

TARANAKI YOUTH COUNCIL
Secondary School Championship Rules 2009

THF = Taranaki Hockey Federation
TYC= Taranaki Youth Council

1.0 SCHOOL/TEAM REGISTRATION

- 1.1 The registration process is in three stages. Schools shall first enter the team in the relevant competition. The entry of teams shall be completed by the date set by TYC at the pre season competition meeting. An entry form is posted on the Taranaki Web Site as "Team Entry Form".
- 1.2 Registration of players shall be completed by the date set by TYC at the pre season competition meeting. The registration form contains provision for up to 20 players total for the year. The team registration form is posted on the Taranaki Web Site as "Team registration Form".

Final stage of registration is the payment of fees. Each team will be invoiced by THF for the year's fees, to be paid by the due date set by TYC at the pre season competition meeting. Failure to pay by the set date will result in the loss of competition points until the fees are paid.
- 1.3 Where a school has more than one team entered in the Secondary School competitions, the teams shall be ranked according to their strength. No player shall be listed in more than one squad, unless they are bonified floating player.
- 1.4 Note that the team registration form requires teams to identify floating players as per the Floating Player Rule where the club has more than one team entered in the Taranaki Secondary School competition. Rule No. 5.
- 1.5 Schools shall pay a withdrawal fee (the sum of which shall be determined by the THF) if any team is withdrawn from competition at any stage.
- 1.6 Home school pupils can register with any secondary school hockey team, on the approval of TYC.
 - 1.6.1 Schools are able to register individual players throughout the season. An Individual Player Registration Form is available on the Taranaki Hockey Web site. Acceptance of this registration will be at the discretion of TYC pending the completion of a Player Transfer Form (where necessary) and the payment of the appropriate fee.

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1.6.2 All players must be registered for three matches before they can play in the semi finals and finals.

1.6.3 Players who have met the registration conditions during the season, and who leave school during the competition are able to continue to play for the team they were registered in until the end of that season. The players must abide by all the rules set by the school and continue to act as a representative of their school.

1.7 Each team shall wear tops, shirts, skirts or shorts and socks in the colours nominated on the Team Entry Form. Goalkeepers shall wear a different colour from that of their own team and that of their opponents. All tops or shirts shall be numbered.

Prior approval must be given by TYC when a school wishes to change strip colours.

1.8 Teams shall nominate and have available an alternate strip. Where a team is required to use its alternate strip in the first round, the opposing team shall use their alternate strip in the second round.

1.9 The Principal of the school shall sign the registration form confirming all players nominated on the form are registered pupils with the school.

2.0 COMPETITION FORMAT

2.1 The competition format for all grades will be determined by the TYC as required, and as dictated by the prospective nominations for the season. In general the competition shall take the following format. Boys Open Grade will consist of two rounds of round robin followed by semis and a final. The Boys B grade will mirror that of the Open Grade. The Girls competition will be similar Promotion Relegation games will be conducted between the lower of the A grade teams and the higher of the B grade teams at the completion of the first round. The number of entrants into the competition will determine the number of rounds. The competition committee will endeavor to set approximately 14 games per year for each team in the competition.

2.2 Competition points shall be as follows:

- 3 points for a win;
- 1 point for a draw;
- 0 points for a loss.

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- 2.3 Round Robin Games shall be 25 minutes each way with 5 minutes for half-time.
- Semi finals and finals shall be 30 minutes each way and five minutes for half time.
- 2.4 Score cards shall be legibly filled out with the initial, surname and shirt number of each player.
- 2.5 At the completion of the game it is the responsibility of the winning team management to ensure that the card is signed confirming the score and that the card has been placed in the box at the turf.
- 2.6 Any protest to be registered as a protest must be recorded as "game under protest" on the score card. The card must be signed by the protesting team management.
- 2.7 The fee for protesting shall be \$50. The fee and letter of protest shall be forwarded to the THF Administration Manager within 48 hours.
- 2.8 Promotion Relegation Games; In the event that the lower grade team defaults the challenge, the second lower grade team may challenge. In the event that there is a draw at full time in the promotion relegation game, then the challenger remains in the lower grade.

