

MANNING VALLEY HOCKEY ASSOCIATION



MENS COMPETITION AND PLAYING RULES

2014 Edition

I. Terms of reference	Page 3
II. Executive Positions.....	Page 3
III. A. Meeting Venue	Page 3
B. Meeting Delegates.....	Page 3
IV. Registration of New Members	Page 3
V. Association Register of Members.....	Page 4
VI. Transfers	Page 4
VII. Player Registration and Team Registrations.....	Page 5
VIII. Player Grading and Eligibility for the Semi Finals, Finals and Grand Finals..	Page 6
IX. Wet Matches	Page 8
X. Adverse Weather or serious injury.....	Page 8
XI. Substitution.....	Page 9
XII. Competitions and Match Duration.....	Page 9
XIII. Attire	Page 9
XIV. Match Points	Page 10
XV. Match Cards	Page 10
XVI. Misconduct	Page 11
XVII. Forfeits	Page 11
XVIII. Claims and Forfeits	Page 12
XIX. Ground Fees and Forfeited Match	Page 12
XX Deferment of Matches	Page 12
XXI. Final Matches.....	Page 13
A. Position of Teams	Page 13
B. Order of Play	Page 13
C. Playing time for Semi-Finals and Finals matches	Page 13
D. Playing Time for Grand Finals	Page 14
XXII. Injuries and Time Out.....	Page 14
XXIII. Umpires.....	Page 15
XXIV. Representative Teams, Coaches and Officials.....	Page 15

COMPETITION RULES

I. Terms of Reference

Unless the contrary intention appears from the context of a rule:

"Club" means a club nominated to the Association.

"Competition" means a competition of hockey matches.

"Match" means a hockey match played between two teams under control of the Association.

"Team" means a team of a club

"Round" means a series of matches clearly defined in the competition draw.

II. Executive Positions

All executive positions for the Men's Division are to be filled prior to the beginning of the competition each season. These are to include Chairperson, Assistant Secretary, Assistant Treasurer, Publicity Officer, Registrar, BOM Representatives, Match Committee members, Representative team Coaches and Managers and Judiciary Panel nominations.

III. Meetings

A. Meeting Venue

All men's sub division meetings are to be held at a venue and dates decided at the first monthly meeting in any season and business will commence at 6.00pm.

B. Meeting Delegates

Each team is required to have one delegate present at each monthly meeting during the season. These delegates are to be identified prior to the commencement of business. Failure to have a delegate in attendance will result in the loss of three (3) competition points to the offending team.

In exceptional circumstances, a Club may make application in writing to the Mens Match Committee prior to the following meeting for reinstatement of competition points deducted for breach of the last preceding paragraph. The letter is to state the facts in support of the application.

IV. Registration of New Members

Each prospective player will apply for membership of the Association by filling out the particulars requested on the Association's Application for Membership Form. A player will not be eligible to play for a club unless they are a member of the Association and a current financial member with Hockey NSW.

V. Association Register of Members

- A.** To enable the Public Officer - Records Director to compile the Register of Members, each club must submit player information as requested on the Association's Team Registration Form to the Secretary of Manning Valley Hockey Assoc. Inc. A copy is also to be lodged with the Mens Division Assistant Secretary.

VI. Transfers

- A.** A player who

1. Having completed a season as a member of a club does require a clearance from that club before playing with another club.

2. Has taken the field for one club but wishes to transfer from that club to another club in the current season or has played for a club in any other Association during the last preceding season should:

I. apply in writing to the Chairperson of the Mens sub Committee for a permit to play for an affiliated club in the Association;

II. supply such particulars as may be required by the Match Committee of that Mens Sub Committee, and;

III. supply a clearance from their former club in a letter to the Chairperson of the Match Committee of the Mens Sub Committee of the Association, prior to being granted permission to play for another club.

- B.** The Match Committee of the Mens sub Committee shall consider each application for a transfer within seven days of its receipt.

- C.** In the event of any dispute the Secretary of the Mens Sub Committee shall immediately advise the club and players concerned as to when the final decision is to be made on their application to transfer so that they may present evidence to either support or reject the application to transfer.

- D.** The final decision on the application to transfer shall be made by the Mens Sub Committee and their decision in all cases will be final.

