, removal** and **referral** of hockey player to a medical doctor. They should then ensure that concussion is appropriately managed as per these guidelines.

It is acknowledged that concussion is not well understood and more research is required to identify both the short and long term consequences of this brain injury. This policy is based on the current best practice guidelines and will be reviewed every 4 years in line with international consensus statements.

Guideline Summary:

- **Recognise and Remove.** If concussion is suspected, remove the player from activity immediately and refer for assessment by the on-site event designated First Aider and seek an urgent assessment by a medical doctor
- Concussions often occur without loss of consciousness ('knocked out')
- Extra caution is required for child and adolescent athletes
- It may take several hours (or even days) post injury for some or all of the symptoms of concussion to emerge
- Non-medical personnel have an important role to play in recognising the signs and symptoms of concussion
- Concussion can present in a similar manner to other catastrophic conditions with delayed onset of symptoms
- A medical doctor must provide assessment and diagnosis of concussion because diagnosis may be difficult and relies on clinical judgement
- No hockey player should return to sport/activity on the day of a suspected or confirmed concussive injury.
- The effects of concussion can interfere with the player's ability to learn in the classroom or to function well at work. Return to school/work may need to be graduated and demands altered to reflect level of function, guided by a medical practitioner experienced in this area. Return to school/work and social activities should be achieved before return to hockey.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Hockey Concussion Awareness Policy is to:

- a) Increase awareness of concussion within the hockey community and its

supporters

- b) Provide guiding principles and general advice regarding the management of concussion in competitions; and
- c) Mandate the process by which a hockey player may continue to participate or return to hockey, following involvement in an incident which requires assessment as to whether a suspected concussion has occurred.

Hockey has adopted the Consensus Statement on Concussion in Sport: The 5th International Conference on Concussion in Sport, held in Berlin, November 2016
Refer Appendix 1.

“With respect to the assessment of concussion, the advice contained within this Concussion Policy is of a general nature only. Individual treatment will depend on the facts and circumstances specific to each individual case. This Concussion Policy is not intended as a standard of care and should not be interpreted as such.”

This Concussion Policy will be reviewed annually by Hockey NZ and will be modified according to the development of new knowledge.

1. Combined Grade Rules

- 1.1. Reserve grade players will be able to play up unlimited in the Combined Grade (supersedes rule 4.8)
- 1.2. Players will be allowed to move between teams (fill up only i.e. Reserve to Premier) from the same club within the combined grade (supersedes rule 4.3)
- 1.3. An exemption will apply to allow Year 10 players in either of the Women's or Men's combined grades who ordinarily play in a reserve grade team only from needing to seek a dispensation to play against Premier teams for the combined competition only (supersedes rule 4.2.2)

2. Rules for the Men's combined grade.

- 2.1. The points earned in the combined round will carry over into the regular season only from teams that move into the same grade: example Res A vs Res A game points will carry over into the Reserve Grade Table.

The registered Reserve team takes priority if there are any clashes.