

# Cheshire Women's Hockey League

## CONSTITUTION

- 1.1 The League shall be called the 'Cheshire Women's Hockey League' and referred hereinafter as "The League".
- 1.2 The sponsor's name may be prefixed for publicity purposes.
- 1.3 The North Hockey Association is referred to as "NHA"
  - England Hockey is referred to as "EH"
  - The Cheshire Hockey Association is referred to as "CHA"
  - The Cheshire Umpires Association is referred to as "CUA"

## 2 MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 Clubs situated within the old Cheshire boundary (pre-1 April 1972) whose members are amateurs and who comply with the ruling of England Hockey shall be eligible for membership of the League.
- 2.2 Membership of the League may be extended to clubs from neighbouring Counties provided they are affiliated to their relevant body as required by EH, and meet the entry requirements of the League rules.
- 2.3 The number of 'non-Cheshire' clubs should not exceed one third of the total number of Cheshire clubs.
- 2.4 All Clubs must pay the relevant fees or their membership will be rescinded.
- 2.5 The League Committee will determine entry to the League. In the case of there being fewer vacancies available than applications received the League Committee will determine criteria for acceptance which should include the following, in priority order:
  - New Cheshire clubs
  - Additional teams from existing member clubs;
  - Location of playing facilities re distance for existing league teams to travel; and
  - Any other reasonable criteria.

## 3 COMMITTEE

- 3.1 The League shall be managed by a Committee, which shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.
- 3.2 No Committee position may be held for more than 3 years by the same individual and no Committee member can serve more than 6 years consecutively. Re-election may take place in both these circumstances after a period of one year.
- 3.3 'Non-Cheshire' clubs may have no more than two representatives on the Committee.
- 3.4 The Chairman and other members of the Committee shall be elected at the AGM from nominations received from Clubs, duly seconded and/or from the existing Committee. All positions will be subject to a ballot of those Clubs in attendance at the AGM, when required.
- 3.5 A Committee member may hold no more than 2 Committee positions at any one time.

## 4 COMMITTEE POSITIONS

- 4.1 The following Committee positions shall be available:
  - Chairman - Vice Chairman - General Secretary - Committee Secretary –Treasurer - 3 Club representatives (each representing Clubs in one of the areas and nominated by those relevant Clubs) - League Divisional Secretaries (inc. Colts)
  - CHA, CUA and Cheshire Schoolgirls Hockey Association will be invited to send one non-voting representative each to meetings.
- 4.2 The Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping and preparing accounts, which will be audited annually. The Committee shall appoint the Chairman or Vice Chairman and one other voting member to sign cheques.
- 4.3 The Committee may co-opt up to 2 additional (non-voting) members for either of the following reasons: -
  - The Committee identifies a need for specific expertise.
  - An individual will represent the League on external groups/bodies.
- 4.4 The Committee may fill a vacancy which may occur during a year but this action must be reported to the next AGM or Special General Meeting.
- 4.5 The Committee may appoint a sub-committee from within its number to effect specific business but with no rights of final decision. A sub-committee may be supported by co-optees appointed by the Committee but they shall not be in the majority.
- 4.6 The Committee will appoint one of its number to represent the League on the Cheshire Hockey Association Committee.

## 5 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- 5.1 A decision shall be made by vote and be agreed by a simple majority of those present who are entitled to vote. Where necessary the Chairman shall have casting vote.
- 5.2 Minutes of each meeting shall be taken and signed as a correct record at the next Meeting by the Chairman.
- 5.3 In the absence of the Chairman at a meeting the Vice-Chairman shall take the chair but if not present then a Chairman for the meeting shall be appointed by, and from, those attending.
- 5.4 A meeting shall be quorate by a minimum of 6 members (exc. Non-voting members) being present.

- 5.5 Committee members will be entitled to claim travelling and other expenses incurred when undertaking the business of the League. The Committee will pay reasonable expenses and its actions, including a collated statement of expenses should be presented at the AGM.

