

Senior Competition Regulations

**2016/2017
(Women)**



Women's Competition Regulations 2016 - 2017

1. Preamble

The following Rules are applicable to the following National Competitions played within the control of Hockey Wales (HW) and should be read in conjunction with the individual tournament regulations.

1.1 Women

- a) Welsh Championship
- b) Welsh Trophy
- c) Welsh Challenge
- d) Welsh Masters

2. Management and Control

- 2.1 Shall be invested in the HW National Competitions Coordinator.
- 2.2 The HW Competitions Technical Action Group (TAG) may appoint Assistant Coordinators to assist in the organisation of individual competitions.

3. Entry

- 3.1 Any club registered with HW may enter.
- 3.2 Entry form(s) and any entry fees as advised by HW shall be sent to HW by the designated date on the entry form.
- 3.3 All monies will be controlled by HW.
- 3.4 All Clubs and players must pay the current HW affiliation fees by 31st October.
- 3.5 If a Club enters a competition whereby the winners are invited to participate in a European competition the club, on entering that competition, accepts that European entry is an absolute expectation should they win that competition. Should the invitation be declined then penalties will be imposed. The only grounds for declining to enter a European competition are if that Club has qualified for both the Indoor and an Outdoor competition in the same season. Should this situation arise then HW will seek a replacement which will, where possible, be the runner up in the relevant Welsh competition.
- 3.6 For the EHF qualification the highest ranking EHL team will be automatically allocated the first EHF position. The 2nd ranked EHF position will be allocated to the Winner of the Championship, or the Runner-Up if the highest placed EHL club also wins the Championship.
- 3.7 Those clubs with teams in the leagues as detailed in Appendix A will be entitled to enter teams into each of the respective competitions for which they have qualified.
- 3.8a Any club member (registered with HW) will be allowed to participate in the highest level tournament for which her club has entered. If a club has more than one team then they must nominate with HW the names of 10 regular players for each team. The selection of each team should be made from the nominated list of players. If a team is short of players for any particular match it may make up their numbers from selecting from a lower team only (**players may play up but may not play down**). The list of names must be received by HW by 1st September or by a date specified by the National Competitions Coordinator. An amended list of players to allow for injuries etc. may be forwarded to HW between 1st and 14th January detailing the reasons why the player(s) are being withdrawn from the original list. The National Competitions Coordinator will consider any such request and will advise the club if the change has been approved or declined. No additional changes will be allowed outside of these dates. If a club does not enter teams into all levels for which they are eligible they must still register the players for every team.
- 3.8b The format of the Trophy and Challenge levels will be determined by the National Competitions Co-ordinator once all entries have been received.
- 3.8c The Championship level will be played on a knock out basis

- 3.9 Only players aged 35 or over during the calendar year of competition, may play in the Welsh Masters Cup. The format of the competition will be determined by the National Competitions Co-ordinator once all the entries have been received.
- 3.10 Masters teams may consist of players from **no more than three clubs** with the prior approval of the National Competitions Coordinator, but players may only play for one team / composite team in the competition (see rule 15.4). If a club enters two teams in the Welsh Masters Cup, only bona fide Club members shall play for the first team. Welsh International Masters (and no other nationalities), may play for Welsh clubs in the Welsh Masters Cup.
- 3.11 If a player is "dual registered" with Swansea City's ENL team, they will play for their "home" club, NOT Swansea City in any competition
- 3.12 **No team shall automatically qualify for any final.**

4. Draw

- 4.1 All draws will be made at a suitable public event.
- 4.2 The team drawn first is the Home team (dependent on the format of the respective competition).

5. Rules of Play

- 5.1 All matches shall be played according to the Rules of Hockey as issued by the FIH with the only possible exception being in the Trophy and Challenge dependent on the format of the competition.
- 5.2 In the event of HW adopting experimental rules, matches will be played to such rules during their currency. The final of the Women's Championship may be played in accordance with the rules appertaining to EHF club competitions for that season.
- 5.3 If there is a clash of colours, the Away / second named team shall change to different colours. This must include shirts and socks

6. Dates of Matches

- 6.1 Matches shall be played on the dates designated in the HW Calendar with the exception of the Universities and Colleges who may be allowed some dispensation to agree different dates for their 1st round Championship matches with their opposition and the National Competitions Co-ordinator should the scheduled date be outside their term dates.

