

HOCKEY WALES



DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS

DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS

1. Preamble.

- 1.1 These regulations set out the code for the enforcement of discipline for all forms of hockey played under the jurisdiction of The Welsh Hockey Union Limited T/A Hockey Wales (HW) at which a recognised umpire is officiating and applies to any team of a Club affiliated to HW regardless of the Indoor/Outdoor League in which they are competing (“the Regulations”).
- 1.2 A recognised umpire is a member of the Welsh Hockey Umpires Association (WHUA) or one who appears on any other recognised hockey umpires register.
- 1.3 If a non-recognised umpire issues a red card in a game to which this code applies then the club or school (which shall include colleges) or association of which the recipient of the red card is a member is recommended (if a member of HW) to discipline the individual concerned using the Regulations for guidance.
- 1.4 If a penalty prescribed in the Regulations is imposed on any pupil, student, umpire or coach of a school or college team then the Head teacher/Principal of the school or college concerned shall be informed of the penalty and of details of the incident, which led to its imposition. The Headteacher/Principal will similarly be informed of any serious misconduct, which does not fall within the scope of the Regulations.
- 1.5 An offence for which an umpire suspends a player from further participation in the game is known as “a Red Card Offence”. No Red Card need actually be shown.
- 1.6 The award of a Red Card results in an immediate and mandatory period of suspension from playing or umpiring ALL forms of hockey played under the jurisdiction of HW. The suspensions prescribed in 3.2 below shall consist of consecutive days beginning immediately after the match in which the Red Card is awarded. The day on which the Red Card is awarded shall count as day one (1) of the period of suspension.
- 1.7 Responsibility for enforcing the Regulations lies with the clubs, schools (which shall include colleges) and associations being the members of HW either acting themselves or through a disciplinary committee set up by the appropriate Regions (as defined in the bye laws of HW).

2. Scope.

- 2.1 The Regulations shall apply to ALL forms of hockey, both indoor and outdoor, played under the jurisdiction of HW and all teams affiliated to HW regardless of whether the league in which they are competing is under the jurisdiction of HW.
- 2.2 The Regulations impose a mandatory suspension for a Red Card

Offence. In each case the body implementing the Regulations is permitted to impose such additional penalties as are considered appropriate in the circumstances.

- 2.3 For hockey not covered in 2.1 above the disciplining body is encouraged to be guided by the Regulations when deciding what action, if any, to take.

3. **Offences.**

- 3.1 Offences covered by the Regulations are grouped under the following headings:

OFFENCES DURING A GAME

(including the half-time interval and any penalty stroke competition).

Red Card Offences in which violence is used or offered (3.2, 3.3).

Red Card Offences in which violence is neither used nor offered (3.2, 3.3).

OFFENCES OTHER THAN THOSE COMMITTED DURING A GAME

Those committed off the field of play at any time (3.5 and 3.6).

OFFENCES OTHER THAN THOSE COMMITTED BY A PLAYER ON THE PITCH BUT WHO ARE DEEMED TO BE PART OF THE TEAM

e.g. substitutes, manager, coach.

Red Card Offences in which violence is used or offered (3.2, 3.3).

Red Card Offences in which violence is neither used nor offered (3.2, 3.3).

- 3.2 The award of a Red Card results in an immediate and mandatory period of suspension from playing, umpiring, or acting, either from the sides of or on the pitch, as a team coach or Manager, from the time of being sent off.

- a) for offences in which violence is used:

3.2.a.1 to an umpire or properly appointed League or Technical Official - a mandatory suspension of one hundred and eighty (180) days

3.2.a.2 to a player - a mandatory suspension of sixty (60) days.

3.2.a.3 to any other person - a mandatory suspension of sixty (60) days.

- b) for offences in which violence is offered:

3.2.b.1 to an umpire or properly appointed League or Technical Official - a mandatory suspension of ninety (90) days

3.2.b.2 to a player - a mandatory suspension of thirty (30) days.

3.2.b.3 to any other person - a mandatory suspension of thirty (30) days.