- E.** A player registered and financial with another Association and Hockey NSW is eligible to play in competitions conducted by the Association once they have become financial members of Manning Valley Hockey Association Inc.

VII. Player Registration and Team Registrations

A. Each club shall nominate in writing to the Mens Sub Committee Assistant Secretary the number of teams and their respective grades they desire each team to compete in for the competition of that year. Closing date for team nominations will be one (1) month prior to the commencement of the Winter Competition.

B. (1) for the purpose of team nominations, competitions in the Mens Division will be known as follows:

The Mens Division highest grade to be known as “Premier League”

The Mens Division second highest grade to be known as “Division Two”

The Mens Division third highest grade to be known as “Division Three”

(2) Team nominations will be accepted as per players listed and the numbers of players to be registered in each team will be as per following:

A one team club will consist of a maximum of 20 registered players

A two team club will consist of a maximum of 32 registered players.

A three team club will consist of a maximum of 48 registered players.

A four team club will consist of a maximum of 64 registered players.

C. Team nominations, including the full details of all nominated players and umpires must be completed on the team registration form (*see forms*) and lodged with the Mens Sub Committee Assistant Secretary seven (7) days prior to round one on the Mens Competition.

D. All player nominations and grading must be completed in full on the Team Nomination Form seven (7) days prior to round one of the competition. This is to include all players who have nominated to play for each club and the team in which they are nominated to play, whether they play in round one or later. A club fielding in any competition match, a player who has not been registered shall forfeit that match and the opposing team will be awarded the four competition points and a win by a minimum of three goals to nil as per rule XVI.

E. Clubs must make application in writing to the MENS MATCH COMMITTEE to register any new player after the completion of Round 1 of the competition. The club may be asked to provide playing history information on any such player. The Mens Match Committee will determine the grading of all players registered after round 1. No player can take the field until his registration forms have been completed, lodged, is financially registered and his grading has been determined by the Mens Match Committee. (*These players will be graded in addition to players already graded in any Divisions*).

- F. Each club nominating a team in the Premier League competition is to register a minimum of 12 players on the Premier League team nomination form. The club must nominate seven players that are NOT eligible to play in a lower division than the Premier League competition, these players will be known as “A1 players”. Of the remaining players the club must nominate a further 5 players who will be graded as A2 players and these players cannot play more than one division lower.
- G. Each club nominating a team in the Division Two (2) is to register a minimum of 12 players on the Division Two (2) team nomination form. The club must nominate seven players that are NOT eligible to play in a lower division than the Division (2) competition; these seven players will be known as “B1 Players”. Of the remaining players the club must nominate a further 5 players who will be graded as B2 players and these players cannot play more than one division lower.
- H. Players who are currently, or who have been in the past 2 years, a State, Territory or National Open or Age (Under 21 or Under 18) representative must be graded in the clubs highest graded team. They will not be permitted to play down in a lower division in the Mens competition. *(This does not include Masters representation)*
- I. Players must be a minimum of thirteen (13) before being accepted for registration to play in any senior Mens competition.
- J. In exceptional circumstances, clubs may make application in writing to the Mens Match Committee for special consideration in relation to section VII. The letter is to state the facts and evidence to support your application.

VIII. Player Grading and Eligibility for the Semi Finals, Finals and Grand Finals.

The grading of all players in relation to points to section VIII will include all competition round matches and all matches played in the finals series.

- A. Subject to these rules, matches will be played under the control of the Association according to the Rules of Hockey adopted by and issued under the authority of Hockey Australia.
- B. No player shall play in more than two competition matches in any one competition round.
- C. (1) Once a player has played 50% plus one (1) of the matches set down in the draw for competition round matches in a Division higher than the Division the player was registered and graded, then he will automatically be graded one (1) grade higher. *(Example: Once a player graded as a B1 has played 11 matches based on a 20 round competition then he will automatically be graded as an A2 player)*

(1.1) If a player who is grade one graded higher than his initial grading and is not a frozen player in that higher Division as a result of point one (1) and plays another 4 matches in the Division higher than he was originally registered, then he will become frozen in that higher Division. *(Example: If a player originally graded as a B1 player plays a total of 15 matches in A-Grade, then he will become a frozen A-grade player)*