3.0 DEFERAL OR DEFAULT OF MATCHES

- 3.1 Matches may be deferred only on the approval of the TYC.

Deferrals will only be allowed if played within two weeks, either side of the scheduled game and not within one week of the end of a round or within one week of the commencement of the semi finals.

The responsibility for all deferral arrangements shall lie with the team wishing the deferral including notifying the appointed umpires.

The team being asked for the deferral should apply good sportsmanship and every effort should be made to accommodate the deferral. Teams shall have agreed an alternative venue and/or playing time to be approved by TYC, who shall be notified of the proposed deferral at least 14 days prior to the scheduled date of the match.

Deferral proposals put to the TYC less than 7 days prior to the fixture date shall incur a fee.

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- 3.2 Deferral proposals lodged less than 7 days prior to the fixture may result in the deferring team being charged with the turf fee for the deferred fixture.

Advice Note: The number of teams in the competition puts significant stress on available turf time. Any deferrals may need to be played during school practice times.

- 3.3 Teams intending to default shall inform the TYC via the Operations Manager no less than 48 hours prior to the scheduled date and time of the fixture. Failure to do so will result in a fine no less than twice the relevant turf fee.
- 3.4 Teams intending to default are also required to advise the opposing school, and the Umpires Convener. Failure to advise either will incur the same fine as set out in 3.3 above.
- 3.5 A Default Notification Form is posted on the Taranaki hockey web site. This form shall be provided to the Operations Manager within 7 days of the default.
- 3.6 A default shall be treated as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team.
- 3.7 If at the commencement, or at any stage during a match, the number of players in a team is less than seven (7), then that team shall be considered to have lost the match by default. If the relevant team has not scored prior to the default being invoked, then the score shall be recorded as 3-0 to the opposing team. If the non defaulting team has scored more than three goals then the score recorded shall stand.
- 3.8 If a team is unable to provide a full team on the day as per the Rules of Hockey, then the default shall be deemed to take place 10 minutes after the normal commencement time of the match.
- 3.9 If the umpires have not turned up to referee the game 10 minutes for the scheduled game start, then the managers of the team need to find umpires to referee the game.

4.0 COMPETITION PLACINGS

- 4.1 Placings shall be determined by the following, sequentially:
- The team with the greater number of points;
 - The team with the greater number of wins;
 - Goal difference (which means 'goals for' less 'goals against');
 - Most goals for;
 - Who beat Who; and
 - At the discretion of the TYC.

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- 4.2 For semi finals and finals shall go to “Golden Goal” extra if a draw occurs at full time. Seven minutes of extra time shall be played with 11 players in each team. If still a draw at the end of the extra time a further seven minutes shall be played with 9 players. If still a draw at the end of the second period of extra time penalty stroke competition shall be held.

5.0 FLOATING PLAYERS

- 5.1 Teams shall have a maximum two floating players.
- 5.2 All floating players shall be nominated at the beginning of the season on the team registration form. (See 1.3 above)
- 5.3 TYC shall approve all the floating players prior to the commencement of the playing season.
- 5.4 Floating players are allowed to move between any two teams from the same school. The floating players shall be deemed to be the two **lesser players** of the higher ranked team. I.e. not a senior player, not an age group representative player (under 16 development players excluded) and not a player that would make a significant difference to the team that they are floating to. The purpose of the floating player rule is simply to allow teams that are short of players to top up to prevent defaulting.

Players can float from A team to a B team in the same grade, A grade to B grade (absolute lesser player in this case), cross grade B grade if more than one team in the B grade.