7. Priority

- 7.1 The Championship shall take priority over all other hockey played under the auspices of HW.
- 7.2 No postponement in the event of a clash with a re-arranged league match will be allowed where the respective HW competition date has been advised in the Priority Calendar as initially published.
- 7.3 Exceptions: NAG's and Senior national squads, training and matches may have priority provided that these dates are included in the Priority Calendar as initially published.
- 7.4 No matches are sanctioned by HW during the Cup Finals weekend other than the finals of the relative national competitions.

8. Time and Duration of Play

- 8.1 Start time 1200 - 1430 or a time convenient to both teams when the fixture is arranged between them. Times of matches in the semi-finals and finals will be advised by the National Competitions Co-ordinator.
- 8.2 No matches will be arranged to start under artificial light unless prior approval is obtained from the National Competitions Co-ordinator.
- 8.3 All matches to be confirmed by Home team with Away team and Umpires at least 10 days prior to match.
- 8.4 If insufficient pitch time is booked for the completion of the game, including penalties, then the home team will forfeit the game.
- 8.5 In the event of a draw at the end of full time in any knock-out match a Penalty Stroke Competition will take place, as per Appendix B.

- 8.6 In the event of a draw at the end of full time in any knock-out semi-final a shoot-out competition will take place, as per Appendix C, unless the National Competitions Co-ordinator advises otherwise.
- 8.7 In the event of a draw at the end of full time in any knock-out final a shoot-out competition will take place, as per Appendix C.

9. Grounds

- 9.1 The Competitions TAG will decide the venue for the Finals of all competitions and may also decide upon semi-final venues along with any stage of any of the competitions held as pools or groups
- 9.2 All matches must be played on artificial turf pitches.

10. Matches - Postponement, Failure to fulfil, Conceding, Abandonment

Postponed - a match may be postponed due to adverse weather conditions. The home team has the sole right to determine if the pitch is unplayable. The home team should ascertain from the visiting team the time they intend to depart for the pitch venue and the visitors and umpires should be notified before their departure that the pitch will be unfit due to weather.

- 10.1 Postponed - a match may be postponed if adverse weather conditions prevent the away team from travelling
- 10.2 Postponed - a match may be postponed if a club has 2 or more players involved with a national squad (see priority 7.3)
- 10.3 Postponed - for reasons other than 10.1 and 10.2 any request for postponement must be put in writing, to the appropriate National Competitions Co-ordinator, with a full explanation no less than 7 days before the scheduled match start time (unless there are very exceptional circumstances) . The National Competitions Co-ordinator will determine if the request for postponement has been approved. A request for a postponement may also incur a fine (see 12.5a) and match expenses (see 12.4). Postponements are unlikely to be granted for such reasons as: players on holiday, weddings, university exams, International Rugby weekends and reasons of personal choice making players unavailable. Any postponed match must normally be played within 14 days as per section 8 above
- 10.4 **Conceding a match is unacceptable** - the offending club will be fined (see 12.5b) and may incur match expenses (see 12.4)
- 10.5 Abandonment is the responsibility of the Umpires. If a game is abandoned before the 60th minute it is to be replayed normally within 14 days. From the 60th minute onwards the team with the most goals shall be the winner. If a draw, the game is to be replayed normally within 14 days.

The rearranged fixture should be played within 14 days and the National Competitions Co-ordinator informed. If clubs are unable to agree a date, the National Competitions Co-ordinator will fix a date for playing the match. Any club refusing to play on a date fixed by the National Competitions Co-ordinator shall be deemed to have lost the match

11. Umpires

- 11.1 The WHUA may appoint umpires to any match but will provide umpires for the semi-final round onwards in each competition.
- 11.2 Umpires must be qualified, as per the WHUA/HW current list of active umpires, or hold an equivalent qualification from any National Association and be affiliated to both the WHUA and HW.
- 11.3 After the match both umpires must confirm the result by signing the match sheet.
- 11.4 Non arrival of an appointed umpire / umpires at the designated time:
 - a) The start shall be delayed for 10 minutes
 - b) If the appointed umpire(s) has not arrived at the end of that 10 minutes the following shall apply:

i) The Home team captain shall ascertain, from amongst the spectators, if there is a qualified umpire(s) available who is willing to officiate. That umpire(s) shall then become the "temporary umpire(s)"

ii) If no such umpire is available then the Home team captain, in consultation with the captain of the Away team and the umpire, shall nominate from amongst their playing squads, a qualified umpire(s) to act as "temporary umpire(s)". A player(s) may be withdrawn from either or both playing squads for this purpose. If a "temporary umpire(s)" has been withdrawn from one playing squad the other team shall withdraw one of its playing squad.