## **6 EXECUTIVE POWERS**

- 6.1 Executive powers shall be given to Committee members identified in 6.2, in the event of an urgent decision being required for which it is not felt necessary by the Chairman for a special meeting to be called. These powers shall be used no more than twice in any one year and must be reported and recorded at the next meeting and the AGM
- 6.2 Chairman or Vice-Chairman - General Secretary - Treasurer - one Club representative – one League Secretary. A meeting of this group shall be quorate with a minimum of 3 present including the Chairman or Vice Chairman, who shall chair the meeting. In the event of the decision being in connection with a League matter that League Secretary should be added to the Executive. A meeting of this group shall be quorate with a minimum of 3 present.

## **7 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

- 7.1 An AGM shall be held each May or on completion of the League season whichever is the later.
- 7.2 The business of the Meeting shall include: -  
a brief report of the Committee's business for the year, with specific reference to any decision (s) taken by the Executive.  
the election of Committee members.  
agreement of annual fees.  
Committee, League and County reports.  
the presentation of a written statement of accounts, including Committee members' expenses.
- 7.3 Nominations for amendments and/or additions to be constitution and/or other matters (except League rules – see 8. below) shall be sent in writing, proposed and seconded by separate clubs to the General Secretary no later 28 calendar days prior to the AGM.
- 7.4 Each club shall be sent an agenda not less than 14 calendar days prior to the meeting.
- 7.5 Voting:  
i) League and constitutional matters – each affiliated Club shall have one vote.  
ii) The Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote on all matters.
- 7.6 No proposal can be passed without a minimum of a 2/3rds majority of those present and eligible to vote.
- 7.7 A Special General Meeting may be called exceptionally by the Committee or must be called on receipt by the General Secretary of a notice of request signed by the Chairpersons of a minimum of 3 clubs of which 1 may be a Non Cheshire club.

## **8 LEAGUE RULES**

- 8.1 The League shall be run under the published League Rules but be governed by this constitution. All clubs joining the league are bound by this.
- 8.2 Any club who is a member of the League, wishing to propose new or amend rules must give notice in writing, no later than 31 December of that season, to the General Secretary. This will enable the issue raised to be fully considered, perhaps through a sub-committee, and circulated to all clubs for consultation before being placed on the AGM or a Special Meeting Agenda.
- 8.3 Any proposed, new or amended rule must be seconded by a club affiliated to the League.
- 8.4 The proposed new or amended rule (s) must appear on the agenda of the AGM or a Special Meeting along with the outcome of the consultation exercise (s).
- 8.5 No new or amended rule can be agreed without a minimum of a 2/3rds majority of those present and eligible to vote.

## **9 ANNUAL FEES**

- 9.1 Each relevant club shall pay the appropriate fees as determined by the Committee and agreed at the AGM, by the relevant date.

## **10 LEAGUE CONSTITUTION AND LEAGUE RULES**

- 10.1 Each team which is a member of the League shall be sent a copy of this Constitution, the League Rules and the Code of Conduct, where appropriate and on an annual basis and shall be bound by them.

## **11 DISCIPLINE**

- 11.1 The Committee divests control and implementation of any disciplinary matter arising under the EHB regulations for the enforcement of discipline to CHA or other relevant Association as deemed appropriate by the EHB.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **1. DRESS**

- 1.1 In the event of a colour clash it is the responsibility of the AWAY team to change.
- 1.2 Goalkeepers shall wear a top of a colour, which will distinguish them from both their own team and their opponents.
- 1.3 Umpires should dress in a distinct colour from that of both teams.

### **2. DISCIPLINE**

- 2.1 Clubs have the primary responsibility for discipline and the COMMITTEE expects them to act accordingly. Captains are specifically singled out in the rules of Hockey as being responsible for the behaviour of all their players.
- 2.2 Players should be reminded of their personal responsibility for appropriate behaviour both on and off the pitch.

### **3. HOSPITALITY**

- 3.1 The HOME team is expected to offer hospitality before and after the match to visiting clubs, umpires and officials, including providing half-time oranges and after match refreshments.

### **4. PITCH CONDITIONS**

- 4.1 Whether the pitch belongs to your club or is hired from, for example, a local leisure centre, YOU are responsible for its condition. You should arrange for it to be checked i.e. clean surface, no litter, goal nets and posts of appropriate size and correctly secured. It is unreasonable to excuse the state of a venue because you hire it. If you are paying for it you should insist on it being appropriate, including the availability of changing rooms and toilets.