The floating player rule has been implemented to allow some flexibility with difficulties surrounding boarders, travel arrangements, work commitments etc. It must not be abused. The rule will be monitored and strictly policed. Incorrect use of this rule will result in immediate points loss and may be subject to a fine equivalent to the turf fees for the match.

Schools may apply to have a specific player who does not meet this general criteria listed as a floating player, due to any extenuating circumstances that may apply to that player. The decision of the TYC will be final.

- 5.5 Where the floating player from the higher ranked team is a goalkeeper, the floating player may only play in the field and not in the goal.

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- 5.6 Development players: (These players do not need to be nominated on the registration form). Players may play up a grade for up to two games for the purpose of development. To play a third game in the higher grade the player must be then registered permanently in that grade and remain in that team for the remainder of the season.

6.0 PLAYER TRANSFERS

- 6.1 Before any team registration can be accepted, schools shall certify that all of the players on the registration form are bona fide members of the school and that all necessary transfer procedures have been completed for players moving between schools or arriving from outside the Taranaki region.
- 6.2 Players must complete a Player Transfer Form and submit the form from the original club from which the player is transferring. Schools within Taranaki shall complete the form and forward a copy to both the player and the TYC. The form shall be endorsed to the effect that the player does not owe any monies to the original school or association and is free to transfer to the new school.
- 6.3 Any disputes between schools as to the status of an individual player shall be referred to the TYC for determination. The decision of the TYC shall be final.

7.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- 7.1 Any player on the field who is bleeding shall leave the field as soon as possible and shall not return until the bleeding has stopped or the wound is adequately covered. Blood stained clothing or equipment must be cleaned or replaced before re-entry onto the playing field. Bleeding players shall leave the field at the side or end of the field closest to the point of injury.
- 7.2 The NZHF Head Injury Policy shall apply. The stand down period shall be three weeks. Stand down periods may only be shortened at the discretion of the TYC on the receipt of a Doctors Certificate or other satisfactory medical information.
- 7.3 No player shall take the field unless wearing both a mouth guard and shin pads. This requirement is to be enforced by the team management in the first instance. If brought to the attention of the TYC then this rule may be enforced by loss of championship points.

A player fully dressed in goalkeeping equipment must be on the field for each team in the goal keepers position during the playing of a game.

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- 7.4 Teams shall ensure that they have sufficient first aid equipment on hand at all matches.

8.0 CODE OF CONDUCT

- 8.1 The Code of Conduct shall apply to all players, coaches, managers, officials, umpires, and player spectators.
- 8.2 The Code shall apply, in respect of all secondary school grades, to all of the parties listed above, and in relation to the following;
- Swearing, spontaneously or otherwise;
 - Spitting on, bleeding on, or refusing to take steps to stop bleeding on the turf, or steps to avoid potential infection of other players or officials;
 - Striking, or threatening to strike any other participant, umpire or official whether it be with a stick, boot, fist, foot or otherwise;
 - Indulging in abuse, or displays of dissent towards other participants, umpires or officials;
 - Conduct any unseemly or unsporting behaviour; or display any behaviour, which brings disrepute to the sport of Hockey or the Taranaki Hockey Federation.
- 8.3 The jurisdiction of the TYC in respect of the matters or actions listed above shall extend beyond the immediate context of any scheduled game.
- 8.4 Where players, umpires or officials are subject to abuse from spectators, the team to which the spectator is aligned may be requested to approach the spectator and request that the abuse cease.
- 8.5 Players who swear on the field may be temporarily suspended. Umpires will be instructed to use their discretion as to whether or not the issue of a card is justified. In the event of a yellow card being issued, the minimum length of suspension shall be 5 minutes.
- 8.6 In the event that the coach, manager, player substitutes, or other team officials behave in a manner that an umpire considers breaches the code of conduct, the umpire may suspend a player from the field. The captain will be requested to nominate the player to be suspended. If the player so nominated, or the captain refuses to cooperate the captain shall be suspended. .
- 8.7 The TYC will advise the school concerned of details of the incident and shall impose such penalties or fines as it sees fit.

