

2016 USA FIELD HOCKEY – RULES & REGULATIONS

Unless otherwise noted, the rules of this tournament will be as stated in the *2015 Rules of Hockey* published by USA Field Hockey with permission from the International Hockey Federation (FIH) on January 1, 2015. USA Field Hockey modifications to the *Rules of Hockey* and the following tournament rules will be enforced. Failure to comply with any of the rules as outlined will be cause for the match to be declared a forfeit.

ADDITIONAL MODIFICATIONS TO THE 2015 RULES OF HOCKEY

A. UNIFORMS

1. Members of all teams must be in proper uniform (shirts and socks of matching color) with numbers on at least the back of the shirt. Shorts or kilts must be of like color. **Each team must have two sets of uniform shirts and socks, one distinctly light and one distinctly dark, with them at all times.**
 - i. **Shirts and Socks must be a minimum of 75% of one color beginning August 1st, 2016.**
 1. **Pinnies will not be accepted as cover ups.**
2. The team listed first on the schedule will wear light uniform shirts and socks. As such, the team listed second will wear dark uniform shirts and socks.
3. The team not in compliance will be required to change uniforms at the request of the umpires. **If a team refuses to change or does not have a second set of uniforms, they will forfeit the game.**
4. If both teams are in compliance and a conflict still exists, the team listed first will be required to change shirts and socks. Umpires will determine if a conflict exists.
5. **Goalkeepers and players with goalkeeping privileges must wear a single colored shirt or garment which is a completely solid different in color from that of both teams beginning August 1st, 2016.**
6. **If the team has less than 9 players in proper uniform at the start of a match they will forfeit.**
 - i. **For 7 v 7 outdoor events if the team has less than 4 players in proper uniform at the start of a match they will forfeit.**
7. All players under the age of 19 must wear a mouth guard properly while participating on the field of play. Failure to do so will be considered misconduct and penalized accordingly.
8. The captain must wear a distinctive arm-band or similar distinguishing article on an upper arm, shoulder or over socks. **This is a requirement.**
9. Registration wristbands (if provided) must be worn at all times by all participants (players and coaches) and be displayed to the umpire prior to the beginning of each game.
 - i. Players and coaches must report one minute prior to game start to line up for umpires to conduct wristband checks.

B. ROSTERS

1. **Rosters are limited to 20 gender-specific athletes. Each team must have a minimum of 11 players on their approved roster.**

- i. For 7 v 7 outdoor events rosters are limited to 12 gender-specific athletes. Each team must have a minimum of 7 players on their approved roster.
- ii. For showcase events (National Hockey Festival, The USA Field Hockey Showcase) a club team may roster up to five guest players beginning on August 1st, 2016.
- iii. For any Regional Club Championship / National Club Championship rosters are limited to 24 gender-specific athletes. Only 20 of the 24 rostered athletes are eligible to compete in each tournament for the entirety of the tournament. Each team must have a minimum of 11 players on their approved roster.
 - 1. The additional 4 rostered athletes cannot be played or used as substitutes at any point mid-tournament. Only a max of 20 athlete wristbands will be given to teams per event at check-in. However, these additional 4 athletes can be rostered so that they are eligible for the National Club Championship as replacement athletes, pending team qualification.
- 2. Teams must have age appropriate players. Age is determined as of 1/1/2016. Athletes may play up on a team in the next higher age division.
 - i. Players may play up two age divisions only with the written consent of a coach, this documentation must be given to USAFH for verification.
- 3. **Only those players, who are on the approved roster at the time of registration, may play for the team who has her name on the roster.**
- 4. **The same team roster for any Regional Club Championship / National Club Championship must be used at the National Tournament. Exceptions will be made for documented injuries, illness or extenuating circumstances.**
 - i. **All athletes that participate at the Regional Club Championship / National Club Championship must be affiliated with that club.**
- 5. An athlete may play for **only one club** and **must be affiliated** with this club according to the Club Affiliation policy.
- 6. **For safety and health reasons, an individual player cannot play for more than one team during an event.**
 - i. **Any properly rostered player playing up one age group may play for another team if the divisions at the event are not playing on the same day.**
- 7. **Only one club team per age group in each Regional Club Championship event is permitted. The team must play in their designated Region, which is where majority of their current affiliated members reside.**
- 8. If an athlete plays on more than one club team:
 - i. All games that the illegal player has participated in will be forfeited (see FORFEITS below);
- 9. **Participants in Adult Divisions must be 19 years of age or older to participate. Exceptions will be made for post-high school players.**
- 10. **For any event with a Mixed Division, teams may have no more than five male field players on the field at any time.**
- 11. **Any team using a disqualified player shall forfeit the game in which the disqualified player was a participant and the disqualified player shall be immediately ejected from the tournament.**