### **5. FIRST AID**

- 5.1 Clubs should make sure that all teams have a first aid kit available for home and away games. Home teams should also have access to a supply of ice or similar. In particular they should have access to a telephone for an ambulance to be called without delay.

### **6. COLTS**

- 6.1 A Colts team should be accompanied at all matches by a senior person in addition to their umpire.

**FINALLY, ALL TEAMS ARE ASKED TO PROMOTE THE SPIRIT OF THE GAME OF HOCKEY AND THE MAXIM OF FAIR PLAY AND TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE GOOD REPUTATION OF THE CHESHIRE LEAGUE.**

# Cheshire Women's Hockey League

## LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP RULES AND REGULATIONS

### 1. MANAGEMENT

1.1 The CHESHIRE LEAGUE known as the LEAGUE shall be managed by the C.W.H.L COMMITTEE (the committee).

1.2 The league competition shall be conducted under the rules and regulations of ENGLAND HOCKEY except that all matches shall be of two periods of 35 minutes.

### 2. LEAGUE RULES

2.1 No new rule shall be made or any rule altered except at the annual or a special general meeting. Clubs wishing to propose new or amended rules must give notice in writing, no later than the 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER OF THAT SEASON, to the GENERAL SECRETARY so that the issue can be fully considered and circulated to other clubs for consultation before being placed on an AGM or EGM agenda.

2.2 Proposed changes, duly seconded, must appear in the notice of a meeting along with the outcome of the consultation exercise. No rule can be added or amended unless there is a 2/3rds majority of those present and entitled to vote.

### 3. MEMBERSHIP

3.1 The LEAGUE is open to all clubs affiliated to CHESHIRE AND TO ENGLAND HOCKEY. A limited number of clubs from the border counties may be allowed to join at the discretion of the COMMITTEE and provided that they are affiliated to their NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY.

3.2 Any new team entering the LEAGUE shall be admitted to the LOWEST DIVISION.

3.3 Entry to or participation in the LEAGUE by any club shall constitute acceptance of, and, submission to the authority of the COMMITTEE by that club, its players and officials in all matters.

### 4. LEAGUE COMPOSITION

4.1 The LEAGUE shall comprise of one or more divisions with all teams playing each of the other teams HOME and AWAY on the specified dates.

### 5. SCORING

5.1 Points for each game will be awarded as follows:

WIN=3 POINTS   DRAW=1 POINT   LOSS=NO POINTS

5.2 In the event of clubs likely to be affected by promotion or relegation having an equal number of points at the end of the season places shall be determined by the following being applied in order until a winner emerges:

1. goal difference
2. highest number of goals FOR
3. the aggregate scores between the teams concerned
4. a play-off match played to a conclusion (including extra time and penalty strokes, if necessary)

## **6. PROMOTIONS AND RELEGATION**

### **DIVISION 1**

6.1 At the end of the season the highest placed club in Division 1 shall be identified for a place in the North Feeder, dependant on the North's decision on the format of this League. In the event of a North Feeder League being continued there may be a requirement for a play-off between two or three clubs if another Cheshire team remains in the Feeder League from the previous season and/or a team is relegated from North League 2.

6.2 2 (two) teams will be relegated to Division 2.

6.3 Any team relegated from the North Feeder will rejoin the Cheshire League Division 1.

Any team relegated from the North League Division 2 (or 3 if applicable-see 6.1) will rejoin the Cheshire League Division 1.

### **ALL OTHER DIVISIONS**

6.4 2 (two) teams will be promoted to the next higher division and 2 (two) teams relegated to the next lower division.

## **7. Trophies**

7.1 A trophy will be awarded annually to the WINNER of each Division who will be responsible for engraving and returning it.

7.2 Each trophy MUST BE RETURNED by hand or registered post to the GENERAL or DIVISIONAL SECRETARY at least 1 month before the presentation evening (usually the AGM).  
AN INVOICE WILL BE RAISED AGAINST A CLUB WHO DOES NOT RETURN A TROPHY IN ORDER THAT A REPLACEMENT CAN BE PURCHASED.