- c) for offences in which violence is not used or offered—
a mandatory suspension of sixteen (16) days.
 - d) for second and subsequent Red Card Offences in any period of twelve (12) months the mandatory penalty imposed shall be double that for the appropriate category of offence listed above.
- 3.3 The disciplinary body concerned is expected to impose a substantially more severe penalty than that provided for in the Regulations in cases of premeditated violence or for violence against umpires.
- 3.4 It is the responsibility of each club, school (including colleges) and association that is a member of HW to ensure that every one of its players is fully aware of the Regulations and the sanctions contained therein (3.2). Ignorance of the Regulations and the sanctions imposed will not be accepted as a defence should any of the Regulations be breached. Any individual continuing to take part in any form of hockey before any mandatory sanction imposed pursuant to the Regulations has been completed is liable to be further disciplined by the imposition of additional sanctions and the club, school (including colleges) or association of which the individual is a member may also be liable to penalties that may be imposed pursuant to the Regulations for failure to enforce the mandatory sanction.
- 3.5 Any official of any club, school (including colleges) or association being a member of HW may report in writing to the Operations Manager any conduct, which in his/her opinion is prejudicial to the interests of the Union or the game of hockey. The matter will then be dealt with in accordance with the bye laws of HW and any subsequently appointed Disciplinary Committee (as defined in the bye laws) shall investigate and take any action, which may include suspension that it deems necessary.
- 3.6 Umpires are required to report in writing to the Operations Manager any conduct of any team member including team players, team substitutes, reserves or officials, which in their opinion is prejudicial to the interests of HW or the game of hockey. This may be during and after a match. This matter will then be dealt with in accordance with the byelaws of HW and any subsequently appointed Disciplinary Committee (as defined in the bye laws) shall investigate and take any action, which may include suspension that it deems necessary.
- 3.7 For a Red Card Offence committed after the last Sunday in May any penalty imposed by a disciplinary body pursuant to the Regulations in addition to the overall mandatory suspension as defined in 3.2 shall be served by the offending player commencing the first Saturday of

September following. The overall mandatory suspension will commence immediately from the date of the offence.

4. **Reporting Procedures.**

4.1 An umpire involved in awarding a Red Card will:

- a) Inform the recipient via the team captain immediately after the game as to the nature of the Red Card awarded, stating whether violence was used or offered.
- b) Complete the relevant report form as to the nature of the Red Card awarded, stating whether violence was used or offered and send it within three (3) days of the award of the Red Card to the disciplinary secretary of the Region (as defined in the bye laws of HW) to which the team concerned is allocated. The disciplinary secretary of the relevant Region shall send written notice of the form to the Operations Manager in accordance with the bye laws of HW regarding discipline.
- c) If the offence involved the use or offering of violence the umpire involved should ask his/her fellow umpire at the match at which the Red Card was awarded to also submit a report to the disciplinary secretary of the appropriate Region within seven (7) days of the award of the Red Card.

4.2 The club, school (including colleges) or association of which the player receiving a Red Card is a member, irrespective of 4.1 above, must:

- a) Impose the sanctions contained in the Regulations immediately and ensure the player involved is fully aware of the implications.
- b) Acknowledge the issuing of the Red Card to the appropriate disciplinary secretary within seven (7) days of the award of the Red Card. They should also state what action, if any, they have taken over and above the mandatory sanctions required by the Regulations.
- c) Keep the player concerned informed regarding sanctions imposed and disciplinary procedures implemented as a result of the award of the Red Card.

4.3 Any Disciplinary Committee appointed pursuant to the bye laws of HW regarding a Red Card Offence will:

- a) Review all reports lodged in respect of the Red card Offence and decide whether to impose any further sanctions over and above the mandatory sanctions required by the Regulations. .
- b) Inform the body to which the player involved belongs of any further sanctions
- c) Send a copy of the decision to the Operations Manager and to the disciplinary secretary of the relevant Region and the secretary will ensure that all relevant regional/cup secretaries are aware of the sanction.
- d) Place a copy of the documentation on file in the records of HW. This documentation will be retained for twelve (12) months

following the end of the season in which the sanction was awarded.

- 4.4 The involved player is solely responsible for informing the club or school (including colleges) or association of which he/she is a member of his/her suspension. Any deliberate breach of the suspension will result in additional sanctions being imposed.
- 4.5 In any case of doubt as to the meaning of any part of the Regulations a Disciplinary Committee appointed pursuant to the bye laws of HW shall interpret the meaning of the Regulations and within the spirit of the Regulations shall adjudicate upon any situation arising that is not specifically covered by these Regulations.

5. **Appeals.**

- 5.1 The right of appeal against a decision of a Regional Disciplinary Panel is by the party against whom the decision has been given and must be made in writing to the secretary of the relevant Regional Committee Provided That such written appeal must be delivered to the secretary within 5 working days of notification of the decision of the Regional Disciplinary Panel and such written appeal must be accompanied by an appeal fee of £25.00 (such appeal fee may be refundable if the appeal is upheld or if the Regional Committee (as hereinafter defined) deems it to be appropriate). No costs of the appellant shall be paid by the Appeal Panel irrespective of the Appeal Panel's decision.
- 5.2 The secretary of the relevant Region may (forthwith after receiving a written appeal pursuant to 5.1 above) in accordance with the rules of the relevant Regional Committee (as defined in the bye laws of HW) utilise the powers delegated to the Regional Committees by the Board (as defined in the bye laws of HW) for the appointment and operation of a Disciplinary Committee (as defined in the bye laws of HW) in accordance with the bye laws of HW regarding discipline and in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations.
- 5.3 The operation of the appeal by the Disciplinary Committee shall be in accordance with the byelaws of HW and the Disciplinary Regulations.
- 5.4 The right of appeal against the decision of a Disciplinary Committee shall be in accordance with the Right of Appeal set out in the byelaws of the Union.

W.H.U. Board
September 2004