



WAIKATO HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Junior Division

(Incorporating Secondary, Intermediate and Primary Schools competitions)
By Laws - Competitions and Playing Conditions
(for 2021 season)

Preface

Waikato Hockey Association's ('WHA') mission is *"To provide an environment for the enjoyment, growth and development of hockey for all in the Waikato region."* The WHA Junior Division Committee ('JD') is responsible for organising hockey for players from new entrants through to and including year 13 students.

JD understands and acknowledges the many differing reasons that players, their parents, coaches and schools participate in sport. JD aims to facilitate WHA's mission for each and every person wanting to play hockey.

These bylaws:

- covers players and teams aged from as young as five years old through to and including up to 18 year old players;
- encompasses 'social' and the most competitive players and teams;
- covers teams from all types of schools including small, large, urban and rural schools as well as home schooled children and teenagers;
- are provided to create a playing environment that is enjoyable and fair for all players and teams.

It is the responsibility of each team's coach and / or manager to ensure their teams comply with these bylaws.

JD also understands that, due to a schools specific circumstance, these bylaws may impact on the ability for schools to provide hockey to all players. Where required, JD will consider appropriate dispensation of, or exemption from, these bylaws to ensure schools are able to enter teams and to also field full teams for specific games.

- If known in advance, dispensation should always be sought (in writing/email) prior to the event, whether for a whole season or specific games.
- In 'emergency' situations, dispensation can be granted after the fact – JD will support good sensible decisions made by coaches / managers where prior approval is unable to be obtained.

1 Introduction

1.1 These rules shall override any previous rules.

2 Code of Conduct

2.1 The Hockey New Zealand Code of Conduct will apply to all hockey within the WHA.

3 Control and Jurisdiction

3.1 All games shall be under the control of the JD with power of appeal and jurisdiction with the WHA.

3.2 JD, in conjunction with WHA, shall decide dates, times and grounds for all games in the "local" competitions.

3.3 WHA shall have the power to suspend any team that may be in arrears with any fees.

4 Fees

4.1 Annual entry fees for the local competition shall be set by WHA prior to the commencement of the season. There will be no refund of fees for teams that withdraw after the commencement of the season.

4.2 Please note that schools playing in external competitions (e.g., Midlands Intercity Secondary Schools Competition (MISSC)) may be required to pay additional entry fees.

5 Duration of Games

5.1 The duration of games will vary depending on the format of the games (e.g. 11-a-side or half field) and level of the games (e.g., Primary, Intermediate or Secondary). **Umpires will ensure that games finish at the scheduled time irrespective of the time a game is started.**

6 Eligibility

6.1 Students attending a school that enters team(s) in the JD competition shall play for a team from their school.

6.2 Where a team is entered through a hockey club, that team shall not include players from schools that have entered a team or teams into the JD competition.

6.3 Where a school does not have sufficient players to enter a team that school may:

- (1) combine with another school to form a team for the JD competition, or
- (2) agree to release those students to play for another school or club on condition that written approval is received by WHA from the principals of both schools concerned.

6.4 Home-schooled students and students from a school that does not provide hockey may apply to a local school or club to play in a team of appropriate age and gender. The school must then apply to JD for ratification. Such students will be eligible to trial for Waikato representative teams.

7 Team Entries

7.1 All team entries must be received no later than 5.00pm on the date advised by the respective newsletter (ie Primary, Intermediate or Secondary newsletters).

8 Age Limits

8.1 Players for the Secondary competition:

- (1) Must be enrolled in at least year 9 or 13 years of age as at 1 January; and
- (2) Under the appropriate age as of 1st January 2021 e.g. u15 or u18.

8.2 Players for the Intermediate grades must be enrolled in Years 7 and 8 or equivalent age.

8.3 Players for the Primary grades must be enrolled in Years 1 to 6 or equivalent age.

9 Player Registrations

- 9.1 All schools/clubs must submit their player registrations electronically on the form supplied by WHA. This information will be held on the WHA/HNZ database.
- 9.2 Each school/club must supply a weekday and after hours contact person and their contact details.
- 9.3 Player registrations must be received at the WHA office no later than 5pm on the on the date advised by JD.
- 9.4 New player registrations will be accepted throughout the season.

