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# YOUTH COMPETITION REGULATIONS

## 2020 / 2021



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*Delivering world class hockey experiences*

**HOCKEY WALES**  
**YOUTH REGULATIONS**  
**2020 – 2021**

These regulations will be used for the Clubs, Youth Competitions played under the auspices of Hockey Wales. In an ideal world, these regulations would be used at all levels of competition i.e. qualifying and finals, however, it is understood that due to pitch restrictions etc. it may not be possible to adhere fully to these regulations

Regulations marked with an \* may be amended for regional qualifying competitions

The National Competitions Coordinator will determine the format of the competition ,

### **U11 and U13 Competitions**

The FIH Rules of Hockey shall apply, with the following exceptions:

- 1 A result shall stand if the two teams have a minimum of 5 players each playing the game
- 2 Penalty corners will be played. The defending side shall have a goalkeeper and 4 defenders behind their own goal line whilst the remaining players (two) shall go to the "D" at the other end of the pitch. These players must stay there until the ball is injected by the attacking team
- 3 Penalty Strokes should be taken 5 metres from the goal
- 4 Long corners will be taken from an imaginary line approximately 5 metres from the top of the circle. This imaginary line will also be classed as the 23m area and normal rules of hockey shall apply
- 5 A green card will indicate a warning, not a two-minute suspension
- 6 On the first occasion, a player breaks the line at a penalty corner, a warning will be issued, subsequent breaks will result in the offending player (or a nominated player, if the goalkeeper breaks the line) being sent to the "D" at the other end of the pitch
- 7 Players may **not** play the ball above shoulder height
- 8 **Each team MUST play with a fully attired goalkeeper at all times**

### **U15 and U18 Competitions**

The FIH Rules of Hockey shall apply, with the following exceptions:

**Each team MUST play with a fully attired goalkeeper at all times**

## General (U11 / U13/ U15 and U18 Competitions)

- 1 **Each team MUST play with a fully attired goalkeeper at all times**
- 2 All players **MUST wear shin pads and should wear gum shields**
- 3 It is recommended that players wear face masks when defending penalty corners
- 4 Players should not wear jewellery likely to cause injury to other players
- 5 Players should wear appropriate playing kit
- 6 Teams should provide their own first aid kits and it is the responsibility of the teams participating in the tournament to provide their own first aid to any of their players who need it
- 7 Participating clubs must be aware of Hockey Wales Policies and Procedures (including Codes of Conduct, Safeguarding, Disciplinary) which will apply to all matches
- 8 The Competitions TAG shall determine the action to be taken for any matter not specifically covered by these regulations
- 9 Should issues arise on the day, the TD shall determine the action to be taken. If no TD is appointed, the organiser / such person(s) as the Competitions TAG has delegated to assist with the running of the competition, shall determine the action to be taken

## Priority

No postponement in the event of a clash, with a re-arranged league match or other match, will be allowed where the respective HW competition date has been advised in the Priority Calendar as initially published

## A Teams and Squad Sizes

Age groups are determined by the player's age on 1<sup>st</sup> September

- I. Under 11 and Under 13 (schoolyear 6 and below, and, schoolyear 8 and below)
  - a. maximum squad size is 10 players
  - b. maximum of 7 players on the pitch at any one time, one of which **MUST** be a fully attired goalkeeper
- II. Under 15 and Under 18 (schoolyear 10 and below, and, schoolyear 13 and below)
  - a. Players must be in Year 9 or above to play in the U18 competitions
  - b. Maximum squad size is 16 players
  - c. Maximum of 11 players on the pitch at any one time, one of which **MUST** be a fully attired goalkeeper

## B Match Times and Arrangements\*

- I. Under 11 and Under 13
  - a. Competition will take place between 2 North Wales teams and 2 South Wales teams – if a region cannot fulfil their allocation of final places, the National Competitions Coordinator may offer any spare place to the other region

- b. Matches shall be played across half a hockey pitch
- c. Matches will be ten minutes each way with a two-minute break for half-time
- d. First named team will start the game and provide the match ball
- e. No team shall automatically qualify for any finals

II. Under 15 and Under 18

- a. Final will be played between the top two teams in Wales
- b. Semi-finals will be a round robin format unless two teams from the same club qualify for the last four places when there will be two knock-out semi-finals, with teams from the same club playing each other
- c. The number of teams from North and South to go through to the semi – finals will be dependent on the number of entries from each region.
- d. Finals will be 4 x 15 minutes (quarters)
- e. First named team will provide the match ball
- f. No team shall automatically qualify for any final

Please note, in accordance with the normal rules of hockey, time **will not** be stopped to re-kit a goalkeeper following a goalkeeper suspension