## **8. GENERAL**

### **LEAGUE TABLES**

8.1 Match results must be sent by text to Fixtures Live by the Home captain. League tables and results can be viewed on the website [www.fixtureslive.com](http://www.fixtureslive.com). If any team does not have Internet access then the Divisional Secretary will send a copy of the League table on request.

### **CHANGE OF CLUB DETAILS**

8.2 If a club plays its HOME matches at an address different from those given in the handbook, they must ensure that ALL ADDRESSES are supplied to the COMMITTEE and other clubs affected.

8.3 Clubs must notify the COMMITTEE and other affected clubs of ANY CHANGES to the details of club officials during the season.

## **LEAGUE REGULATIONS**

### **1. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

1.1 All clubs must submit a completed entry form together with the appropriate fee to the GENERAL SECRETARY by the 31<sup>st</sup> MAY of the relevant year.

**FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN THE CLUB NOT BEING ENTERED.**

### **2. PLAYING SURFACES**

2.1 Clubs must be able to provide:

- an artificial grass pitch
- full size goal posts with regulation nets and backboards
- clear markings for all perimeters and circles.

2.2 HOME TEAMS must confirm all details of match arrangements at least 8 DAYS (by noon of that day) before the game.

2.3 If either CAPTAIN considers that owing to the state of the pitch or the markings the match should not be played as a league game, she must bring this to the attention of both umpires and the opposing Captain before the game commences.

2.4 The UMPIRES may postpone a match if the pitch is not of a standard to allow the game to be played as a league game. UMPIRES should use their discretion but endeavour to play the game. If however there is a doubt about the playing surface but the game goes ahead it should be reported to the Committee after the game to help their monitoring...

**THE FINAL DECISION RESTS WITH THE UMPIRES.**

### **3. REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS**

#### **REGISTRATION**

3.1 Each player must be a fully paid member of the club she is representing in that league season.

3.2 ALL CLUBS must submit to the GENERAL SECRETARY a list of full names of its playing members for registration, no later than seven days before the first league game. If a club has more than one team it should also submit an indication of their likely playing status i.e. 1<sup>st</sup> eleven; 2<sup>nd</sup> eleven. A player must be registered for only one team but they are eligible to play for one team higher and one team lower than the team they are registered for, i.e. a player registered 2<sup>nd</sup> eleven is eligible to play for the 1<sup>st</sup> eleven and the 3<sup>rd</sup> eleven. A minimum of 11 players must be registered for each team. The list must be completed in alphabetical order by surname and giving dates of birth of those players under 18 in the season.

Change of name during the season must be notified immediately.

3.3 Where a club has a team playing in the National or Territorial League then that club must identify 7 (seven) of its team/teams who will be ineligible to play in any Cheshire League Team.

3.4 This registration form will be valid until the 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER at which point it can be reviewed by the club. All clubs will then resubmit a new registration form with any amendments/changes of status to the GENERAL SECRETARY by 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY. This form will be valid for the remainder of the season with no further change of playing status allowed.

3.5 New players that come to a club after 1<sup>st</sup> January may be registered provided they have not been registered to any other Cheshire League team in the current season.

3.6 Any application to add to the registration list should be received by the DIVISIONAL SECRETARY at least 5 days prior to player/s concerned playing in a league match. In the event of a transfer, action under 3.8 must be taken.

3.7 NO PLAYER MAY PLAY IN MORE THAN ONE LEAGUE TEAM ON THE SAME DATE OR WEEKEND OR THE REARRANGED FIXTURE, SHOULD ONE BE NECESSARY. EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF PLAYERS BEING SELECTED FOR A TEAM PLAYING IN A REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LEAGUE OR EXCEPT WHERE ORIGINAL PLAYERS ARE UNAVAILABLE THEY MAY BE REPLACED WITH A PLAYER FROM A LOWER TEAM ON THE ORIGINAL FIXTURE DATE.

## Transfers

3.8 A player in a Cheshire League club may transfer from that club to another Cheshire League club but only once in a season and not after the END OF JANUARY. The following code must be observed:

- (a) A player should consider it HER duty if she intends to change clubs to inform her PRESENT CLUB immediately of her intention and must do so in writing to the Secretary of her PRESENT club.
- (b) She must ensure that all her subscriptions, penalties and dues are paid in full to the date of leaving.
- (c) The club to which she intends to move (the NEW club) must ensure that the player has given written notice to the FORMER club of her intention to move and that all subscriptions, penalties and dues are paid. The NEW club must obtain from the FORMER club a statement to the above effect.