10 Squad registrations

Intermediate and Secondary only

- 10.1 Squad registrations are required for each intermediate and secondary team that will compete in a JD competition.
- 10.2 Squad registrations must be submitted on the Squad Registration form and must be received at jd@waikatohockey.org.nz no later than 5pm on the date advised by JD.
- 10.3 The squad registration must contain contact details for the team's coach and or manager.
- 10.4 All players nominated in a squad must first be registered players with the WHA.
- 10.5 At the time of competition entry, all squads within a school/club must be ranked from highest to lowest, in particular where more than one team is registered in the one grade.
- 10.6 Each 11-a-side squad must contain at least 13 named players.
- 10.7 Each 6-a-side squad must contain at least 7 named players.
- 10.8 No player may be nominated in more than 1 squad.
- 10.9 Any player may play for a squad that is playing in a higher grade than the squad in which he/she is registered as playing in, but may not play for a squad that plays in lower grade. *i.e. a player registered in a squad playing in the B Grade may play for a squad playing in the A Grade, but the same player may not play for a squad that is playing in the C Grade.*
 - (1) Where a school has more than one squad playing in the same grade, players cannot move between those squads.
 - (2) A goal keeper may play down a grade but only as a field player and not as goal keeper.
 - (3) Where a school has only two teams, dispensation will be available to ensure the lower ranked team is able to field a full team.
- 10.10 **JD reserves the right to regrade any player.**
- 10.11 Players may be added to a squad at any time within the competition with the exception of the last three weeks prior to the semi-finals (or final where there is no semi-final) of the championship round.
- 10.12 Additions to a squad require resubmission of a complete Squad Registration Form. This form must be received at jd@waikatohockey.org.nz no later than 5pm two days preceding the game for which the squad addition is required. Any additions to a squad must be registered with WHA.
- 10.13 All squad registrations are at the discretion of the JD Competitions Committee.
- 10.14 Squad registration is considered complete on receipt of valid registration information at jd@waikatohockey.org.nz. Match points may be altered retrospectively by the JD Competitions Committee if squad registration rules are found to have been breached.
- 10.15 Where schools register teams in the SD competition, those teams shall be deemed to be the top-ranked school teams for JD competition rules purposes.
- 10.16 Primary hockey, team registrations are not required. [Please note that player registrations are still required under Section 9.]

11 Withdrawal from the competition

Secondary only

- 11.1 If a team is withdrawn from the competition after the draw has been completed for the round; then the withdrawing team will be deemed to have defaulted the games for the rest of the round. Refer Rule 22.1.

12 Transferring Players

- 12.1 Where a player is transferring during the season to another school/club within the WHA, notification in writing must be provided to WHA by an authorized person from each of the affected schools/clubs.
- 12.2 No player shall play for more than one club and/or school entered in the JD championship competitions, in any one season.

13 Grading

- 13.1 Schools may nominate a grade for a team to play in however; the JD committee shall determine the grade in which each team shall compete.
- 13.2 JD committee shall decide the number of teams within each grade
- 13.3 JD retains the right to re-grade any team.
- 13.4 Grades for teams will be advised when the entries are been finalised.

14 Promotion/Relegation

- 14.1 JD may at its discretion promote or relegate teams.

15 Balls

- 15.1 Each team will provide one hockey ball, which conforms to the Rules of Hockey.

16 Uniforms

Secondary

- 16.1 All School/club uniforms shall be registered on the Team Entry form and approved by JD. Any changes must also be advised to JD. All players taking the field must wear the registered uniform.
- 16.2 Secondary 'A' grade teams must wear player numbers as recorded on the scorecard.
- 16.3 All teams are required to have an alternative strip (or alternative coloured bibs) to be used if there is a clash of colours. If such a situation occurs the team listed first on the draw (left side) is required to wear the alternative strip / bibs.
- 16.4 Secondary 'A' grade teams should ensure that player numbers are visible on the alternate strip and that numbers for each player on the alternative strip correspond with those listed on the scorecard.
- 16.5 Captains should wear a distinctive armband or ribbon. If the captain is substituted or suspended the armband or ribbon must be transferred to another member of the team on the field.

Intermediate and Primary

- 16.6 All teams must wear a distinctive uniform. Bibs should be worn when there is a clash of colours.

17 Points

Secondary

- 17.1 Points shall be awarded as follows:
- 3 points for a win
 - 1 point for a draw
 - 0 points for a loss

18 Score Cards/Result notification

Intermediate and Secondary only

- 18.1 WHA uses the scoring software Hockio to record scores. The WHA Competitions Manager will direct how scores are to be submitted and timeframes they are to be submitted in prior to the start of the season.

19 Competition Rules

- 19.1 All games will be in accordance with the rules of the Games of Hockey and regulations of Hockey New Zealand (“HNZ”).
- 19.2 Rules for Primary and Intermediate modules will be displayed on the WHA website.
- 19.3 For secondary competitions only, placing in any round robin will be determined using the following criteria in the specified order:
1. number of points
 2. number of matches won
 3. goal difference
 4. goals for
 5. if one team has defeated another
 6. penalty shootout competition

20 Championship Round Rules

- 20.1 Where a semi-final or final of game is tied at the end of regulation time, a penalty shootout, played to official HNZ rules, will be held to determine the winner.

