

Field Hockey Federation, Inc—2012 Spring Season Rules

Playing Rules

All games will be played in compliance with the 2010 - 2012 FIH Rules of Hockey.

The purpose of these playing rules is to ensure fair play in a healthy, competitive atmosphere suitable for all members of the family. Players should treat everyone with respect, including spectators, umpires and opposing teams and players.

Team Registrations

Team registrations must be submitted online using the Team Registration link found on the FHF webpage (at <http://fieldhockeyfederation.com/>) with a check for the relevant and total Team Fee/s to be paid by the start of the 2012 Spring League (02/11/2012 for Junior teams and 02/12/2012 for Adult teams). A signed copy of the acknowledgment of these rules must be submitted to the Director of Competitions at the mandatory Team meeting to be held at the field on January 21st, 2012 at 1pm.

Mandatory Managers Meeting

All managers/captains for each team entered in the FHF leagues are required to attend a mandatory "Managers Meeting" on Saturday, January 21, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. at the field. An additional fee of \$100 per team will be charged to those teams who are unable to attend and require another meeting.

Spring 2012 Divisions

JUNIORS (Half Field)

- U10 Mixed
- U12 Mixed
- U14 Girls
- U14 Boys

JUNIORS (Full Field)

- U17 Girls
- U17 Boys

ADULTS

- Div I Women
- Div I Men
- Div II Mixed
- Div III Mixed

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Date of Schedule

The schedule will be posted on the web site by Monday, February 6, 2012. Only those teams who have registered online will be included in the Spring Schedule.

Schedule Changes

If any team wants to change THEIR game schedule, the details of the proposed change must be sent to the Competitions Director at least 48 hours **prior** to 9am of the game day and the proposal **MUST** be accompanied by the written acceptance from the opposing teams coach / manager / representative on record of the proposed changed.

Unforeseen events

If during any round of Field Hockey Federation games circumstances arise which are not provided for in these Regulations (play cancelled due to weather or other outside influencers, games that cannot be played due to Regional or other events), the result will be determined by the Competitions Director after consulting the representative of FHF, if any.

If any team affected by the decision of the Competitions Director under this regulation wishes to appeal, it may do so following the procedures set out.

A team or an individual has the right to a personal hearing with the Disciplinary Committee in respect of such appeal and **MUST** make representations in writing (electronically) within the time limits fixed by the Appeals Committee.

Minimum Number of Players

- For all teams who play with eleven (11) players a side, a minimum of seven (7) players are required on the field at the scheduled game time to avoid a forfeit.
- For all teams who play in a league with six (6) players a side, a minimum of four (4) players are required to avoid a forfeit.
- The Division 1 Women's division will play with nine (9) players a side with a minimum of six (6) players are required to avoid a forfeit. If **BOTH** teams agree, then more players can be on the field **AS LONG AS BOTH TEAMS HAVE AN EQUAL AMOUNT OF PLAYERS ON THE FIELD. *The captain or manager or coach of BOTH teams MUST inform both umpires if a change is made to the starting number of players in a D1 Women's game.***

Playing Eligibility

- No player may play on more than one club in the Adult Teams Leagues except goalkeepers who may play for one additional team in a higher division. Exception: Women may play in the Women's Division and in Division I or in Division II or in Division III but not more than one (1) other Adult division.

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- All rosters will be reviewed by the Competitions Committee to assess the eligibility of players in the respective division commensurate with the players' skill level, experience and ability. If necessary, players may be disallowed from playing in lower divisions and be required to play in a higher division based on their ability and experience.

Goalkeepers

A team is not required to have a goalkeeper. See the following explanation.

From the Rules of Hockey -

2.2 Each team has a goalkeeper on the field or plays only with field players.

Each team may play with:

- a goalkeeper with goalkeeping privileges wearing full protective equipment comprised of at least headgear, leg guards and kickers and a different color shirt; or
- a goalkeeper with goalkeeping privileges wearing only protective headgear and a different color shirt; or
- only field players and no player with goalkeeping privileges and therefore no player wearing protective headgear or different color shirt.

A team may change between these options by making a substitution.

Substitutes

Players, managers and coaches on the sidelines for the teams who are playing shall sit in the covered player pavilion area. Players shall substitute by entering and leaving the sideline between the ends of the players' pavilion.