- D.** To qualify for the final series a player must have played a minimum of 50% of matches from point of registration as determined in the draw for competition round matches in the Division in which they wish to qualify for the finals series. Additionally to be eligible to play in the final series a player must have played the majority of their last 5 games in the qualifying Division.
- E.** The Mens Match Committee will advise a player registered after round 1 that once that player plays 50% plus one (1) of the available remaining matches in the draw for competition round matches, in a higher grade than the grade in which the player is registered, then that player will automatically be graded one (1) grade higher.
- F.** For the purposes of eligibility, a player will qualify for only one (1) Division for each round. A player's qualification for any round will be determined by the highest Division that players name appeared in full on the match card.
- G.** Players known and graded as frozen A1 and B1 players cannot play in a Division lower in which they have been registered and graded.
- H.** Of the players known as and graded as A2 and B2 players, no more than two players in any one round may drop back from the higher Division in which each respective player last played. *(Example: If four (4) players graded as a B2 players, play Division 2 in round 10 then only a maximum of two of those players can drop and play Division 3 in the round eleven (11 match).*
- I.** If a player plays in a match in a grade higher than he is graded to substitute for a player involved in qualifying representative commitments, then he will not be recorded by the registrar as playing in the higher grade for this match only.
Representative commitments are deemed as players, umpires or officials (coach, assistant coach or manager) participating in the following tournaments: Australian team commitments (including trials and training); Australian Country; Australian Hockey League; Australian U/18, U/21 and Master's Championships; NSW State League; NSW High School Representative Carnivals, and NSW U/15, U/18, Open and Master's State Championships where a player is representing Manning Valley Hockey Association.
- J.** A player must play a minimum of 6 matches in the draw for competition round matches to qualify for the final series of that season.

- K.** In exceptional circumstances, clubs may make application in writing to the Mens Match Committee for special consideration in relation to section VIII. The letter is to state the facts and evidence to support your application.
- L.** Any player may be permitted to be graded as a Goal Keeper and as a Field Player separately. A player making this application will be graded no more than 1 competition grade lower as a Field Player than that players grading as a Goal Keeper .

IX. Wet Matches

The Turf Director or current board member of the Association in conjunction with the field umpires shall determine if games are to be cancelled due to wet weather. Where possible, an announcement regarding cancellations shall be made over appropriate electronic media as soon as possible. The Mens Match Committee will meet within 14 days and advise of new dates for rescheduled match to be played.

X. Adverse weather or serious injury

In the event of lightning in the area, the Hockey NSW lightning safety code should be adhered.

The full code is in Appendix F.

The Turf Director or current board member of the Association in conjunction with the field umpires shall determine if games are to be cancelled due to adverse weather conditions or serious injury.

- A.** If play commences, and due to adverse weather it deteriorates to the point where it would be dangerous to continue, or a serious injury stoppage has occurred and a player cannot be moved from the playing surface, then the following will apply:
 - before the completion of 45 minutes of scheduled match time played, then the Mens Match Committee will set a date for the remaining time in this match to be played. The match card will be signed by both umpires and captains with time remaining clearly recorded. This match card will be the match card used for the completion of this rescheduled match.
(Only players from the original match will be eligible to take part in the rescheduled match and any substituted players will be regarded as “additional players”. These players will be added to the original match card and must be registered in the same grade of the scheduled match or lower only.
 - after the completion of a minimum of 45 minutes of scheduled match time played, the match will declared and the score at time will be recorded as the final score.
- B.** If the match does not commence on time due to adverse or dangerous weather conditions, the match may be delayed up to 25 minutes (that means, the game must start at least 10 minutes before the scheduled half time), before it is abandoned. The

time remaining should be divided equally into two halves with limited half time. The umpires and team captains will need to agree on this prior to the commencement of play

- C. If no play commences due to adverse weather, the match will be abandoned and the match card lodged advising the Mens Match Committee. The Mens Match Committee will meet within 14 days and advise of new date for rescheduled matches to be played.

XI. Substitution

Substitution of players during a game for any reason will be permitted. In each case a team shall comprise a maximum of players as stipulated by FIH Rules.

