

Manning Valley Hockey Association Incorporated (MVHA)

Senior Competition and Playing Rules Version 4: 2021

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1. Terms of Reference

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

Term	Definition for senior competition and playing rules
BOM	Board of Management, elected officials, of MVHA
Club	A club affiliated with MVHA
Coach	Individual coach of a team of a club in MVHA or representative team of MVHA
Competition	The total number of hockey matches including finals within one season as designated by the published hockey draw
Draw	Published series of rounds outlining times and dates and fields for hockey competition
Field Player	Any player taking the field in a team within MVHA competition
FIH	Federation International Hockey
Final Series	Includes all semi-final, final and grand final matches at the end of a season
Goal Keeper	Fully padded player playing as specific position within a team
Manager	Individual managing a team of a club in MVHA or representative team of MVHA
Match	A hockey match played between 2 teams under the control of MVHA
Match Card	The official record of a game played between 2 teams under the control of MVHA
Match Committee	Committee of elected persons representing all clubs that performs duties including but not limited to organising MVHA matches and competitions.
MVHA	Manning Valley Hockey Association Incorporated
Player	Person playing in senior competition of MVHA
Registrar	Elected official who records and performs duties including but not limited to recording all MVHA results from submitted match cards.
Round	A series of hockey matches clearly defined in the published draw
Season	A complete competition, usually but not always beginning in March and ending in the following September
Senior	Person or competition involving players over 13 (or 18) years of age
Team	A team representing an individual club or MVHA
Technical Official	Person officiating at hockey match
Umpire	Person umpiring a hockey match

2. Executive Positions

- A. All executive positions for the Senior Competition are to be filled at the MVHA AGM prior to the beginning of the competition each season. These are to include a Men's and Women's Registrar, Club Match Committee Representatives, Judiciary and Grading Review Panel representatives.
- B. Clubs should nominate two representatives for the senior match committee.
 - a. The Senior Match committee for that year will elect a chairperson and secretary and any other positions they require from the club nominated members.
 - b. The Senior Match Committee will adhere to the Match Committee Charter as endorsed by the MVHA Board of Management.
- C. Each club must nominate up to two (2) Judiciary Panel Members to the MVHA Board.
- D. Each club must nominate one (1) Grading Review Panel Member to the MVHA Board.
- E. The Registrars for the senior competitions will be elected from individual nomination to the MVHA Board.

- F. President and Secretary Meetings of MVHA will be attended by Board Representatives and the Presidents and Secretaries, or club members of each club playing in MVHA senior competition.
- G. All committee positions must be filled by financial members of MVHA but may be held by non-playing members.
- H. All Clubs have one vote per club, with the Chairperson of each Committee having the deciding vote if required.

3. Meetings

A. Meeting Venue

The Senior Match Committee and Presidents and Secretaries meetings will be held at a time and venue to be decided at the MVHA Annual General Meeting

B. Meeting Delegates

Each Club is required to have at least one (1) delegate present at each Senior Match Committee meeting. These delegates are to be identified prior to the commencement of the meeting. Failure by a club to have a delegate in attendance will result in the loss of vote on that night, with decisions made on the night recorded as final.

C. The Senior Match Committee and Presidents and Secretaries meeting quorum consists of a minimum of five (5) clubs represented.

D. In exceptional circumstances, a club may make an application in writing to the Chairperson of the committee concerned prior to the following meeting for reconsideration of a decision. The letter must state facts in support of the application.

E. Manning Valley Hockey Association Meetings Summary

Meeting	Minimum Delegates required	Where /when	Feedback Mechanism
Board of Management	10 Members written nomination for office bearers and/or from the floor at MVHA AGM	Monthly/ MVHA Clubhouse	President and Secretaries. NSW Hockey Minutes posted on website Newsletter
Presidents and Secretaries	BOM representative. 2 representatives per club	Monthly with date to be decided at MVHA AGM	Clubs Board of Management
Senior Match Committee	2 per club	Representative to be chosen by clubs. Meeting date/ frequency decided by MVHA Board and then committee	Clubs, BOM, Presidents and Secretaries
Judiciary Committee	2 per club only with 3 persons to be selected per hearing	As required and organised by Judiciary Convenor	Judiciary Convenor/ BOM Clubs Involved
Grading Review Committee	1 per club	As required and organised via notification from the Board or from the Senior Match Committee	Clubs, Senior Match Committee, BOM

Meeting	Minimum Delegates required	Where/ when	Feedback Mechanism
Carnival Committee and other as directed by MVHA Board	As requested	As required	Presidents and Secretaries BOM

4. Association Register of Members

- A. To enable the Public Officer to compile the Register of Members, each club must submit player information as requested on the MVHA Team Registration Form/s (Juniors, Seniors, Masters, Non-Playing Members) as appropriate then forward electronically to the MVHA Secretary, Treasurer and appropriate Registrar. This form must be submitted by the date set by the BOM.
- B. Unregistered Players – A club fielding in any competition match, a player who has not been registered shall, at the discretion of the Senior Match Committee, forfeit that match (Refer to Rule 20 Forfeits).
- C. If an invoice is sent to a club by the Association Treasurer and is not paid by that club within two (2) months from the date the invoice is sent, that club will be deemed to be immediately unfinancial and therefore ineligible to compete in any hockey competitions that are conducted by Manning Valley Hockey Association Inc until such time as the outstanding amount is paid, or payments are being made to the satisfaction of the Board of Management. Interest may be charged on any outstanding amounts owing after thirty days from the date the invoice is deemed to have been received. The interest charges will be at the discretion of the Board of Management of Manning Valley Hockey.