## C Group & Final Placings\*

III. Under 11 and Under 13

Teams will play all other teams in their pool and the following points will be awarded for each match:

- a) Three points of a win
- b) One point for a draw

In the event of teams finishing with an equal number of points at the end of the Pool matches the ranking in the Pools shall be decided using the following criteria:

- a) Goal difference
- b) Highest number of goals for
- c) Winner of the match between the two teams

If the scores are still tied, a set of 3 shoot-outs will be taken, then sudden death shoot-outs will be taken by the same 3 players (see separate shoot-out regulations)

Note: A shoot-out competition will only be necessary if it affects progress to the next round or medal winning positions in the national finals

#### IV. Under 15 and Under 18

In a round robin competition, teams will play all other teams in their pool and the following points will be awarded for each match:

- a) Three points of a win
- b) One point for a draw

In the event of teams finishing with an equal number of points at the end of the Pool matches the ranking in the Pools shall be decided using the following criteria:

- a) Goal difference
- b) Highest number of goals for
- c) Winner of the match between the two teams

If the scores are still tied, a shoot-out competition will be taken (see separate shoot-out regulations)

Note: A shoot-out competition will only be necessary if it affects progress to the next round or medal winning positions in the national finals

In a knockout competition, if the match is level after completion of regulation time, a shoot-out competition will be taken (see separate shoot-out regulations)

#### D Kit

- All teams entering the competition should bring a change of kit in case of a colour clash (a minimum of a set of different coloured bibs is acceptable for U11s and U13s)
- In the event of a clash of colours the second named team shall change to an alternate colour
- Players shirts should be marked in such a way so players are individually identifiable
- All players, in the same team, should be similarly attired
- In case of suspension and due to regulation it is recommended that clubs bring a spare goalkeeper kit which may be used to re-kit a suspended goalkeeper once his / her suspension has finished

Note: in accordance with the normal rules of hockey, time **will not** be stopped to re-kit a goalkeeper following a goalkeeper suspension

#### E Trophies / Medals\*

At each event, there will be a presentation trophy, this can be used by teams after their competition for photos - trophy to be returned to the National / Regional Coordinator once finished. Winning clubs will also receive a plaque which they can keep

## F Turning Up Late\*

If a team is late turning up for a published start time then the game may be awarded as a 5 – 0 win to the opposition, this is at the discretion of the National Representative to whom responsibility has been delegated

## G Umpires\*

Umpires for games may be provided, if they are not provided clubs will be notified and expected to provide their own

## H Eligibility of Teams and Players / Registration

### Under 11 and Under 13

- a. Players must be under 11 / under 13 on 1<sup>st</sup> September in the season of the competition (school year 6 / 8 and below)
- b. Under 11 teams will be selected according to gender. If a team does not have sufficient players of that gender, a mixed team may be entered in the boys' competition only (maximum of 2 girls) , with the prior approval of the National Competitions Coordinator prior to any qualifying tournament (number and age of players will be checked with HW)
- c. Players may not play in both Boys and Girls competitions within the same age group
- d. Under 13 teams must be made up solely of same gender players
- e. Players cannot play for more than one club, in any round of the Hockey Wales Cup, at any age level
- f. Players cannot play, in any round, at any age level, if they have played in any competition, in that season, for a club which is not affiliated to Hockey Wales
- g. Players must be affiliated as a playing member with their club and with HW, with the appropriate affiliation fee having been paid
- h. Clubs who do not have sufficient players may have up to a maximum of 3 players from one other club, to make a maximum of 8 players, having applied to the National Competitions Coordinator for permission (number and age of affiliated players will be checked with HW). NAG players will not be able to play for other clubs

### Under 15 and Under 18

- a. Players must be under 15 / 18 on 1<sup>st</sup> September in the season of the competition (school year 10 / 13 and below)
- b. Players must be in Year 9 or above to play in the Under 18 competition
- c. Teams must be made up solely of same gender players
- d. Players cannot play for more than one club in any round of the Hockey Wales Cup at any age level
- e. Players cannot play, in any round, at any age level, if they have played in any competition, in that season, for a club which is not affiliated to Hockey Wales. Exception may be granted, on application to the National Competitions Coordinator, for any club with a junior section that cannot offer its players the opportunity to play Senior competitive hockey – any returning player must be able to provide proof of a