XII. Competitions and Match duration

- A. Competitions shall be conducted in such divisions as from time to time promulgated.
- B. The Match Committee shall grade players as required by the Mens Sub Committee.
- C. Matches are to be played as set down in the competition draw of MANNING VALLEY HOCKEY ASSOCIATION (MENS MATCH COMMITTEE).
- D. Time allocated to teams is as follows:
 - (1) Mens competition 2 X 35 minute halves, 5 minute half-time
 - (2) Matches must finish at the allocated time regardless of the starting time.
 - (3) Teams are permitted to enter the dressing rooms in the timeslot prior to their match.
 - (4) Teams may enter the dugout at the commencement of their timeslot and after it has been vacated by teams participating in the previous match. There is a 5 minute change over between timeslots.
 - (5) Teams must leave the dugout as soon as their match has concluded.
 - (6) The Registrars, according to score sheets received will maintain a point score of results.

XIII. Attire

- A. All players are to be correctly attired in nominated club uniform.
- B. An application in writing, by a club, specifying the name and uniform of that club, applying for admission to a competition conducted by the Sub Committee shall be signed by the Secretary of that club and shall be handed to the Assistant Secretary to be dealt with by the Sub Committee.

- C. A player shall be given three playing games to acquire a uniform conforming to regulations to be permitted to play in any match of the competition unless permitted to play by an umpire of that match.

XIV. Match Points

Points shall be awarded on the result of each competition match as follows:-

- A. For a win or a win on a forfeit four (4) points.
- B. For a draw two (2) points.
- C. For a loss one (1) point.
- D. For a forfeit or a bye zero (0) points to the team who are declared as forfeiting the match.
- E. (1) For a team winning on forfeit four (4) points, with a 3 goals to nil recorded. Also, a completed match card must be submitted by the team receiving the forfeit.

(2) If a match is played and is later deemed a forfeit and the team who received the forfeit scored more than 3 goals then the original amount of scored in the match will stand for the winning team only and no goals will be recorded to the forfeiting team.

XV. Match Cards

- A. The Association shall supply official match cards which shall be correctly filled in and alone shall be considered in the compilation of the Competition Points Table. The correct completion of the match cards is the responsibility of the team Captain from each team.
- B. Teams will be required to provide a completed match card prior to the commencement of a match. Any substituted players for a player involved in qualifying representative commitments are to be recorded in pen on the match card (as per VIII. paragraph J.)
- C. The team with full names are to be printed on the match card and must be signed personally by each player playing in the match prior to taking the field. Any player whose name and signature appears in full on the match card will be deemed to have participated in that match and will be recorded as having done so by the Mens Sub Committee Registrar.
- D. At the completion of the match the umpires will ensure that the match card is fully completed and signed by the captains of both teams who participated in the match.
- E. The field umpires are to ensure a completed match card with scores, goal scorers, player's full suspension details and best & fairest points (3-2-1) is lodged in the Match card box following the match. Umpires are to separately award best & fairest points across both teams.

- F.** All completed cards are to be placed in the Mens match card box by the umpire within 24 hours upon completion of the match. Match cards are legal documents.
- G.** Missing match cards or match cards with missing or incorrect scores will be deemed NO SCORE until the score has been verified in writing by both teams who participated in the match. In the case of conflicting scores, the score will be recorded as 0-0 and no points will be awarded. The Mens Match Committee will notify the club or clubs in writing outlining the issues concerned. A completed match card then must be lodged to the Mens Sub Committee secretary within 7 days of having received this notification. If a completed match card is not received within 7 days then no points will be recorded for the match.
- H.** Players not participating in a match as a result of representative commitments must have this recorded clearly on the match card at the time of the match to be credited with the game. Other players absent from the game but recorded on the match card must have a clear line through their name.
- I.** A clear notation must be recorded on the back of the match card when a player is playing for a player on representative commitments.
- J.** Representative commitments are deemed as players, umpires or officials (coach, assistant coach or manager) participating in the following tournaments: Australian team commitments (including trials and training); Australian Country; Australian Hockey League; Australian U/18, U/21 and Master's Championships; NSW State League; NSW High School Representative Carnivals, and NSW U/15, U/18, Open and Master's State Championships where a player is representing Manning Valley Hockey Association.