5. Registration of Members

- A. All players and officials in Manning Valley Hockey Association (MVHA) must be registered members of MVHA and a current financial member of Hockey NSW.

6. Player Transfers

- A. A player who
 - a. Having completed the current season as a financial member of a club does not require a clearance from that club before playing with another club.
 - b. Has taken the field for one club but wishes to transfer from that club to another club in the same season or has played for a club in any Association other than MVHA during the preceding season should:
 - i. Apply in writing to the Chairperson of the Senior Match Committee for a permit to play for an affiliated club in MVHA.
 - ii. Supply information as may be required by the Senior Match Committee, and
 - iii. Supply a clearance letter from their former club or Association and forward this to the Chairperson of the Senior Match Committee, prior to being granted permission or taking the field for the other club. The penalty if the player takes field is Forfeit as per Rule 4 Part B and Forfeit Rule 20.

- B. The Senior Match Committee shall consider each application for transfer within seven (7) days of its receipt.
- C. In the event of any dispute the Chairperson of the Senior Match Committee shall immediately advise the club and player/s concerned as to when the final decision is to be made on their application to transfer so that the player/club 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 Senior Match Committee and their decision in all cases will be final.
- E. In exceptional circumstances, a club may make an application in writing to the MVHA Board of Management prior to the following meeting for reconsideration of a decision. The letter must state facts in support of the application.
- F. A player registered and financial with another association and Hockey NSW is eligible to play in the MVHA competition once they have become financial members of MVHA.
- G. Each club is to submit a list of all players requiring clearance to the Registrars and Senior Match Committee Chairperson at the end of each season. Clubs must also forward a list of non-financial members to the Association Treasurer within two (2) weeks of the season Grand Final.

7. Team Registrations

- A. Each Club in MVHA must forward a completed MVHA Team Nomination Form provided on the MVHA website, to the Senior Match Committee. This form indicates the number of teams and their respective grades they are nominating for each team to compete in for that competition year. This form must be submitted to the Association Secretary and Senior and/or Junior Match Committee Chairperson. **Closing date for Team Nominations will be twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the commencement of the forthcoming MVHA competition.**
 - a) A \$100 per team nomination fee is to be received from all clubs in the senior competition. This payment will be deducted from the club's total registration fee due to the MVHA for the season. This fee will be forfeited by the club if the team is pulled from the competition after the season draw has been done. **This fee is payable with the Team Nomination Form due twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the start of the competition.**
- B. Completed Team Nominations, including full details of all nominated players, must be completed on the Team Details Form available on the MVHA website and emailed to the Association Secretary at secretary@manningvalleyhockey.org.au seven (7) calendar days prior to round one (1) of the competition. A copy of the Team Details Form is available from the MVHA website.
 - a. Failure of a club to submit the completed team nomination will result in that team being ruled as "unregistered" and the Forfeit Rule will apply. Refer Rule 20 Part C section b.
- C. Two (2) competent umpires must be nominated by clubs for each team nomination. The nominated umpire's names and details must be completed on the Umpire nomination form available on the MVHA website and be forwarded to the MVHA Umpire Director and the Senior Match Committee **seven (7) days prior to round one (1) of the competition.**
- D. For the purpose of Team Nominations:
 - a. a minimum of 11 players must be nominated per Team.
 - b. In single team clubs and in the lowest division of all multi team clubs a minimum of 11 and maximum of 20 players may be registered in that team only. In all other teams a maximum of 18 players can be registered in each team per club.
 - c. Competitions in the MVHA Senior Competition shall be known as:
 - i. Highest Grade – Division 1
 - ii. Second Highest Grade – Division 2
 - iii. Third Highest Grade – Division 3