### **THE PENALTY FOR FAILING TO OBSERVE THE REGISTRATION REGULATIONS OR FOR PLAYING AN UNREGISTERED PLAYER IS:**

**FOR EACH MATCH IN, WHICH AN UNREGISTERED IS PLAYED, THE CLUB CONCERNED SHALL FORFEIT ANY POINTS ACCRUING FROM THE RESULT AND FURTHER 3 POINTS (THEREFORE A POSSIBLE TOTAL OF 6 POINTS) AND ANY GOALS SCORED.**

**The opposing team in the match concerned shall retain the points and goals of the match if they won. If not, they shall be awarded 3 points and be deemed to have won the match by 3 goals to nil.**

3.9 All players to have a visible individual number on the back of their shirt, this has to be recorded on the team sheet against their name when playing in league games.

**Failure to do so will result in a penalty of £10 for the first offence, £25 for the second offence and a 3-point deduction for a third or subsequent offence in the same season.**

3.10 Following England Hockey policy, U13s are restricted from participating in adult hockey leagues until they reach their 13<sup>th</sup> birthday and as such will be deemed to be unregistered players.

## 4. STARTING TIMES AND CONFIRMATION

4.1 Matches must not start before 12 noon or after 4.30 pm.

4.2 The HOME team must confirm with the opposition venue, playing surface and the start time by noon at least 8 DAYS before the game.

**Failure to do so will result in a penalty of £10 for the first offence and £25 for the second offence in the same season. For a third offence or subsequent offence 3 points will be deducted.**

## 5. MATCHES AND NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

5.1 Before commencement of each league match, EACH team must complete the match sheet. It is the responsibility of the HOME CAPTAIN to hand the completed sheet to the umpires BEFORE the match. The sheet must sufficiently identify the players concerned by giving their first and last names in full plus their playing shirt number. After the match, the sheet must be signed by BOTH CAPTAINS and UMPIRES and returned to the HOME CAPTAIN.

5.2 A completed match sheet must be sent to the DIVISIONAL SECRETARY by the HOME team, to reach her/him by the WEDNESDAY following the fixture.

**Failure to do so will result in a penalty of £10 for the first offence and £25 for the second offence in the same season. For a third or subsequent offence 3 points will be deducted**

5.3 Where a club has a team or teams playing in the National or Territorial League, a completed match report for that team must be sent to the DIVISIONAL SECRETARY responsible for the division in which their next highest team is competing. The match report is to reach her/him by the WEDNESDAY following the fixture.

**Failure to do so will result in a penalty of £10 for the first offence and £25 for the second offence in the same season. For a third or subsequent offence 3 points will be deducted**

## **6. POSTPONEMENTS, ABANDONMENTS AND RE-ARRANGEMENTS**

### **Postponements**

6.1 The COMMITTEE expects clubs to make every effort to play games.

6.2 No fixture may be rearranged without prior consent of the DIVISIONAL SECRETARY.

Postponement of matches shall occur only in the event of

- a. adverse weather
- b. adverse playing conditions
- c. if one team has 3 or more players taking part in a senior, U21 or U18 County or Territorial or National match, tournament or training session.

6.3 Postponements under ( c ) will be permitted for a **maximum of TWO matches per season** for any club team.

6.4 If a game has to be postponed in the event of (a) or (b) the HOME club shall notify by telephone:

- (a) the opposition – NO LATER THAN 3 HOURS BEFORE THE DESIGNATED START TIME
- (b) DIVISIONAL SECRETARY – within 3 days

### **Abandonment**

6.5 In the rare event of a game having to be abandoned as a result of serious injury to a player or in the event of adverse weather conditions, the match shall be replayed. The HOME team must notify the DIVISIONAL SECRETARY within 3 days.

### **Re-arranged Matches**

6.6 A match postponed under rule 6.3 or abandoned under rule 6.5 must be played on the first available date, which does not conflict with a league or Cheshire cup game. However any matches postponed or abandoned on the last scheduled SATURDAY of each half of the season must be played on the following weekend.