NOTE: For the purpose of this rule both teams shall have an equal number of players on the pitch provided they both have an equal number of players available. If one team has fewer than eleven players available then that differential must be maintained.

iii) In the event of the appointed umpire(s) arriving before the commencement of the 2nd half the appointed umpire(s) will take over the match and the "temporary umpire(s)" and the withdrawn player(s), may_re-join the game.

11.5 If no replacement qualified umpire is available the match shall be postponed (see 10)

12. Expenses, Fines

12.1 The Home team shall meet the match expenses including the provision of the pitch, match balls and reasonable refreshments after the game.

12.2 The Away team to meet its own travelling expenses.

12.3 All clubs must contribute towards the cost of any expenses for the appointed umpires, the amount and method of collection to be decided by the WHUA annually.

12.4 Failure to fulfil a fixture (see 10.3, 10.4) clubs will be liable for any expenses incurred by their opponents and umpires.

12.5 Fines will be levied as follows:

a. Postponed as per 10.3

Fine subject to a maximum of £100

b. Conceded as per 10.4

Fine subject to a minimum of £50 and a maximum of £150

c. Non notification of results (see 13.1c and 13.1d)

Fine of £20 for every offence

d. Non notification of nominated players by due date (see 3.11)

Fine of £20

e. Playing a non-registered player

Fine of £50 plus option to expel the offending club from that particular competition.

12.6 In the case of serious or repeated offences the TAG retains the right to impose additional penalties which may include increased fines over and above those detailed above as well as the option to ban or suspend clubs or teams from entering competitions.

13. Results

13.1 It is the responsibility of the Home team:

a) Prior to the start of the match to ensure a match sheet which lists both teams is handed to the umpires

b) At the end of the match to receive the signed match sheet from the umpires.

c) Immediately after the match (18.00 at the latest) phone the result (including postponement etc.) to the National Competitions Co-ordinator.

13.2. Within 48 hours send the completed match sheet to the National Competitions Co-ordinator

13.3. Failure to comply with either c) or d) will incur a fine (see 12.5c)

14. Disputes / Appeals

14.1. Any complaint which may arise in connection with these regulations or other matters relating to these competitions will only be considered if it is sent in writing to the Competitions TAG Chair within 48 hours of the event / decision.

14.2. The Competitions TAG Chair shall determine the action to be taken.

14.3 Clubs shall have the right to appeal as laid down in the HW Right of Appeal

15. Eligibility

15.1. All players participating in Welsh competitions must comply with the HW Registration Rules (which explain the mechanism for players transferring from one club to another)

15.2. Players shall only play, in any of the competitions covered by these rules, for the club with which they are currently registered, with the exception of the Welsh Masters Cup (see rule 15.4)

15.3. Players shall not play in any of the competitions covered by these rules if, after 1st November in the season of competition they have played in any competition in that season for a club which is not affiliated to HW.

15.4. It is recognised that some clubs do not play in the Welsh Masters Cup. If there are players in those clubs who wish to play in the Welsh Masters Cup, then they may play for a club which does participate in this competition provided that they are registered with HW and that their own club does not participate in the Welsh Masters Cup (see rule 3.10)

16. Doping Control

16.1 As per HW Bye Laws and Articles of Association, you are reminded that all players could be subject to UK Anti-doping procedures at any match.

Participating teams must be aware of Hockey Wales Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, Anti-Doping Policy, Disciplinary Policy and all Codes of Conduct, all of which will apply to each match.

HW Competitions TAG
June 2016

HW Competitions TAG Chair
HW Women's National Competitions Coordinator

Sheila Morrow
Anne Mullin

Appendix A

Tier	South Wales	North Wales	Other	Competition
1	ENL			Hockey Wales Club Championships
2	S W Premier 1	North 1	Cheshire 1	
3	S W Premier 2		North Hockey Division 2 South West	
4	S W Division 1	North 2	Cheshire 2	Hockey Wales Club Trophy
5	S W Division 2		Shropshire	
6	S W Division 3			
7	S W West Division (part)			
8	S W Division 4	North 3	Cheshire 3	Hockey Wales Club Challenge
9	S W West Division (part)		Cheshire 4	
			Cheshire 5	

Note – the placement of clubs within this system is based on the league placements at the start of the 2016/2017 league season.