- iv. Fourth Highest Grade – Division 4 and so on depending on team nominations received in any playing season competition.
- v. When an inter Association Senior Competition is active it shall be known as Premier League.
- E. Each club must nominate their **top eleven (11)** players (minimum) in their highest graded team.
- F. In all other grades that clubs are nominating teams in, clubs must nominate a minimum of eleven (11) players in each team
- G. If a player nominated in a team does not play four (4) consecutive scheduled matches with the team they are registered, then that player will need to be replaced but will remain registered with that team.
- H. Player lists, identifying eleven (11) **frozen** players for all clubs **in relation to their highest graded team registered with MVHA and a minimum eleven (11) frozen players in their next highest graded team** must be completed and submitted to the Senior Match Committee and appropriate competition Registrars one (1) week before the commencement of the first competition game. **These players cannot be changed unless exceptional circumstances occur and an application in writing is lodged with the Grading Committee for approval.**
- I. **Where a club nominates more than one team in a grade in MVHA competition then each team will be required to nominate a frozen player list for each team relevant to the grade the team is nominated.**
 - a. **For example, if a club nominates a Division 1 team and two Division 2 teams then the club will be required to nominate eleven (11) frozen players in Division 1 and eleven (11) frozen players in each of their Division 2 teams.**
- J. No player can play in a division lower than the grade that they have been nominated in for that season.
 - a. Exception to this rule is goalkeepers; refer to Rule 8 – Player Registration, Section I-part b.
 - b. **Once a player receives their grading as approved by the MVHA Grading Committee then the player can play unlimited matches in a higher division until that player is subject to Rule 7 Part G.**
 - c. If a player plays in a division lower than the division in which they have been nominated **and graded**, then the Forfeit Rule (Rule 20 Part C section c) will apply.
- K. In exceptional circumstances, clubs may make application in writing to the Senior Match Committee for special consideration in relation to Section 7. The letter is to state the facts and evidence to support the club's application. Clubs will be notified of the Senior Match Committee's decision ideally within 48hours and no longer than 7 days from receipt of the application.

8. Player Registration

- A. It is the individual player's responsibility to register with NSW Hockey Online.
- B. Players may register for one (1) club and (1) team only in the MVHA senior competition in any season. For transfers within clubs refer to Rule 6.
- C. If a club has more than one team in any division, no player may play across a division.
- D. No player can drop more than a single grade per season.
- E. A player must be a minimum of thirteen (13) or turning 13 in that year of competition to qualify to play in MVHA Senior competitions. Players between thirteen (13) or turning thirteen (13) and fifteen (15) or turning (15) during the playing season must sign a waiver. The waiver forms are available on the MVHA website. The waiver must be signed by the player's parent/guardian, the

Club for which they wish to register and play and a MVHA Board member before the player takes the field in MVHA senior competitions. A copy of all completed playing waivers must be sent to the secretary@manningvalleyhockey.org.au

- F. No player shall play in more than two competition matches in any one competition round.
- G. Players who are currently, or who have been in the past two (2) years, a State, Territory, Country or National Open or Under 18 representatives, excluding Masters, must be registered to play in the Associations highest grade.
- H. All late player registrations must be recorded on the back of the match card in which they play their first game. **This must include name, date of birth, address, and provisional player grading.** The player's registration with HNSW and MVHA will be checked from this document.
 - a. No new player can take the field until his/her registration forms have been completed lodged and is financially registered with HNSW and MVHA. If this rule is breached the offending club team will be considered to have played an unregistered player and rule 4B shall apply.
 - b. Failure to nominate a new registration on the match card and the offending club team will be considered to have played an unregistered player and rule 4B shall apply.
- I. A Grading Review Committee shall be formed if required to grade players in MVHA.
 - a. The Grading Review Committee reserves the right to regrade players at any time during the competition as directed by the Senior Match Committee or Board.
 - b. Only one nominated player per team may be permitted to be graded as a Goalkeeper and/or as a field Player separately.
- J. If any player, other than those ruled exempt as per Rule 7, plays in a lower grade than they have been nominated in the Forfeit Rule (Rule 20) will apply.
- K. In exceptional circumstances, clubs may make application in writing to the Senior Match Committee for special consideration in relation to Section 8. The letter is to state the facts and evidence to support the club's application.

9. Eligibility for Finals – Teams and Players

- A. For the purposes of finals 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 during a senior competition round.
 - a. 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/she will not be recorded by the Registrar as playing in the higher grade for this match only.
 - b. It is the responsibility of the Captain of the Team with the player concerned to note on the match card the player registered in the team on representative commitments and the player who is playing up a grade to fill in that position for the match. Failure to accurately note on the Match Card by the Captain will result in Rule 9A applying to that player for that match.
 - *players, umpires, officials participating in Australian team, NSW State League; NSW High School and age representative teams, Open and Masters State Championships where player is representing MVHA in a hockey capacity.
- B. Subject to the rules 7, 8, 9 and 13, semi-finals, finals and grand final matches of MVHA Senior competition will be played according to the Rules of Hockey adopted and issued under the Authority of Hockey Australia.

- C. To qualify for the final series a player must have played a minimum of **six (6) Competition Rounds in their nominated grade** from point of registration **with Manning Valley Hockey Association** as determined in the competition draw.
- D. In exceptional circumstances, clubs may make application in writing to the Senior Match Committee for special consideration in relation to Section 9. The letter is to state the facts and evidence to support the club's application.

10. Suspensions

- A. If a player receives three (3) yellow cards **within a period of six (6) competition rounds** on receipt of the third card the offending player will automatically receive a one (1) match suspension, six (6) yellow cards **within a period of six (6) competition rounds** then it's a two (2) match suspension, eight (8) yellow cards **within a period of six (6) competition rounds** then a three (3) week suspension. The suspension is to be served the following match or round after they have been notified.
 - a. The Registrar must inform the Club, Umpires Convenor and Player in writing of the card breach as soon as practical.
- B. For comprehensive suspension and misconduct penalties refer to MVHA Judiciary Procedures 2011. This document is available on the MVHA webpage.