C. TEAM AREA & SUBSTITUTIONS



1. Players, Coaches and substitutes are under the jurisdiction of the umpires during the whole game, including any period of temporary or permanent suspension, and are therefore subject to the umpires' decisions under the *Rules of Hockey*. The umpires' jurisdiction extends through half-time periods and until the signed game card has been submitted to the official scorer.
2. **The team listed first shall sit at the designated bench and defend the goal to the RIGHT of their bench as per facing the field.**
3. **The team listed second shall sit at the designated bench and defend the goal to the LEFT of their bench as per facing the field.**
4. **The players on any team who are not on the pitch shall sit on the team's bench as substitutes. Three coaches are allowed in each team's area and must not leave this area at any time. The team area is defined as the area 5 yards away from the sideline between the 23m line and the midfield line in front of the teams designated bench. No other persons or equipment will be allowed in the team/bench area.**
5. Substitutions shall be made from the side of the pitch where the team benches are located within 3 meters of the center of the pitch. Players coming off the pitch shall also leave at the side where the benches are located.

D. SEEDING

1. **Teams will earn 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie and 0 points for a loss.**
2. **If, at the end of pool play, there is a tie in determining team placement, the following steps will be taken to break the tie:**
 - i. **Points**
 - ii. **Matches won**
 - iii. **Goal Differential**
 - iv. **Goals For**
 - v. **Head to Head Result**
 - vi. **Shoot-Out if time and space is available**
 1. **In the event that time and space ARE NOT available, a Coin Toss will determine placement unless both teams agree to share placement**
3. **If more than two teams are involved, then a ranking based upon the results of the matches among (only) them shall determine their respective position.**
4. **In the event of a tie during crossover competition, the teams will go directly to the designated field and compete in a shoot-out. Refer to Shoot-out rules (Appendix 1) for further explanation.**

Note: Section D above follows exactly to the FIH Tournament Regulations.

E. DURATION OF PLAY

1. **USA Field Hockey will approve any and all formats of competition before the event begins.**
2. **The team listed first on the schedule will have the first possession.**
3. **Duration of games will be two periods of running 25 minutes unless otherwise noted.**
 - i. **Games at Championship events may be extended up to two periods of 35 minutes each at the discretion of USA Field Hockey and based on time constraints.**



4. **Halftime will be 5 minutes unless otherwise noted. But, at no time will it be longer than 10 minutes.**
5. Penalty corners or penalty strokes awarded before the end of the game or the half will be completed.
6. In addition to any electronic timing method, Umpires are also required to keep time.

F. ARRIVAL TIME

1. A match is official when both teams have a minimum of nine (9) players, in proper uniform, on the field, no later than five minutes after the official start time. The score of a forfeited game shall be 3-0 against the offending team, if neither team meets the required nine-player minimum at the five minute point, the score shall be 0-0.
 - i. **For 7 v 7 events a match is official when both teams have a minimum of four (4) players, in proper uniform, on the field, no later than five minutes after the official start time.**

G. MATCH REPORTS (Score Card/Match Sheet)

1. **The umpires will have the official Match Card / Sheet for each game unless a technical table is in place and operating accordingly.**
2. **At the conclusion of the game, the Match Card / Sheet will be written in by the umpire. All Match Cards/Sheets must be verified and signed by each team's coach.**
3. After the coaches sign the Match Report, umpires verify and sign the Match Report.
4. When the Match Report has been signed by the coach and umpires, the score of that game becomes official.
5. A signed Match Report will not be changed (see additional rules regarding result cards in the Score Card Appeals document).