- previous season's junior membership, with said club. If said proof cannot be provided then it is highly unlikely that permission will be granted
- Players must be affiliated as a playing member with their club and with HW, with the appropriate affiliation fee having been paid
  - Clubs who do not have sufficient players may have up to a maximum of 3 players from one other club to make a maximum of 12 players, having applied to the National Competitions Coordinator for permission (number and age of affiliated players will be checked with HW) NAG players, including age trapped NAG players, will not be able to play for other clubs
  - If by combining, two clubs will have sufficient players for a team, they should apply to the National Competitions Coordinator for permission (number and age of affiliated players will be checked with HW)
  - Clubs who do not enter Youth Cup competitions, at any level, but have players eligible to play may apply for 3 players to play for another club, providing that club is not already combining with another club (see point g). NAG players, including age trapped NAG players, will not be able to play for other clubs
  - No special consideration will be given to Goal Keepers
- Please note - permission will be declined if it is felt that clubs are asking in order to strengthen their team rather than giving opportunities to more players.*
  - All applications for permission must be received by 31<sup>st</sup> December, or by a date specified by the National Competitions Coordinator.*
  - The Competitions TAG would like clubs to use their own players and would expect all players playing in the final to have represented the club, at some level, over the course of the season. This will be monitored.*

Examples:

	Scenario	Result	Rationale
1	Club A has 5 players, Club B has 7 players – clubs approach National Competitions Coordinator for permission to join together.	Merger accepted for that competition only.	By joining together clubs it enables players to participate in the competition.
2	Club A has 10 players, Club B does not enter youth competitions at that level but has several players in that age group. Both clubs approach National Competitions Coordinator for permission to use 3 players from club B.	Accepted	Club A has insufficient players to put their own team in but by adding the three from club B allows all to participate.

3	Club A has 5 players, Club B has 7 players – clubs approach national competitions coordinator for permission to join together. They then approach National Competitions Coordinator to ask for permission to use 2 extra players from club C.	Denied	Only two teams are permitted to join together. Other players are signposted to another club.
4	Club A has 20 players, Club B has 2 players. Player X from Club B requests to join Club A	Denied	By player X joining club A they will be stopping an existing player from club A playing. Player X signposted to a different club.
5	Club A has 20 players but claim not to have a goalkeeper, club B does not enter youth competition but has a goalkeeper of the right age.	Denied	Same reasoning as example 4
6	Player A, who is 14, plays for Club X in U15 competition  Club Y asks permission for Player A to play for them in U18 competition	Denied	Players cannot play for more than one club in any round of the Hockey Wales Cup at any age level

## I Photography Consent

Clubs competing in finals will need to complete a photography consent form. This should be returned to the National / Regional Coordinator before the event. Failure to return the form may result in the team being withdrawn from the competition

## J Penalties

If it is found that an ineligible player(s) has played in the Finals, the team's result(s) will be null and void with any trophies handed back and awarded to the relevant opponent(s). The matter will be reported to HW who reserves the right to take further sanctions, should they deem it necessary, including imposing a ban on the offending club / team



## K Fines

Failure to turn up at an event which the team has qualified for is unacceptable and may result in the offending club being liable for any expenses (e.g. venue hire, umpires and officials' expenses)

Fines will be levied as follows

- i. Failure to turn up to an event – maximum fine £150
- ii. Conceded – maximum fine £150
- iii. Withdrawn from any round of any competition – maximum fine £150
- iv. Non-notification of nominated players / squad lists by due date – fine of £20
- v. Playing of non-affiliated player – fine of £50 plus option to expel the offending club / team from that particular competition (see point J).

In the case of serious or repeated offences the TAG retains the right to impose additional penalties which may include increased fines over and above those detailed above as well as the option to ban or suspend clubs or teams from entering competitions. The Competitions TAG reserve the right to impose a fine / sanctions to any club for a situation which is not covered by the above

## L Disputes / Appeals

1. Any complaint that may arise relating to these regulations or other matters relating to these competitions will only be considered if it is sent in writing to the HW Competitions TAG Chair within 48 hours of the event / decision
2. The HW Competitions TAG will determine the action to be taken
3. Clubs shall have the right to appeal as laid down in HW Policies and Procedures

## M General

1. Participating teams must be aware of HW Policies and Procedures (including Codes of Conduct, Safeguarding, Disciplinary) which will apply to all matches
2. The Competitions TAG shall determine the action to be taken for any matter not specifically covered by these regulations
3. Should issues arise on the day, the TD shall determine the action to be taken – if no TD is appointed, the organiser / such person(s) as the Competitions TAG has delegated to assist with the running of the competition, shall determine the action to be taken

HW Competitions TAG

July 2020

HW Competitions Chair

Bill Riley

HW Youth Competitions Coordinator

Louise Riley

North Wales Regional Competitions Coordinator

NW Competitions Group

South Wales Regional Competitions Coordinator

Chris Despres



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