11. Competition and Match Duration

- A. The Chairperson of the Senior Match Committee, in consultation with the Committee members, shall have the power to alter the time, date or field of any match, but they shall advise the affected clubs and Turf Director of such alterations as soon as practicable.
- B. In exceptional circumstances, clubs may make application in writing to the Senior Match Committee for special consideration in relation to Section 11A. The letter is to state the facts and evidence to support the club's application.
- C. MVHA senior competition round matches shall be played in divisions as set down in the competition draw created and promulgated by the Senior Match Committee.
- D. The draw shall be published as soon as practicable stating match dates, times, assigned field, Teams playing, Umpires assigned and Technical Official **if** required.
- E. Time allocated to matches is as follows:
 - a. Senior competition matches **2 x 35-minute** periods with a 5-minute half time. **For Division 2 and below.**
 - b. **Division 1 Senior competition matches 4 x 17 minute periods with a 5-minute half time, with 2 minute intervals scheduled after periods 1 and 3;**
 - c. Matches will commence and end at the allocated time as per the draw. (Exceptions as per FIH Rules eg Penalty Corners and Penalty strokes). Teams must vacate the dugout area as soon as practicable after the completion of their match.
 - d. Teams may enter the dugout area as soon as practicable after it has been vacated by teams participating in the previous match.
 - e. There is no time out for injuries, substitutions, lost balls etc during round matches during the season.

- f. Players may take the field any time during the match as long as they have had their name recorded on the match card and have signed the card.
 - g. The Registrar/s will maintain a point score of results according to the match cards received.
 - h. The Registrar shall not be obliged but should check the team lists against player's registrations.
- F. If there are ten (10) or more teams nominated in a division then the Senior Match Committee may consider creating another division or allocating teams to another division to create equity across the divisions.

12. Substitutions

- A. Substitution of players during a game for any reason will be permitted according to FIH rules section 2.3. A team shall comprise of the maximum number of sixteen (16) players.
- B. Each team can substitute up to 5 players during the game as often as required.
- C. Player substitutions should occur at the halfway mark.
- D. No substitution shall be permitted for a suspended player during the period he/she is suspended.
- E. If an injured player is attended to on the field by off field personnel, then that player must leave the field for a minimum of 2 minutes
- F. Play is stopped for substitution of goal keepers but not for other substitutions.
- G. The technical official observes and maintains correct substitution procedures are observed during a match.

13. Final Matches

- A. An official Technical Official is to be appointed by the Senior Match Committee for semi-finals, finals and grand finals.
- B. Position of Teams
At the completion of all competition rounds for the season 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:
 - a. 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 point score table.
 - b. Where goal differences are also equal the following methods shall be used to determine positions,
 - i. Goal averages
 - ii. Results when the teams last met in the round game of the competition
 - iii. Play-off or stroke off/ penalty shoot-out as determined as appropriate by the Senior Match Committee.
 - c. Once the final point score of the teams, at the end of the competition, is established they will be ranked from First (1st) through to the last team on the point score.
- C. Order of Play
 - a. Semi Final matches: First (1st) plays Second (2nd) and Third (3rd) plays Fourth (4th). The winner of the match between 1st and 2nd qualifies for the Grand Final. The Grand Final is

played at least two (2) weeks after the semi-finals or as designated on the competition draw.

- b. Preliminary Final: The loser from the match between 1st and 2nd and the winner from the match between 3rd and 4th. The preliminary final is played the week after the semi-final or as designated on the competition draw.
- c. The winner from the Preliminary Final then qualifies for the Grand Final.
- d. In the event of a three (3) team Division, the team finishing First (1st) will automatically qualify for the Grand Final, while teams finishing second (2nd) and third (3rd) will play in a Preliminary Final. The winner of 2nd and 3rd will then qualify to play in the Grand Final.
- e. The time date and field assignments of all final matches will be designated by the Senior Match Committee at the beginning of the competition and displayed on the draw/s.

D. Game Times for Semi-Finals and Finals

Senior Competition Semis/ Final – Division One
4x 17 min intervals; 5 min half time; 2 min break after interval 1 and 3
Draw at end of regular time:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 min break after regular time. • 2 players dropped off (9 per team) • Additional 2 X 5 min periods with a change of ends but no break between end change.
Still even after extra time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 min break • 2 players dropped off (7 per team) • Additional 2x5 min periods with a change of ends but no break between end change. • Golden Goal in this 2 x 5 min extra time
Still even after extra extra time
Match awarded to the team that finished highest on the regular competition points table

Senior Competition Semis/ Final – Division Two and Below
2 x 35 min intervals; 5 min half time
Draw at end of regular time:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 min break after regular time. • 2 players dropped off (9 per team) • Additional 2 X 5 min periods with a change of ends but no break between end change.
Still even after extra time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 min break • 2 players dropped off (7 per team) • Additional 2x5 min periods with a change of ends but no break between end change. • Golden Goal in this 2 x 5 min extra time
Still even after extra extra time
Match awarded to the team that finished highest on the regular competition points table