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- 8.8 The TYC may appoint match controllers for any game during the season.

9.0 CARD AND PENALTY POINT SYSTEM

- 9.1 The umpire during the match may issue a player with a green, yellow or red card. A green card is deemed to be a warning, a yellow card is deemed to result in a temporary suspension for a minimum of 5 minutes, and a red card will result in the offending player taking no further part in the game.
- 9.2 The card system operates whether or not the umpire has a set of cards or not. Cards may be issued by presenting the appropriate card or verbally indicating the issue of the card.
- 9.3 Each card will carry the following penalty points:
- Green Card: 1 point
 - Yellow Card: 3-6 points (at appointed umpires discretion)
 - Red Card: 12 points

Where the game is controlled by player umpires yellow cards will automatically incur a 3 point penalty. Should any umpire fail to record the number of points on the match card, the points will be automatically allocated by the THF.

- 9.4 All players are required to identify themselves by name when requested by an umpire. Refusal to do so will result in the issue of a red card, unless the captain identifies the player by name. Where neither the player, captain, team management or school is prepared to identify a player issued with a card within 48 hours of a request by the TYC to do so, the team shall be suspended from competition until further notice.
- 9.5 Any umpire is required to comply with any reasonable request to identify himself or herself to a player, coach or team management.
- 9.6 Points allocated to an individual shall remain for the balance of the playing season. After that date, the points are automatically removed.
- 9.7 Suspensions in force at the end of the playing season shall remain in force at the commencement of the following season, on such terms as the Judicial Committee may have imposed.

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10.0 JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

- 10.1 The purpose of this Committee is to deal with any matters arising from breaches of the Code of Conduct.
- 10.2 The Committee shall be appointed by the THF and comprise of at least three and up to five members. The Judicial Committee may co-opt members as it sees fit in the circumstances surrounding the matters upon which it is required to deliberate.
- 10.3 The Judicial Committee may deal with incidents involving individual participants or umpires. Matters may be brought to the attention of the Judicial Committee either automatically through the accumulation of points via a card system or, as matters raised by way of complaint by either individuals or a school.
- 10.4 Complaints relating to matters that have been dealt with by a match umpire will not usually be considered, unless the umpire raises the complaint or a school that is involved in the incident.
- 10.5 Except for a Red Card, the Judiciary may elect not to hear the matter.
- 10.6 The THF will deal with complaints relating to the behavior of whole teams, whether it is in respect of on or off the field incidents, or off field incidents involving individual participants or umpires.
- 10.7 The THF may at its discretion delegate the responsibility for hearing any matter relating to a whole team to the Judicial Committee, but only with the agreement of the Chairperson of the Judicial Committee.
- 10.8 These hearings will be conducted in a fair and just manner. Participants have the right to be represented and to respond to any evidence given. Hearings may be held without the participant being present if the participant chooses, by notice or their action, not to attend a meeting of the Judicial Committee. Failure to respond to a notice of a meeting of the Judicial Committee may be interpreted as the participant electing not to attend the meeting, when it is clear that the participant has received the notice and has had adequate time to respond.
- 10.9 Notice of Judicial Committee hearings will be given to the participant and contact person of the school to which the participant is affiliated, as soon as possible after the need for a hearing becomes known. Wherever possible, written notice will be followed by verbal advice.