Coaches shall not stand on the turf but remain on the pavers or in the bench area. The substituting players shall stand on the pavers and not on the turf.

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Team Rosters - Additions/Changes

Last day to add players to a team roster is four weeks before the end of the season provided the team does not exceed the maximum number of players on their roster.

Team Rosters

Team rosters will be stored on the FHF website. All team rosters must be managed online by the Team Manager/s. The name and email of the Team Manager/s must be sent to the Systems Director who will then reply with the appropriate user name and password which will allow the Team Manager/s to maintain the team roster. Changes to the team roster must be made **BEFORE** 8pm on the Thursday before a game so that the downloaded rosters will include the changes. A Team Manager may manage more than one team.

Only players listed on a team's game card are allowed to play for that team.

Players Playoffs Eligibility

In order to participate in semifinal and final matches, a player must have played in a minimum of four regular league season matches.

Profanity

All players using profanity will be, at a minimum, green carded and a warning by the umpire for the first infraction. Repeat infractions will result in the escalation of penalty cards. Repeated unsportsmanlike conduct will be accordingly penalized.

Smoking and Alcohol

No smoking is allowed inside the chain linked fenced facility. No possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages is permitted on the Moorpark College campus.

Pets

No cats, dogs or other pets shall be permitted inside the chain linked facility of the Field Hockey Center, which is part of the Moorpark College. Pets may be kept in the designated area outside the Field Hockey Center.

Walkovers/Forfeits

Advance Notice Forfeit

Any team that notifies the opposing team and the Director of Umpiring by the Thursday 9:00 PM preceding their match on the relative game day of their intent to forfeit shall forfeit their teams match by a score of 0-3. There is an online Forfeit Notification form on the FHF website under the "Team: Results & Schedule" tab – the direct URL is

<https://leagueathletics.com/UserForm.asp?RegID=79016&snid=jOIDZ6M4%5C&org=fieldhockeyfederation.com> .

No points will be deducted from the forfeiting team.

Late Forfeits

Any team forfeiting their team's match after 9:00 p.m. on Thursday shall:

- Forfeit their match by a score of 0-8.
- Three points shall be deducted from the forfeiting team's points total.

Walkovers

Any team that cannot field the minimum number of players for their game shall:

- Forfeit their match by a score of 0-8.
- Three points shall be deducted from the forfeiting team's points total

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Team Uniforms

All League Players must wear Appropriate Matching Team Uniforms as defined below and as approved at the Managers' Meeting. Captains/Managers are advised to bring extra uniforms to all their matches so that all players may participate. Any changes in uniforms must be approved by the Competitions Committee.

For a junior player to participate in any Junior or Adult division game, shin guards and mouth guards are mandatory. **A Junior player is any player that is 17 or younger on 01/01/2012 NO MATTER WHICH DIVISON she or he is playing in.**

1. All League Players jerseys must be identical in design and color. Furthermore, all jerseys must include numbers on the backs. The size of the numbers must be large enough to be visible to both umpires from anywhere on the field. The player's jersey number must accompany their name on the roster and stay constant throughout the season unless changed on the official team roster. **Yellow shirts** are not allowed as the color is the same as the umpires' shirts.
2. All player's shirts and socks and the number on the uniform must be matching in design and shade of color. Shorts/Kilts must be of a matching style, shade of color and design.
3. Mouth guards are mandatory for Junior players.
4. Mouth guards are strongly advised for Adult players.
5. Shin pads are mandatory for Junior players
6. Shin pads are strongly advised for Adult players.
7. A Junior player is any player that is 17 or younger on 01/01/2012 NO MATTER WHICH DIVISON he or she is playing in.
8. AGE DEFINITIONS:
 - To play in a U10 Mixed team, the player must be **9 years of age** or younger on 01/01/2012
 - To play in a U12 Mixed team, the player must be **11 years of age** or younger on 01/01/2012
 - To play in a U14, the player must be **13 years of age** or younger on 01/01/2012
 - To play in a U17, the player must be **16 years of age** or younger on 01/01/2012

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- Waivers regarding the age limits can be submitted to the Competition's Director via the Online form which can be found on the "Team: Results, Roster & Schedule" tab of the FHF web page.
9. Umpires will be instructed to not allow any players who are not properly dressed in team uniforms from participating in any league match. No Exceptions.