6.7 It is the responsibility of the HOME team to contact the opposition within 3 days to agree the first available date. If in any doubt as to which is the first available date or in the case of any dispute, BOTH clubs must notify the DIVISIONAL SECRETARY immediately.

6.8 The DIVISIONAL SECRETARY must be notified in writing of the date of the re arranged match within 5 DAYS of the postponement.

**FAILURE TO OBSERVE THE RULES IN SECTION 6 WILL RESULT IN A £10 FINE FOR THE FIRST OFFENCE AND £25 FOR THE SECOND OFFENCE IN THE SAME SEASON. FOR A THIRD OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENCE 3 POINTS SHALL BE DEDUCTED.**

## **7. FAILURE TO HONOUR A FIXTURE**

7.1 If a club fails to honour a fixture or forfeits a game it shall be deemed to have LOST 0-3. The opposing team shall be awarded 3 POINTS and deemed to have WON 3-0. A further 3 points will be deducted from the defaulting team.

7.2 If a club fails to honour three fixtures in a season they will be withdrawn from the League by the Committee.

7.3 In the event of a team withdrawing from the League BEFORE completing all their fixtures, then all fixtures and results for that team will be declared NULL AND VOID and will not count in any League table.

## **8. LATE ARRIVALS**

8.1 For all matches the following penalties will apply:

- (a) a team not ready to play 5 MINUTES AFTER the agreed start time shall CONCEDE 1 GOAL. The teams will play the remainder of the time left in the first half and all of the second half
- (b) A team not ready to play after the designated half time, or who fails to turn up at all, SHALL CONCEDE THE MATCH – rule 7.1 will therefore apply.



## 9. UMPIRING

9.1 Teams playing in Division 1- 3 inclusive must provide a Level 1 Umpire; this is also recommended, but not obligatory for the other Divisions. (Teams in Division 3 are allowed to use an umpire who is being assessed during that league game for their Level 1 Umpire practical exam)

Unassessed level one umpires are also allowed to umpire games in Division 3 as long as they have permission from the Divisional Secretary and a fully qualified colleague is umpiring with them.

The same umpire should also officiate for the entire match.

**FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN THAT TEAM CONCEDED THE MATCH AND BEING DEEMED TO HAVE LOST 0-3. THEIR OPPONENTS SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE WON 3-0 AND A FURTHER 3 POINTS DEDUCTED AS PER RULE 7.1**

9.2 For the other divisions, where teams arrive without an umpire, that team must either CONCEDE the game or NOMINATE ONE OF THEIR PLAYERS TO UMPIRE

9.3 In the event of an umpire being injured during the course of the game, and where no suitable replacement (including a Level 1 umpire where required) is available, then the match will be abandoned and re-arranged in Accordance with 6.6 to 6.8 above.

**THE DIVISIONAL SECRETARY MUST BE NOTIFIED**

## 10. EMERGENCY POWERS

10.1 Should any matter require an immediate decision which cannot be deferred until the next meeting of the COMMITTEE then the decision may be made on behalf of that COMMITTEE by not less than three members of the COMMITTEE at least one of whom must be the CHAIRMAN OR THE GENERAL SECRETARY. The decision will be reported to the next formal meeting of the COMMITTEE.

## 11. APPEALS

11.1 Any club which considers it has been fined or penalised unfairly, has the right of appeal by writing to the GENERAL SECRETARY requesting that the facts be placed before the COMMITTEE whose decision SHALL BE FINAL.

11.2 Any appeal must be made in writing within 7 DAYS of the original decision being notified and be sent Recorded Delivery to the GENERAL SECRETARY.

11.3 Any appeal shall be accompanied by a deposit of £10 which shall be returned if the appeal is successful. The Committee shall notify the club of its decision in writing within 7 days of the appeal being heard.

11.4 The COMMITTEE shall have the power to make decisions on such matters as are not covered by these rules. Routine decisions on the interpretation of these rules are delegated to the DIVISIONAL SECRETARIES who shall have full authority to make rulings as required. The decision of the DIVISIONAL SECRETARY shall be final subject to the right of appeal set out above.