XVI. Misconduct

These rules incorporate the Judiciary Procedures 2011 of Manning Valley Hockey Association Incorporated.

XVII. Forfeits

- A.** Any team intending to forfeit must notify the Chairperson of the Mens Match Committee within 48 hours prior to scheduled match time. It is the responsibility of the forfeiting team to notify in writing, the Chairperson of the Mens Match Committee, the opposing Captain/Coach and the nominated field umpires.
- B.** Matches or match points shall be forfeited if:-
 - 1.** A team is more than ten minutes late in taking the field.
 - 2.** A team plays an unregistered player or plays a registered player of another club within Manning Valley Hockey Association Inc.

3. In any Semi Final, Final or Grand Final, a team plays a player not qualified to play in that match as per current Mens playing rules.

C. Any team who forfeits three (3) or more competition matches will be ineligible to compete in the finals series.

XVIII. Claims and Forfeits

A. A claim for a forfeit shall be made in writing by the Secretary of the claiming club to the Match Committee within four days of the match.

B. When a forfeit occurs the Records Officer has the authority to deduct points.

XIX. Ground Fees and Forfeited Match

When a forfeit has been claimed and granted the forfeiting team will be charged double ground fees and the opposing team will receive a credit for the amount involved unless notification is given to the Match Committee 48 hours prior to the named match.

XX. Deferment of Matches

The Match Committee will determine if a match that has been deferred (by a Field Director, or the umpires or team captains of that match will be played.

A. To be able to defer a game that team must have a minimum of three (3) representative players/officials unable to play the competition game set down in the original competition draw.

Representative commitments are deemed as players, umpires or officials (coach, assistant coach or manager) participating in the following tournaments:

Australian team commitments (including trials and training); Australian Country; Australian Hockey League; Australian U/18, U/21 and Master's Championships; NSW State League; NSW High School Representative Carnivals, and NSW U/15, U/18, Open and Master's State Championships where a player is representing Manning Valley Hockey Association.

B. Applications for deferment of games must be made in writing and given to the Match Committee Chairperson or Nominated person **14 days** in advance of the scheduled competition match.

C. The Match Committee will set down a date and time for the deferred game to be played.

D. The Match Committee will determine if a match that has been deferred will be played.

E. Deferred games shall be played as directed by the Match Committee and under the normal competition rules

XXI. Final Matches

An official time-keeper is to be appointed by the Mens Match Committee for Semi-Finals, Finals and Grand Finals.

A. Position of Teams

At the end of the competition rounds in each Division the position of teams on the point score list shall be determined by the number of points gained by each team in those rounds with the proviso that:

1. Where points are equal, goal differences ascertained by subtracting goals against from goals for a team, shall determine the position of those teams being equal on the points score table.
2. Where goal differences are also equal the following methods shall be used to determine positions,
 - a. Goal averages;
 - b. Results when the teams last met in the competitions;
 - c. Play-off or stroke off as determined by the Match Committee.

B. Order of Play

1st plays 2nd and 3rd plays 4th. The winner from 1st and 2nd qualifies for the Grand Final. The loser from 1st and 2nd and the winner from 3rd and 4th qualify for the preliminary final.

In the event of a three (3) team competition, the team finishing 1st will automatically qualify for the grand final, while teams two (2) and three (3) will play in a preliminary final.

The winner from the preliminary final then qualifies for the Grand Final.

C. Playing time for Semi Finals and Finals matches

In the Semi Finals and Finals matches the playing time shall be in accordance with the Rules of the Game of Hockey, provided that:

If at the end of the allotted playing time the scores remain equal two additional periods of ten minutes duration, with a change of ends between each but no interval period, will be played. Prior to the start of the first ten minute period each team will reduce their on field numbers to ten players with a further player being removed at the start of the second period.

If at the end of the second period of ten minutes the scores are still equal and following a 3 minute interval, two (2) further 5 minute periods shall be played until a goal is scored.

These two (2) periods will be of five minutes duration with a player being removed at the start of each period. There will be no interval period.

At the end of the fourth period of extra time the scores remain equal, the match will be awarded to the team that finished higher on the competition points table in the regular season.