The Director of Competitions, Adult Leagues Chief Umpire or any member of the FHF Competitions Committee may intercede and restrict at any time, any player who does not meet the uniform requirements as outlined above from participating in any match.

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Player Registration

All players must be registered with FHF in order to play in the FHF league. They must be able to show proof of registration.

FHF Individual FHF Membership Dues are as follows:

Over 19 years old by Jan 1st 2012	\$40.00
16 to 19 years old by Jan 1st 2012	\$30.00
13 to 15 years old by Jan 1st 2012	\$25.00
12 years old and under by Jan 1st 2012	\$20.00

Player Registration can be done on the FHF web site (<http://fieldhockeyfederation.com/>).

The Team Registration Fees for the 2012 Spring Season are listed on the FHF web site.

The Director of Competitions, Chief Umpire or any member of the FHF Executive Committee may intercede and restrict at any time, any player who does not meet the player registration requirements as outlined above from participating in any match.

Adult Divisions Eligibility

Division I Women

1. Division 1 Women teams are allowed a maximum of 18 players per team roster.
2. Division 1 teams will play with a total of nine (9) players: 1 goalkeeper and 8 field players OR 1 player with goalkeeper's privileges and 8 field players OR 9 field players.
3. If the captains of BOTH teams agree, then more players (up to 11 players) can be on the field **as long as both teams have an equal amount of players on the field.**
4. A Division 1 Women player can play for a team in the Division 1 Women's division AND for a team in either DII Mixed or DIII Mixed.

Division I Men

1. D-I Men teams are allowed a maximum of 18 players per team roster.
2. U.S. National Junior and Senior Squad players shall only play in D-I and in no other adult division.

Division II Mixed

1. D-II MIXED teams are allowed a maximum of 18 players per team roster.
2. A D-II MIXED player that is deemed over-qualified for this division by the Competitions Committee shall be prohibited from participating in D-II MIXED and be required to play on a D-I team.
3. Any player that is not allowed to play in D-II MIXED by the Competitions Committee can appeal to the FHF Appeals Committee for reconsideration citing just cause, medical reasons or otherwise.

Division III Mixed

1. D-III MIXED teams are allowed a maximum of 18 per team roster.
2. A D-III MIXED player that is deemed over-qualified for this division by the Competitions Committee shall be prohibited from participating in this division and will be required to play on a D-I or D-II team.
3. Any player that is not allowed to play in D-III MIXED by the Competitions Committee can appeal to the FHF Appeals Committee for reconsideration citing just cause, medical reasons or otherwise.
4. No Junior Player shall play in this division in any capacity.
5. No D-III MIXED player shall play in any other team except D-IV.

Waivers regarding the player's divisional eligibility (for instance - women in DI Men's) can be submitted to the Competition's Director via the Online form which can be found on the "Team: Results, Roster & Schedule" tab of the FHF web page

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Junior players may play in their age appropriate division in the Junior Leagues on Saturday and on one Adult Division I or Division II team on Sunday.

Note: Any exemptions and waivers approved by the Competitions Committee will be written and published on the FHF website.

A team permitting a player to play who is not on their roster shall forfeit all their games in which this player participated. **Exceptions:** Visiting guest players may play with the concurrence of the opposing team captain/manager as long as they are compatible with the respective division level of play.

The Rules Committee members shall have the authority to enforce the rules.

APPEALS PROCESS - – Match Results Related

Match Results Related

- Only a Team Manager or Captain shall have the authority to file an appeal on behalf of his team. All appeals pertaining to: Rosters / Player Eligibility / Rules / Match Results, must be submitted within 48 hours from the time the match in question ended, via email to the FHF Appeals Committee FHF.Appeals@gmail.com
- All appeals must include the following information: Reason for filing appeal, date & time of match, both umpires' names, complete details of the appeal, name of person filing appeal, title of person filing appeal, contact address, telephone number(s) & email address of the person filing appeal and action requested.
- Players appealing their eligibility to play in any division may do so without any fee or encumbrances
- Decisions made by the umpires during a game CANNOT be the subject or basis of an appeal after the game has finished

Disciplinary & Other Appeals

All other appeals must be in writing and must include the following information: Reason for filing appeal, details of the appeal, name of person filing appeal, title of person filing appeal, contact address, telephone number(s) & email address of the person filing appeal and action requested. All appeals can be mailed to the Field Hockey Federation or (preferably) emailed to the FHF Appeals Committee.