Appendix B

Regulations for Penalty Stroke Competition

Outlined below is the procedure to be followed in the event of a Penalty Stroke Competition being required to determine the outcome of a match or tournament.

Five players from each of the two teams, chosen by their respective team manager from the players listed on the entry form from the players nominated for that match, except as excluded hereunder, shall take a penalty stroke alternately against one and the same defending goalkeeper of the other team, unless the latter has been incapacitated and replaced, making a total of ten penalty strokes, five for each team. The players must take the penalty strokes in the same sequence as the list of five players nominated and communicated by the team managers to the Technical Officer on duty (or if not appointed) the umpires before the start of the penalty stroke competition

No player who has been suspended by the Tournament Director or has been permanently suspended (red card) by the umpires during that same match, shall be permitted to take part in a penalty stroke competition

If during a penalty stroke competition a player (either a stroke taker or a defending goalkeeper) is suspended, then that player shall take no further part in that penalty stroke competition and, unless a defending goalkeeper, cannot be replaced

If a stroke taker, any stroke the player should have been entitled to take will be counted as no goal. If a defending goalkeeper, the replacement may only be from one of the nominated stroke takers. The player replacing the defending goalkeeper may continue to take penalty strokes but, when required to defend penalty strokes, must wear protective headgear. This player may also wear other approved protective equipment

The umpires, after consultation with the Technical Officer on duty, shall choose the goal to be used and shall toss a coin with the captains, the winner having the choice to take or defend the first penalty stroke. The team having scored or been awarded the highest number of goals shall be the winner and the competition will cease once an outright winner has been established

In the event of an equal number of goals having been scored or awarded, a second series of penalty strokes shall be started with the same players, subject to any incapacitated defending goalkeeper(s) being replaced, and shall cease after a team shall have scored or been awarded one more goal than the opposing team after an equal number of strokes (no minimum, no maximum) have been taken by each team. That team shall be the winner of the second series

The sequence of stroke takers does not need to be the same as in the previous series and the team manager has freedom of choice as to which of the nominated players shall take the stroke. In this second (unlimited) series, all five nominated players shall take a stroke before any of them are eligible to take a further stroke

The team whose player has taken the first penalty stroke of the first series must defend the first penalty stroke of the second (unlimited) series

Only the team managers, defending goalkeepers and nominated stroke takers may enter the field of play during a penalty stroke competition. These persons will remain outside the 23 meters area (outdoor) or centre line (indoor) unless a player is authorised by an umpire or technical official to take or defend a penalty stroke.

Appendix C

Shoot Out Regulations

In a shoot-out competition, five players from each team take a one-on-one shoot-out alternately against a defender from the other team as set out in this Regulation. The shoot-out competition comprises all series of shoot-outs required to determine a result.

The following sets out both the playing Rules and the procedures to be followed.

- 1 If the shoot-out competition takes place after the end of a match, the first shoot-out should take place within four (4) minutes of the end of regulation playing time.
- 2 The respective Team Managers provide five players to take and one player to defend the shoot-outs from those on the Match Report except as excluded below. A player nominated to defend the shootouts can also be nominated to take a shoot-out. No substitutions / replacements are permitted during the shoot-out competition other than as specified below.
- 3 A player who is still serving a disciplinary suspension by the Technical Delegate at the time the shootout competition takes place or has been excluded permanently (red card) during the match which leads to the shoot-out competition, cannot take part in that shoot-out competition. A player who has been warned (green card) or temporarily suspended (yellow card) may take part in the shout-out competition even if the period of their suspension has not been completed at the end of the match.
- 4 The Technical Delegate will specify the method of timing shoot-outs taking account of the facilities available and the need to control time accurately.
- 5 The Technical Delegate will specify the goal to be used.
- 6 A coin is tossed; the team which wins the toss has the choice to take or defend the first shoot-out.
- 7 All persons listed on the Match Report other than any player who has been excluded permanently (red card) during the match which leads to the shoot-out competition are permitted to enter the field of play outside the 23m area used for the shoot-out but must be at least 10 metres from the spot where the ball is placed at the start of the shoot-out.
- 8 The goalkeeper / defending player of the team taking a shoot-out shall wait on the back-line outside the circle.
- 9 A player taking or defending a shoot-out may enter the 23m area for that purpose.
- 10 Players taking a shoot-out and also defending the shoot-outs taken by opponents are allowed reasonable time to take off their protective equipment to take their shoot-out and subsequently to put back on their protective equipment.
- 11 Five players from each team take a shoot-out alternately against the goalkeeper / defending player of the other team making a total of 10 shoot-outs.