E. Game times for Grand Finals

Senior Competition Grand Final– Division One
4x 17 min intervals; 5 min half time; 2 min break after interval 1 and 3
Draw at end of regular time:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 min break after regular time. • 2 players dropped off (9 per team) • Additional 2 X 5 min periods with a change of ends but no break between end change.
Still even after extra time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 min break • 2 players dropped off (7 per team) • Additional 2x5 min periods with a change of ends but no break between end change. • Golden Goal in this 2 x 5 min extra time
Still even after extra extra time
Penalty shoot out
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 players per team, then if still even • Golden Goal penalty shoot out

Senior Competition Grand Final– Division Two and Below
2 x 35 min intervals; 5 min half time; 5 min half time
Draw at end of regular time:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 min break after regular time. • 2 players dropped off (9 per team) • Additional 2 X 5 min periods with a change of ends but no break between end change.
Still even after extra time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 min break • 2 players dropped off (7 per team) • Additional 2x5 min periods with a change of ends but no break between end change. • Golden Goal in this 2 x 5 min extra time
Still even after extra extra time
Penalty shoot out
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 players per team, then if still even • Golden Goal penalty shoot out

- F. During the Final series (semi Finals, Finals and Grand Finals) time out for injuries will only be permitted in the case of serious injury and will be up to the discretion of the umpire/s the time will be allocated at the conclusion of the respective half.

14. Wet Matches

- A. The Turf Director or Duty BOM member if present, of MVHA in conjunction with the field umpires shall determine if games are to be cancelled due to wet weather.

- a. Where possible, an announcement regarding cancellations shall be made over appropriate public media and electronic media as soon as possible.
- B. The Senior Match Committee will meet within 14 days and advise affected clubs in writing as soon as practicable of the rescheduled times for the matches to be played.

15. Adverse Weather Conditions

- A. The Turf Director or Duty BOM member if present, of MVHA in conjunction with the field umpires shall determine if games are to be cancelled due to adverse weather conditions.
- B. In the event of lightning in the area, the Hockey NSW lightning safety code should be adhered. The full code is in Appendix VI
- C. If a match begins, and due to adverse weather, it deteriorates to the point where it is deemed too dangerous to continue, then the following will apply:
 - a. If the match must be abandoned before forty-five (45) minutes of game time has elapsed, then the remaining time of this match is to be played at a time scheduled by the Senior Match Committee.
 - b. The Senior Match Committee will meet within 14 days and advise affected clubs in writing as soon as practicable of the rescheduled times for the remaining match time to be played.
 - c. The match card will be signed by umpires, the technical official and captains with the time remaining clearly recorded. This match card will be the match card used for the completion of the rescheduled match.
 - d. Only players from the original match card will be eligible to take part in the rescheduled match.
- D. If the match must be abandoned after forty-five (45) minutes of game time has elapsed but before full time is signalled, the match will be deemed completed, and the score at time will be recorded as the final score.
 - a. The match card will be signed by umpires, the technical official and captains with the time remaining clearly recorded.
- E. If the match cannot commence on time due to adverse weather conditions, the match may be delayed up to one period of seventeen (17) mins, before it is abandoned.
 - a. If the match can begin within and including seventeen (17) minutes from the scheduled match start time, then the time remaining should be divided equally into two (2) halves with limited half time.
 - i. The umpires and team captains will need to agree on the start and break time prior to commencement of play.
 - ii. At the completion of play the match will be deemed completed and the score will be recorded as the final score.
 - iii. The match card will be signed by umpires, the technical official and captains with the starting time clearly recorded.
- F. If no play commences due to adverse weather, the match will be abandoned and the match card will be signed by umpires, technical official and captains with the time and reason for the game abandoned clearly recorded.
 - a. The Senior Match Committee will meet within 14 days and advise affected clubs in writing as soon as practicable of the rescheduled times for the match to be replayed.
- G. In the case of extreme hot weather teams and/or umpires may request to play quarters with a drink break. The final decision will rest with the umpires.

- a. Recommended temperatures for cancellation of games is a sustained temperature of 37°C. Refer to Hockey NSW Hot Weather Policy on the MVHA website.

16. Serious Injuries and Other Time Out

- A. There will be no time out for non-serious injuries during round matches.
- B. For serious injuries where it is deemed unsafe for the player to be moved, Rule 15 Adverse Weather Conditions, Section C, D and E will apply.
- C. Any player who sustains an injury and bleeds is required to leave the playing field as soon as safely possible to do so. The player is not permitted to resume playing until the bleeding has been stopped or a suitable occlusive dressing has been applied.
 - a. Any player with blood on their clothing is not permitted to take the pitch. As per FIH Rules
- D. In the event of blood spillage onto the playing surface or in the dugout, the spillage will be cleaned up by the Technical Official and umpires. A “blood and body fluid spill” kit should be available for each synthetic playing field. If not, notify the Duty MVHA BOM representative at the hockey centre.
- E. 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.
- F. Recommendation for players participating when pregnant are in accordance with the document “Participation of the Pregnant Athlete in Contact or Collision Sports”; Sports Medicine Guidelines. In a “confirmed” pregnancy, participation is only recommended during the first trimester. Hockey NSW Pregnancy Policy, January 2013. This policy is available on the MVHA website.