Any appeal will not be recognized if it is:

- Not sent by the next business day or
- The Appeal Fee is not received or
- Not emailed within 48 hours from the time the match in question ended

Appeals Process

- The Appeal MUST be followed up with a fee of US\$150 mailed to the FHF Mail Address within 48 hours of the initial email being sent. A printed copy of the original email must be enclosed.
- The Appeals Committee will consider all appeals and a resolution/decision will be forthcoming within 96 hours from the time the appeal is sent. The decision of the Appeals Committee will only be given when the Appeal Fee has been received.
- If the Appeals Committee finds in favor of the Appeal, the Appeal Fee will be refunded.

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Suspensions

- The FHF Disciplinary Committee shall ensure that all participants abide by the FHF Code of Conduct.
- Only the FHF Disciplinary Committee shall have authority to suspend for one or more matches, players, team officials or other officials who, in the opinion of the FHF Disciplinary Committee are guilty of misconduct before, during or after a match wherever that misconduct occurred. Such suspended persons may not enter the field of play' or the technical facility areas surrounding it, or the video tower, during any match(es) played whilst under suspension, including at half time.
- In deciding on the length of any suspension the FHF Disciplinary Committee is not limited to the remaining matches in league but may impose a suspension that has effect for matches beyond the conclusion of the league. FHF may, in its absolute discretion, impose further penalties.
- During the period of any suspension of a player by the FHF Disciplinary Committee, the roster for a match of the team of that player shall be reduced to reflect the suspension(s).
- In the case of a permanent exclusion (red card) of a player from the field of play, both of the umpires involved must send a detailed report on the facts to FHF. The FHF Red Card report form will be available at the FHF Office.
- Any player or official who is suspended by the FHF Disciplinary Committee under this regulation may appeal against the suspension to the FHF Appeal Committee.

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Variations of FIH Rules (aka Local Rules)

To add to the excitement of matches, a number of variations in format shall apply during Field Hockey Federation matches.

The variations are as follows:

Rules for the U10 and U12 Divisions

These rule variations ONLY apply to the U10 and U12 divisions:-

- The reverse stick (“tomahawk”) shots at goal or hits in the field are NOT allowed.
- U10 Divisions: the stick **is NOT** allowed to be lifted above waist level as the player is hitting or slapping the ball.
- U12 Divisions: subject to danger, the stick **is** allowed to be lifted above the shoulder as the player is hitting the ball.

Penalty Corners - U10 Mixed, U12 Mixed, U14 Girls and U14 Boys

- A maximum of 4 defenders will be allowed to defend a penalty corner.
- The remaining 2 defenders shall position themselves in the opposing team’s half and may not leave until the attacking team puts the ball into play.
- The Breaking at Penalty Corners variation as specified below **DOES NOT** apply to these divisions.

Penalty Corners – U16 Girls, U17 Boys and U17 Girls.

- The Breaking at Penalty Corners variation as specified below **DOES NOT** apply to these divisions

Penalty Corners – DI Women, DI Men, DII and DIII **ONLY**

Breaking at Penalty Corner: Until the ball has been played, no attacker other than the one taking the push from the back-line is permitted to enter the circle and no defender is permitted to cross the back-line or center-line

1. For any offence of this rule by a defender other than the goalkeeper, the offending player(s) shall be required to go beyond the center-line and cannot be replaced by another defender
2. For any offence of this rule by a defending goalkeeper, the defending team defends the penalty corner with one less player
3. For an offence of this rule by an attacker who enters the circle before the ball is played, the offending player(s) shall be required to go beyond the center-line
4. The player who pushes the ball from the back-line must not feint at playing the ball. For an offence of this rule the offending player shall be replaced by another attacker and must go to the center-line
5. For ANY necessity to restart a penalty corner due to an early break into the circle or a feint by the inserter, someone **MUST** go to the center-line
6. When multiple players break into the circle prior to the insertion, one and only one player entered the circle first. The umpire must make a decision