21 Player Eligibility for Finals and Semi-finals

Secondary Only

- 21.1 In the Championship round, a player may not play for a team in the semi-final and final of that round, unless they have also played at least 40% of round robin games of the Championship round as a member of that team (i.e. they are a genuine member of the team). Dispensation can be applied for from JD for registered players returning from injury/illness or lower grade players from the same school/club required to be used in the semi-finals and or finals.

22 Defaults/Deferments

- 22.1 Defaults must be notified to the Draws Convener: jd@waikatohockey.org.nz. A score of 5-0 will be awarded to the non-defaulting team.
- 22.2 Teams may NOT request deferments.
- 22.3 JD will try to accommodate teams that are not able to play on certain dates due to other school hockey commitments, e.g. inter-school fixtures, provided the JD Draws Convener is notified of those school hockey commitments prior to the start of the relevant round.

23 Numbers for a game to commence

Intermediate and Secondary

- 23.1 11-a-side teams must have at least 8 players including a goalkeeper for a game to commence. (Note: Subject to 23.3, teams for all 11-a-side grades must always field a goalie wearing full protective clothing i.e. a game cannot commence without a goalie or with another player filling in as goalie without the appropriate protective clothing).
- 23.2 Half-field teams must have at least 5 players for a game to commence. (Note: Teams that are entered in the half field with goal keeper must have a fully kitted goalie)
- 23.3 Secondary Schools ‘A’ Grade teams only may remove the goalie from the field of play, at the team’s discretion. The goalie may be replaced by a field player. If, after the goalie of a team has been removed from the field of play, a penalty corner is awarded against that

team, one of the field players defending the goal must wear a protective helmet. If a stroke is awarded against that team, the field player defending the goal must wear a protective helmet.

- 23.4 If for any reason play has not commenced within 5 minutes of the scheduled start time, the team unwilling or unable to proceed will be deemed by the umpires to have defaulted the match.

24 Cancellations

- 24.1 Cancellations will be advertised on the “Home Page” of the WHA website, www.waikatohockey.org.nz , and on the WHA App.

25 Interruption to games

- 25.1 Umpires may interrupt a match due to extenuating circumstances such as weather or serious injury.
- 25.2 For 11-a-side games
- (1) if there is less than 15 minutes remaining in the match, the result at the time of the umpire’s decision to cancel play shall be final.
 - (2) if the stoppage occurs before 10 minutes into the second period of play, the game must be completed at the earliest opportunity as decided by the Competitions Committee under the following conditions (unless mutually agreed by both teams that the score will stand):
 - (i) The game must be completed up to regulation time i.e. if the game was cancelled at 10 minutes into the second half then only 15 minutes of play is required to complete the game.
 - (ii) The game commences with the score starting as per the score at the cancellation of play
 - (iii) All players registered at the time of the interrupted/cancelled game are eligible to play. Any players registered after the date of the cancelled game are not eligible to play.
 - (iv) Any penalty points / cards awarded still apply.
- 25.3 For half field games, due to the length of the games, the result will be the half time result. If the game is started and interrupted before half time, the result will be a draw.

26 Health and Safety

- 26.1 It is **compulsory** for participants to wear a mouth guard, shin pads and suitable footwear. Umpires will remove from the field of play any player not wearing either item.
- 26.2 The wearing of hard peaked caps is prohibited.
- 26.3 Participants must leave the turf if bleeding and may only return to the game with the wound covered and uniform free of exposed blood.
- 26.4 All teams are responsible for their own first aid (including having ice on hand for injuries). Where there are any serious injuries, assistance should be sought at first instance from the Canteen First Aid person.
- 26.5 Each team must have a coach or manager present during the game.

27 Misconduct

- 27.1 In accordance with WHA Judiciary Committee Procedures and Policies all reports on misconduct by players, managers, coaches and spectators should be notified in writing (including email) to the WHA office for the attention of the Judicial Secretary within 48 hours. In the case of any match played on a Friday or Saturday then the report must be notified to the Judicial Secretary by 4 pm on the Monday following the match.

28 Protest

- 28.1 If a school wishes to lodge a protest at the end of the match or the end of a shootout competition, disputes are to be registered in the Hockio MatchDay card by the Team Manager with an explanation for WHA Competitions Manager to review.
- 28.2 A protest must be lodged within 4 hours of the end of the match or of the penalty shootout to the WHA Competitions Manager.
- 28.3 WHA will convene a meeting as soon as practicable to consider the protest. WHA's decision shall be given in writing to the school within 24 hours of the conclusion of the meeting.