17. Attire

- A. All players must be attired in the uniform as specified by the club which they are registered with.
 - a. Team or club colours must be registered and approved by the Senior Match Committee.
 - b. New teams/ clubs or changes to existing club uniforms shall only be permitted after an application in writing has been submitted to the MVHA secretary. The application must specify the name of the club and include complete uniform colours, including shirt, shorts, skirts and socks. The application will be considered by the Senior Match Committee. The club/team will then be notified of the approval or any changes required for complying with MVHA.
- B. A player shall be given three (3) playing games to acquire a uniform conforming to regulations.
- C. A team must be in uniform by the fourth (4th) playing week.
- D. Each team captain must be identified by a visible Captains band either worn over the sock or on the arm.
- E. Only soft peaked caps to be worn on the field
- F. For player safety and at the discretion of the match official’s jewellery should be removed or taped. Exceptions are medi alert jewellery.
- G. Fit bits/ wrist fitness trackers may be worn if covered by a sweat band.
- H. **It is mandatory, unless a completed medical and/or dental waiver request is ~~supplied~~ submitted to the MVHA secretary and WH&S Officer and approved, that all players wear the appropriate protective equipment for their personal safety. This includes appropriate footwear, shin guards**

and mouth guards. Face guards, gloves and plastic goggles are recommended but not compulsory. A player must produce a copy of the waiver on request to any official/ umpire. Players must always have the waiver with them. The form required for the Mouth Guard/Shinpad Waiver is on the MVHA Website.

- I. It is recommended that players, umpires, officials, and spectators use appropriate sun protection such as hats and sunscreen.

18. Match Points

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

A.

Match Outcome	Senior Competitions
Win	3 points + goals for and against
Draw	2 points + goals for and against
Loss	1 point + goals for and against
Bye	0 points + 0 goals
Forfeiting Team	0 points + 0 goals
Forfeited Team	3 points + 3 goals

- B. If a match is played and is later deemed a forfeit for any reason and the team who receive the forfeit scored more than three (3) goals then, the original amount of goals scored and recorded on the match card will stand and be recorded with the win, and no goals (0) will be recorded to the forfeiting team.

19. Match Cards

Match cards are legal documents that record the outcome of any incidents and the final score in a competition round match of MVHA, they must be filed with the Registrar/s within seven (7) days from the completion of the match.

- A. The MVHA 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 and filing of match card in the match card box at the completion of the match is the responsibility of the umpires.
- B. The first team on the draw is responsible for providing the match card for that game and completing the generic details (Date, Time, Teams, Field).
- C. Both teams must, complete the match card player list and individual players personally sign the match card prior to individual players taking the field. The names and signatures MUST be legible and the persons regular signature. Once completed the match card is kept by the Technical Official in the dugout.
- D. Any substitute player playing out of their registered grade (Refer to Rule 8C) must have their grading stipulated in the grade column on the match card.
- E. Any player whose name and signature appears in full on the match card, and who takes the field of play, will be deemed to have participated in that match and will be recorded as having done so by the Registrar/s

- F. Players recorded on the card as playing will be checked by the Technical Official on Duty. If a player is listed on the match card and has signed the match card but fails to take the field at any time during the game then they will be recorded as not playing by the Technical Official.
- G. No player may take the field during the match if they are not on the team list or have not signed the card.
- H. At the completion of the match the technical official/ umpires will ensure that the match card is fully completed and signed by the Captains of both teams who participated in the match. To fully complete the match card must have:
 - a. Goals scored and recorded against individual players
 - b. During game suspensions received and recorded against individual players
 - c. Best and Fairest points awarded across all players on the field
 - i. Best and fairest: 3 points; 2 points and 1 point.
 - d. Any injuries/ incidents that occurred during match on the back of the card. If no incidents/injuries strike through and sign.
 - e. Any new player registrations completed.
- I. Once the Match Card is signed by the Umpires and Technical Official it is completed and no further details may be added.
- J. Filing of the completed match card is the responsibility of the umpire.
- K. Missing match cards or match cards with missing or incorrect information or scores will be deemed NO SCORE until the missing information has been verified in writing by both teams and /or umpires who participated in the match. In the case of ongoing conflicting information, the match will be recorded as 0-0 and no points awarded to either team.
 - a. The Senior Match Committee will notify the club/s in writing outlining the issues relating the match card. The club/s must then respond within seven (7) days to the match committee/s addressing the issues raised. Failure to receive a response from the club/s within this time will result in the match being awarded NO SCORE. The match committee/s decision will be final.
 - b. If a resolution is deemed unsuitable to a club/s please refer to MVHA Judiciary Procedures 2011 on the MVHA website for the appropriate Grievance Procedure.
- L. The team list including signatures recorded on match cards can, if required, be photographed if the following are observed:
 - a. Only the team list of the club taking the photo can be photographed
 - b. Only the manager, coach or captain of the team may take the photo.
 - c. No junior cards or junior names can be photographed unless previous permission is given.