12 Taking a shoot-out:

- a the goalkeeper / defending player starts on or behind the goal-line between the goal posts;
- b the ball is placed on the nearest 23m line opposite the centre of the goal;
- c an attacker stands outside the 23m area near the ball;
- d the Umpire blows the whistle to start time;
- e an official at the technical table starts the clock;
- f the attacker and the goalkeeper / defending player may then move in any direction;
- g the shoot-out is completed when:
 - i 8 seconds has elapsed since the starting signal;
 - ii a goal is scored;
 - iii the attacker commits an offence;
 - iv the goalkeeper / defending player commits an unintentional offence inside or outside the circle in which case the shoot-out is re-taken by the same player against the same goalkeeper/defending player;
 - v the goalkeeper / defending player commits an intentional offence inside or outside the circle, in which case a penalty stroke is awarded and taken;
 - vi the ball goes out of play over the back-line or side-line; this includes the goalkeeper / defending player intentionally playing the ball over the back-line.

13 If a penalty stroke is awarded as specified above, it can be taken and defended by any eligible player on the Match Report subject to the provisions of Articles 17, 18 and 19 of this Appendix.

14 The team scoring the most goals (or ahead by more goals than the other team has untaken shoot-outs available) is the winner.

15 A player may be suspended by a yellow or red card but not by a green card during the shoot-out competition.

16 If during a shoot-out competition (including during any penalty stroke which is awarded) a player is suspended by a yellow or red card:

- a that player takes no further part in that shoot-out competition and, unless a goalkeeper / defending player, cannot be replaced;
- b the replacement for a suspended goalkeeper / defending player can only come from the five players of that team nominated to take part in the shoot-out competition:
 - i the replacement goalkeeper / defending player is allowed reasonable time to put on protective equipment similar to that which the goalkeeper/defending player they are replacing was wearing;
 - ii for taking their own shoot-out, this player is allowed reasonable time to take off their protective equipment to take their shoot-out and subsequently to put it on again.
- c any shoot-out due to be taken by a suspended player is forfeited; any goals scored by this player before being suspended count as a goal.

- 17 If during a shoot-out competition, a defending goalkeeper / defending player is incapacitated:
- a that goalkeeper / defending player may be replaced by another player from among the players listed on the Match Report for that particular match, except as excluded in this Appendix or unless suspended by an Umpire during the shoot-out competition;
 - b the replacement goalkeeper:
 - i is allowed reasonable time to put on protective equipment similar to that which the incapacitated goalkeeper / defending player was wearing;
 - ii if this replacement is also nominated to take a shoot-out, this player is allowed reasonable time to take off their protective equipment to take their shoot-out and subsequently to put it on again.
- 18 If during a shoot-out competition, an attacker is incapacitated, that attacker may be replaced by another player from among the players listed on the Match Report for that particular match, except as excluded above or unless suspended by an Umpire during the shoot-out competition.
- 19 If an equal number of goals are scored after each team has taken five shoot-outs:
- a a second series of five shoot-outs is taken with the same players, subject to the conditions specified in this Appendix;
 - b the sequence in which the attackers take the shoot-outs need not be the same as in the first series;
 - c the team whose player took the first shoot-out in a series defends the first shoot-out of the next series;
 - d when one team has scored or been awarded one more goal than the opposing team after each team has taken the same number of shoot-outs, not necessarily being all five shoot-outs, that team is the winner.
- 20 If an equal number of goals are scored after a second series of five shoot-outs, additional series of shoot-outs are taken with the same players subject to the conditions specified in this Appendix:
- a the sequence in which the attackers take the shoot-outs need not be the same in any subsequent series;
 - b the team which starts each shoot-out series alternates for each series.
- 21 Unless varied by this Appendix, the Rules of Hockey apply during a shoot-out.