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- 10.10 The notice must contain details of the complaint, copies of any written evidence to hand, i.e. umpires reports, or letters of complaint.
- 10.11 Matters involving more than one person may be dealt with together.
- 10.12 Hearings may be held without the participant being present.
- 10.13 Participants have the right to be represented.
- 10.14 Each hearing will be conducted in a fair and just manner with proceedings being recorded. The following procedure will be adopted:
- 10.14.1 The members of the Judiciary will be introduced;
 - 10.14.2 Other parties at the hearing will be identified;
 - 10.14.3 The charges to be considered will be detailed;
 - 10.14.4 The participant will be asked to plead to the charges;
 - 10.14.5 The participant will be given the opportunity to make a statement;
 - 10.14.6 Other evidence will be considered i.e. umpires reports, witness statements

 - 10.14.7 The participant will be given the opportunity to make another statement;
 - 10.14.8. The Judiciary will consider the charges;
 - 10.14.9 The decision of the Judiciary will be delivered;
 - 10.14.10. Submissions on penalty will be received;
 - 10.14.11. The Judiciary will consider the penalty;
 - 10.14.12. The decision of the Judiciary will be delivered along with reasons thereof;
 - 10.14.13. The participant will be advised of the right of appeal and the consequences of the penalty; and
 - 10.14.14. The Judiciary may adjourn or postpone a hearing.
- 10.15 The Burden of Proof shall be on the balance of probabilities.
- 10.16 The outcome of the Judicial Committee hearing will be put in writing as soon as possible to the School or Organization to which the participant is affiliated, the other School or Organization involved, and the NZHF.

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- 10.17 Decisions of the Judicial Committee may be appealed to the THF, provided that:
- The appeal is made in writing and accompanied by a fee of \$50.
 - The basis on which the appeal is being made must be clearly stated.
 - The appeal is made within 7 days of the date of notification.
- 10.18 Schools may appeal any decision of this Federation to the NZ Hockey Federation, but only in so far as it concerns any point of law.
- 10.19 The participants past actions are irrelevant to the determination of guilt. The extent of any injury suffered or inflicted is relevant.

Matters to be considered when determining the penalty to be imposed include:

- Greater significance should be placed on the player's intention than on the actual outcome i.e. the fact that a player swings a stick at another player is more critical to determining the extent of the penalty than whether or not it actually connects or causes significant injury. The consequences of any action may, however, influence the penalty to the extent that the Judicial Committee believes it is equitable.
 - The penalty should reflect the intentions of the player and the potential danger associated with that action.
 - The past history of the participant should also be considered. Repeat offenders can expect more severe penalties.
- 10.20 In any case in which it is claimed a participant was guilty of an offence by reason of provocative conduct on the part of another participant or person, such provocative conduct shall be no defence to any incident but may be taken into account in determining the penalty/suspension.
- 10.21 The fact that a participant acted in retaliation shall be no defence but may be taken into account in determining the penalty/suspension.
- 10.22 Schedule 1 contains penalty guidelines for various offences. The guidelines are not prescriptive but are designed to enhance consistency in the determinations made by the Judiciary.

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A suspended sentence provision is a tool, which the Judiciary may use when considered necessary. In addition, the Judiciary may find extenuating circumstances, which may necessitate the reduction of the sentences, lower than those suggested in Schedule 1.

Schedule 1 - Penalty Guidelines

- 1 Disputing an umpire decision, serious reluctance to accept decisions, use of lewd gestures. Minimum of 1 match
 - 2 Abuse of a participant or umpire (in the case of ugly abuse a further penalty). Minimum of 1 match
 - 3 Persistent and deliberate breach of the Rules of Hockey (generally considered dangerous and intimidating) following a warning from an umpire. Minimum of 2 matches
 - 4 Act detrimental to a fixture/competition e.g. misbehavior at a center - abuse of equipment. Minimum of 2 matches
 - 5 Abusive conduct with a spectator. Minimum of 4 matches
 - 6 Striking a participant with or without a stick - first offence. Minimum of 2 matches to Life
 - 7 Striking a participant with or without a stick - second offence. Minimum of 20 matches to Life
 - 8 Assault or battery to a participant, spectator or umpire. Minimum of 4 matches to Life
- 10.23 No proceedings heard shall be quashed or held invalid by reason only of any defect, irregularity, omission or other technicality provided there has been no miscarriage of justice.