20. Forfeits

- A. Any team intending to forfeit must notify the Chairperson of the Senior Match Committee at least 48 hours before the scheduled match. It is the responsibility of the match committee chairperson to notify in writing the opposing team and relevant umpires and technical official.
- B. A claim for a forfeit after the match has been completed must be made by the secretary of the claiming club/s to the match committee/s within four (4) days of the date the match was played.
- C. Matches or match points shall be forfeited if:
 - a. In lieu of any adverse weather conditions or wet weather rules applying a team is more than ten (10) minutes late in taking the field.

- b. A team plays an unregistered player or plays a registered player of another club within MVHA.
 - c. A team in a lower division plays with any frozen player registered in a higher division.
 - d. Clubs with 2 or more teams in any single division play players in the wrong team within that division.
 - e. Team plays with a player currently serving a suspension.
- D. When a forfeit occurs the Registrar/s has the authority to allocate the appropriate points.
 - E. Any team who forfeits more than three (3) competition round matches within a season will be ineligible to compete in any final series for that season.
 - F. When a forfeit has occurred, the forfeiting team will be charged. If the Senior Match Committee Chairperson receives notification of the forfeit greater than forty-eight (48) hours before the scheduled match the forfeiting team will be fined their match fees only. If notification is received less than forty-eight (48) hours before the scheduled game, then the forfeiting team will be charged double match fees.
- Note: Forfeiting club to notify other club as well as match officials

21. Deferments

- A. To be able to defer a game that team must have a minimum of three (3) registered representative players **and/ or head coach or umpire** unable to play the competition game set down in the current competition draw.
 - a. Representative commitments are deemed as hockey players, and/or **head coach, and/ or umpire** where they are representing MVHA in a hockey capacity **or a higher representative team as defined in Rule 8. Player registration Part G.**
- B. Application for deferment of games must be made in writing and given to the Senior Match Committee Chairperson fourteen (14) days in advance of the scheduled competition match.
- C. The Senior Match Committee will set down deferment game dates at the beginning of the season and publish on the draws. Teams who cannot play in the allotted time as per the direction of the match committees will deem to have forfeited the deferred match.
- D. The Senior Match Committee will determine if a match that has been deferred will be played.
- E. Deferred games will be played as directed by the Match Committee/s and under the normal competition rules. Teams who cannot play in the allotted time as per the direction of the match committees will deem to have forfeited the deferred match.

22. Umpires and Officials of Matches

- A. Each club shall nominate a minimum of two (2) qualified umpires per team when nominating their teams at the beginning of each season. **No duplication of umpires is to be recorded on the team nominations.**
- B. The MVHA Umpire Convenor, will assign umpiring and technical official duties ~~when creating~~ **for** the competition draw.
- C. Failure to complete a nominated Technical Official Duty, as assigned on the competition draw will incur a 2 point per failure team penalty.
- D. Umpires shall be remunerated a minimum of twenty dollars (\$20) **per game via electronic transfer. The payment will occur monthly by MVHA Treasurer. Umpires must maintain an umpiring claim form to be submitted to the MVHA Treasurer at the end of each month.**

- E. Umpires in MVHA must wear appropriate clothing which consists of a high visibility yellow
- F.) shirt **supplied by MVHA**, dark pants or skirt and appropriate footwear. Wet weather flouro yellow jackets are available for all umpires at the MVHA Clubhouse.
- G. Any complaint or issue raised about umpiring must be made in writing within four (4) days to the Secretary MVHA, addressed to the attention of the Umpire Convenor MVHA. No verbal complaints will be addressed.
- H. Umpire grading is conducted by qualified umpire assessors. It is the individual club's responsibility, as part of their Duty of Care to their club members, to nominate suitably competent umpires.
- I. Substitution of umpires during a match should only occur if the umpire succumbs to an injury and is unable to continue.
- J. **For further information on Umpiring please refer to the 2021 Manning Valley Hockey Association Umpiring Policies and Procedures Manual. This is a separate document with more specific information regarding the requirements of MVHA umpires.**

23. Representative Teams

- A. The selection panel for representative player selection shall consist of a minimum of five (5) selectors in total with one selector being the coach of the team being selected.
- B. All players, coaches and officials trialling and /or playing or officiating for representative teams must be:
 - a. A registered player of MVHA
 - b. A financial member of MVHA
 - c. Play and or officiate in the MVHA competition
 - d. A previous player in the MVHA and currently be registered with NSWHA
 - e. Hold a current Working with Children Clearance if required.
- C. All costs incurred by players attending representative fixtures are to be met prior to attendance at the said event.
- D. All Coaches must have a current Level 1 Coaching Accreditation with Hockey NSW.
- E. All coaches and Managers of Representative teams that involve children/ minors must have a current Working with Children clearance.
- F. Managers shall liaise with MVHA Treasurer to ensure correct procedures and payments are followed for expenses incurred by representative teams. Money collected by team managers and coaches must be passed on to the MVHA treasurer as soon as possible.