**NB. ANY FINES ACCRUED MUST BE PAID TO THE TREASURER WITHIN 21 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE LETTER CONFIRMING THE DECISION. ANY DUE PAYMENT NOT RECEIVED BY THAT DATE WILL RESULT IN 3 POINTS BEING DEDUCTED IMMEDIATELY.**

## TOURNAMENT RULES

### CLUB ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRIES

The tournaments shall be **open to all league clubs** or those affiliated C.H.A. Groups or affiliated clubs may not enter a composite team but each club may enter any number of teams.

- 1.2 Clubs enter the competition by sending in the application form and remittance by the date set. WITHDRAWAL from the tournament will be accepted up to 14 days prior to the event. **ANY WITHDRAWAL LATER THAN THIS, FOR WHATEVER REASON WILL LEAD TO THE CLUB BEING BANNED FROM ENTRY TO THE FOLLOWING TWO TOURNAMENTS AND FINED £30.**

### REGULATIONS

Each Tournament will be arranged according to entries received and venues available. Separate tournaments will be arranged by grouping teams together (according either to league positions or 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> team status, as determined by the Tournament committee) and played on an approved hard surface (e.g. AstroTurf).

**NO PLAYER MUST PLAY FOR MORE THAN ONE CLUB TEAM ON THE SAME TOURNAMENT DAY OR WEEKEND. ANY CLUB CONTRAVENING THIS RULE WILL BE ELIMINATED FROM THE TOURNAMENT AND BANNED FROM COUNTY TOURNAMENTS FOR ONE CALENDAR YEAR FOLLOWING THE OCCURRENCE.**

TEAMS will be of 7, 9, or 11 players according to the format of the

Tournament. Substitutions may be made at any time in accordance with the EHA rules.

The FORMAT of the tournament will be determined by the Tournament

Committee according to numbers of teams entered. **Teams will be sent the draw no later than 7 days prior to the event. This will include the venue, times, umpires details. The rules below will apply to all Cheshire tournaments. Any additional rules and specific to the event will be sent to clubs with the draw.**

The committee reserves full power to alter or modify the conduct of the competition in any way it may see fit, subject to the EHA rules and regulations.

### TOURNAMENT PROCEDURE

UMPIRES must report to the recording table prior to the start of the tournament to collect the umpire's cards. **They will be required to umpire throughout the competition and willing to be available to officiate in the latter stages (semi-finals/finals etc.), if asked.** TEAMS WITHOUT AN UMPIRE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TAKE FURTHER PART IN THE TOURNAMENT.

TEAM CAPTAINS must toss for ends in advance of each match and first named team should provide the ball for the game.

Each team should be equipped with shirts (or bibs) and socks of a different colour. In the event of a colour clash the 2<sup>nd</sup> named team shall be responsible for changing.

The timing of all matches will be centrally controlled. A "goal" scored after the bell or Claxon will not be counted.

Extra time will not be added on for penalty strokes in section matches. Penalty strokes/corner awarded prior to the "bell" will continue. The umpire will stop the game once a goal is scored or the ball goes out of the circle.

A team not on the pitch and ready to play at the start of the match shall lose ONE GOAL, if over 5 minutes late shall lose the game 3-0. Teams may not start the match with less than 7 players in an 11 a side match (4 players in a 7 a side or 6 for 9 a side games).

### SCORING

WIN – 4 points; SCORE DRAW – 2 points; NO SCORE DRAW – 1 point

The section winner will be decided according to the following criteria:

the team with the highest number of POINTS

GOAL DIFFERENCE

HIGHEST GOALS SCORED – if this has not decided the outcome:

A SERIES OF PENALTY STROKES where 3 selected players from each team will take one stroke each. (A coin will be tossed to decide which team takes the first stroke). According to the time remaining any subsequent series of strokes may need to be sudden death to achieve a speedier result. Selected players may be changed for subsequent series of stroke.

In the FINALS/SEMI FINALS if the match is drawn a series of penalty strokes as (d) above will decide the winner.

**THE TOURNAMENT REFEREE WILL MAKE FINAL DECISIONS IN ALL CASES IN DISPUTE.**

# **CHESHIRE WOMEN'S HOCKEY LEAGUE**

**League Rules**  
**Constitution**  
**Code of conduct**