D. Playing Time for Grand Finals

In the Grand Final the playing time shall be in accordance with the Rules of the Game of Hockey, provided that:

If at the end of the allotted playing time the scores remain equal two additional periods of ten minutes duration, with a change of ends between each but no interval period, will be played. Prior to the start of the first ten minute period each team will reduce their on field numbers to ten players with a further player being removed at the start of the second period.

If at the end of the second period of ten minutes the scores are still equal further periods shall be played until a goal is scored.

These periods will be of five minutes duration with a player being removed at the start of each until a minimum of seven players remain on the field.

XXII. Injuries and Time Out

- A. There will be no time out for injuries, substitutions, etc during round matches throughout the season, semi finals and finals matches.
- B. During the grand finals only will time out for injuries will be permitted.**
- C. Any player who sustains an injury and bleeds is required to immediately leave the playing field. The player is not permitted to resume playing until the bleeding has stopped or a suitable occlusive dressing (*being a bandage or dressing that closes a wound and keeps it from the air*) has been applied.
- D. No player is able to continue in a match with an open wound that breaks the skin until a suitable occlusive dressing (*being a bandage or dressing that closes a wound and keeps it from the air*) has been applied.
- E. In the event of blood spillage onto the playing surface or in the dugout, the spillage will be cleaned up. A “blood spill” kit should be available for each synthetic playing field. If not, call Duty Director of Manning Valley Hockey Association.
- F. No player should be treated for an injury on the playing surface unless there are extenuating circumstances where it is deemed unsafe to move the injured player.

XXIII. Umpires and Umpiring at Matches

- A.** Each club shall nominate a minimum of two suitably qualified umpires per team when nominating their teams.
- B.** The Mens Match Committee will notify these nominated umpires the matches they will be required to umpire, the time they are to umpire and the ground the match is to be played.
- C.** Failure to notify the Match Committee of unavailability to umpire by the nominated umpire within two days (48 hours), or failure to formally ensure a replacement umpire of the same standard /qualification for the nominated match will result in that umpire being suspended for the next competition match.
- D.** Where a team is nominated in the Competition draw as an Umpire and that team fails to fulfil the Umpires duties, the player named as Captain of that team on the match card for that teams preceding match, will be suspended from that teams next competition match in accordance with this paragraph.
- E.** Failure to complete a nominated umpiring commitment will result in the nominated Umpire being suspended for the next competition round as advised in writing by the Mens Match Committee.
- F.** A club playing such a disqualified player will result in the team that the player played in forfeiting the game and the game will be awarded to their opponents as per Rule XVI - Forfeits.
- G.** An umpire who is suspended as part of this rule and wishing to lodge an appeal arising from such a decision will be required to lodge an appeal in writing with the Mens Match Committee within 48 hours of the umpire receiving their suspension notification.

XXIV. Representative Teams, Coaches and Officials

- A.** 1. All players, coaches and officials trialling and/or playing or officiating for representative teams must be:
 - * A registered player of the Association,
OR
 - * A financial member of the Association,
OR
 - * play in the Association Competition.
OR
 - *. Have played for the Association and currently be registered with NSWHA.
- 2. All costs incurred by players attending representative fixtures are to be met prior to attendance at the said event.

B. Conduct of Coaches/Managers

1. Comply with duties of representative team managers/manageress's and coaches (Rule XXIX – General Rules).
2. (a) Coaches and managers must work in close liaison with the Associations Coaching Director, in line with the Men's Sub Committee priority to enhance coaching skills and accreditation levels within its ranks.

(b) Coaches must provide a written training and coaching plan for the Association Coaching Director prior to commencement of the announced representative training dates for that season.
- 3 Coaches and managers shall be in constant liaison with the Men's Sub Committee Executive including reporting to the Associations Records Director and attending normal Sub Committee meetings.
- 4 Money collected by team manager and coaches must be passed to the Men's Sub Committee Assistant Treasurer and/or Association Finance Director.
- 5 Managers shall liaise closely with the Association Finance Director to ensure correct procedures are used for payment of expenses incurred by teams.
- 6 The coaches and managers of Association senior representative teams are answerable to the Men's Sub Committee and the Association Board of Management.
- 7 Coaches and Managers of all Teams (Competition & Representative) must be Financial Members of the Manning Valley Hockey Association and Hockey NSW.