24. MVHA Codes of Conduct

- A. All members and spectators must comply with MVHA Codes of Conduct whilst at the Hockey Centre. Failure to comply will result in personal/ team or club penalties being applied. For further guidance refer to MVHA Code of Conducts on the MVHA website and the MVHA Off Field Disciplinary Breach Guide 2016 and Revised Judiciary Procedure. Codes of conduct and disciplinary policies are available on the MVHA website.
- B. If a club does not fulfil its assigned rostered duty. The club will be fined \$100 per failure. This will be invoiced by the MVHA Treasurer.

- C. In exceptional circumstances, clubs may make an application in writing to the Board via the association secretary for consideration. The application must include supporting evidence and be made no more than four (4) days after the unfulfilled duty.

25. Grievance Procedures

- A. For all grievance procedures not covered within the above MVHA Senior Competition Rules and subclauses please refer to the MVHA Revised Judiciary Procedure on the MVHA website.

26. MVHA Senior Competition Rules Review and Rewrites

- A. Periodically throughout the season rules and subclauses may need to be addressed. Any request for such a review or rewrite must be received in writing and addressed to the MVHA Secretary for discussion and action via the MVHA Board. If deemed necessary, the MVHA Board of Management will then initiate the appropriate people to conduct any corrections.
- B. Failing any requests as per section 26A the MVHA Senior Competition Rules will be reviewed at the first meeting of the MVHA Presidents and Secretaries meeting after the Annual General Meeting of MVHA.

27. Amendment Record:

MVHA (2017ed) rules amended at Presidents and Secretaries each year.

List of all Rule Changes per year of review:

2017 Rules	Amended	Deleted	Added	Reviewed & No Change	Comments and summary of change
4A	2019				Terminology Change
4C			2018		BOM initiated rule for unpaid accounts
7A	2018/2019				Increased time; included fine. 2019 web reference; submission change; Terminology change
7B	2018/2019				Increased time; included forfeit fine. 2019 -MVHA web reference; Terminology change
7C	2019				MVHA web reference
7D			2019		Single team/ club minimum and maximum team numbers
7E				2018	
7G				2018	
7H	2018/2019/2021				Forfeit rule added. 2019 – MAJOR amendment in conjunction with Rule 7I – outlines new frozen player rule 2021 – Section H define minimum team player numbers

7I	2018/2019			2018	Example added; further discussion on specifics of grading. Major change – 2019 refer to rule 7H, swapped order – defines forfeit rule for player registrations
7E & H	March 2020		2020		Typo error amended regarding team numbers in division 2 teams.
7J b	2021				Unlimited games up
8		2018	2019		Rule C deleted in 2018 only. Rule D inserted re grade movement – all rule 8 E-L moved
8E	2019				Waivers procedure
8G	2021				Added Country Rep
8H	2018/2019/2021				Part A only – added MVHA rego requirement. 2019 procedure defined. 2021- added player details requirement
8I	2019			2018	Tightened to allow only 1 player GK per team
8J	2018/2019	2021			Finite number matches, increased from 7 to 9 in 2019 review. 2021 deleted the penalty for playing games up- infinite games allowed
8K			2019		Player forfeit
9C	2018/2021			2019	Clarified. 2021 further clarified number of matches
9D	2018	2019			Clarified; deleted 2019
10A	2021				Decreased penalty time for cards
10B					MVHA web page reference
11E	2019/2021				Game time changes. 2021 different times for Div 1 and other grades
11F	2019				Increase in teams from 8 to 10
12G		2019			
13D&E	2019/2021				Game time changes. 2021 different times for Div 1 and other grades
15E	2019				Game time changes
15G	2019				MVHA web page reference
16G	2021				Moved to Rule 17H
16H	2021				Moved to Rule 17I
16F	2019				MVHA web page reference
17D	2019				Clarified requirements
17F	2019				Clarified requirements
19D	2019				Clarified requirements
19 L			2018		Photography of match cards
19H			2019		Section e – completing match cards
19K	2019				MVHA web page reference
20F	2018				Monetary fine
21A	2019/2021				Clarified requirements
21C	2019			2018	2019- Clarified requirements; forfeit penalty added
21E	2019				Forfeit penalty added
22A			2021		No duplication of nominees
22B	2021				Remove SMC from Umpire assignment
22C & D	2018	2021			Change in penalty. Deleted in 2021 as Umpire assignment changed

22E			2021		Will become 22C in 2021 – payment of umpires
22F			2021		Will become 22D in 2021 – supplying of umpire uniform
22I		2019			Voted an passed Oct P&S Meeting
22K			2021		New reference to MVHA Centralised Umpiring Policies and Procedures Manual
23A	2019				MVHA web page reference
24			2018		Duty failure fine
25	2019				Web page reference
27		2019			Appendices deleted as documents referenced on MVHA website.

For a more thorough explanation please refer to President and Secretary Meeting Minutes

11/9/18 or Board of Management Meeting 18/9/18.

2019 updates added after September P&S and BOM meetings.

Amendment exception post notification by clubs during Feb 2020 SMC meeting – error noted in team member numbers. Amended 11-3-2020.

2021 updates added after SMC 9/3/21 voted on changes and ratified at BOM meeting 16/3/21.