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- and send only one player, the player who entered the circle first, to the center-line
7. When a player is sent to the center-line, he or she may come back into the half of the pitch in which the penalty corner is taking place after the ball has been inserted
 8. If during a penalty corner another penalty corner is awarded (a contiguous penalty corner), all players sent to the center-line for offenses during the original penalty corner must return to the center-line for the contiguous penalty corner(s)
 9. The umpire in charge of administering the penalty corner is solely responsible for all decisions on the attackers or defenders breaking into the circle too soon and fairs by the inserter
 10. If a team chooses to defend a penalty corner with less than the full number of players behind the back-line and the team breaches this rule, the team **MUST** defend the penalty corner, and any contiguous penalty corners, with one less player than the team originally positioned behind the back-line

Match Play

- Duration of all games EXCEPT for DI Men shall be two periods of 25 minutes each.
- Duration of all games for DI Men shall be two periods of 35 minutes each.
- The start and completion of each game will be controlled by the time clock.
- Half time shall be 5 minutes.
- All games will begin on time.
- All games will end at the sound of the horn on the scoreboard except the game shall be prolonged to finish a penalty corner or any subsequent penalty corners or penalty stroke.
- The maximum number of player on the roster is 18.
- The first named team on the schedule shall be responsible for providing the match ball. If a match ball is lost, the team that is listed second in the schedule shall provide the match ball
- The first named team on the schedule will wear their HOME strip and the second mentioned team will wear their AWAY strip as outlined in the Team Registration.

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Goalkeepers

- a) As per the USA Field Hockey modifications, all goalkeepers 19 years of age and younger must wear a mouth guard, collar throat protector and chest protection.
- b) Goalkeepers who wear a full helmet with a fixed face mask, leg guards and kickers must not take part in the match outside the 23 meters (25 yard) area they are defending other than to take penalty strokes if needed.
- c) When there is no designated goal keeper, the **penalty stroke** shall be defended **by** a player wearing a helmet.
- d) A team may use a player with goalkeeping privileges. This player will wear a shirt of a different color (not white). While defending the penalty corner or a penalty stroke, the player with goalkeeping privileges shall wear a full helmet with a fixed face mask. This player may take part in the match outside the 23 meters (25 yard) area they are defending once they have removed the helmet.
- e) If the team defending a penalty corner has chosen to play only with field players, all the permissible members of the defending team must be positioned behind the back-line. In this case none of the defenders has goalkeeping privileges. There is to be no substitution to bring on a player with goalkeeping privileges before a penalty corner. A player on the field is NOT allowed to assume the player with goalkeeping privileges while on the field of play.

Temporary Player Suspensions

- The 2 minute suspension for a green card is applicable to the Adult divisions (DI Women, DI Men, DII and DIII) ONLY.
- The 2 minute suspension for a green card is **NOT** applicable for the Junior divisions (U10 Mixed, U12 Mixed, U14 Girls, U14 Boys, U16 Girls, U17 Boys and U19 Girls).
- A player shown a yellow card will be suspended for a minimum of 5 minutes.
- The suspension will be timed and controlled by the responsible umpire.
- The 2 minute suspension time to start once the player is in the designated area for suspension (*to be discussed at the Umpire's Meeting & Rules Review*).

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SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Umpiring

Chief Umpire: Chris Januszewski
Umpire Coordinator Coralie van Marken

FHF Rules Committee

CHAIR: Rick Warren
Jason Hritz
Chris Januszewski
Rob Joubert

FHF Appeals Committee

CHAIR: Ravi Kanwal
Dave Jackson
Rob Stephens

FHF Competitions Committee

CHAIR: Rick Warren
Ben Maruquin
Dave Jackson
Jackie Scally

FHF Disciplinary Committee

CHAIR: Jackie Scally
(Committee to be appointed by Chairperson)

FHF Mailing Address:

Field Hockey Federation, Inc.
2060 E. Avenida de los Arboles # D 479
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

Agreement to abide by these Rules

I have read the Rules of the Field Hockey Federation, Inc. for the 2012 Spring Season and agree that I and the members of my team will abide by them.

Uniform Colors: Home Game

(a home game is when the team is listed first on the schedule)

Shirt _____
Socks _____
Shorts / Kilts _____

Uniform Colors: Away Game (MUST be different to above strip & can be white shirt with white socks)

(an away game is when the team is listed second on the schedule)

Shirt _____
Socks _____
Shorts / Kilts _____

Signature of Team Manager

Print Name

Date:

Team Name

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Received by: _____

Date: _____

Director of Competitions Committee Copy.

This sheet is to be kept with the Team Rosters.

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Socks _____
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Phone Number: _____

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Date: _____

Team Manager's Copy.