H. FORFEITS

1. A team forfeits a game if:
 - i. A team does not show up for the match;
 - ii. A team forfeits or is declared "forfeit";
 - iii. A team arrives more than 5 minutes after the match start time;
 - iv. A team does not have 9 players dressed in proper uniform on the pitch after the 5 minute grace period. **4 players for 7v7.**
 - v. A team refuses or is not prepared to change uniforms as stated in Section A of this document;
 - vi. An ineligible player participates in the game;
 - vii. A suspended coach does not leave the game area within 1 minute of being suspended, does not report to the Tournament Table within 5 minutes after the game, and/or does not cease any and all team contact during the remainder of the game in which the offense occurred and the team's next scheduled game in that division;
 - viii. A team refuses to play or removes their team from the field of play for any reason.
2. If a game is forfeited:
 - i. A 3-0 win will be awarded to the opponent.

I. MISCONDUCT



1. **Green and Yellow Cards will be administered as per the 2015 Rules of Hockey with no modification.**
2. **Any coach or team personnel may receive a Green or Red Card only. The team will not play short for any card awarded to a coach or team personnel. No Yellow Card suspension for a coach or team personnel.**
3. Red Card: Player
 - i. When a player earns a red card, the team plays short and the suspended player sits with their teammates and will take no further part in the match.
 - ii. A player who earns a red card must report to the Tournament Table within 5 minutes of the end of the game during which the offense occurred. The player's tournament wristband is removed, if provided.
 1. **Adult players over the age of 19 must leave the game area and remain away from the match until its completion.**
 - iii. The red carded player is suspended for the remainder of the game in which the offense occurred AND the team's next scheduled game in that division.
 - iv. The team does not have to play short in the next scheduled game in that division (unless, of course, there is a suspension in that next scheduled game).
 - v. In the team's next schedule game in that division, the player red carded in the previous game should not be with the team in the team area (unless the player is under 19 years of age and adult supervision is not otherwise available).
4. Red Card: Coach
 - i. **A coach who earns a red card must leave the playing area within 1 minute (60 seconds) of the issuance of the card. The coach's tournament wristband will be removed, if provided. The coach cannot have any further contact in any way with the team for the duration of the match.**
 - ii. A replacement coach is allowed. If a replacement coach is not immediately available, the captain may coach her team.
 - iii. The team does not play short when a coach is suspended.
 - iv. The team forfeits the game if the suspended coach does not leave the team area within 1 minute and/or does not cease any and all team contact during the remainder of the game in which the offense occurred.
 - v. A coach who has been permanently suspended from a match will also be suspended for the team's next scheduled game in that division.
 - vi. **A coach who coaches multiple teams will not be able to participate in the tournament in any way until the suspension is served. Therefore they will not be able to coach any other team in the tournament until a wristband has been re-issued after the suspension is served.**

J. RED CARDS: Administrative Procedures

1. After the player's team has completed its next game, the player may return to the Tournament Table for a new tournament wristband.
2. After the coach's team has completed its next game, the coach may return to the Tournament Table for a new tournament wristband. A replacement coach can receive a temporary band for the team's next game.
3. Umpires will notify the Umpiring Manager of any red card issued immediately after the game in which it was issued.



4. Upon recommendation of the umpire, or based upon the severity of the infraction, USA Field Hockey will determine a red carded coach's/player's eligibility for further participation in the tournament beyond the one game suspension or in future tournaments.
 - i. If a coach is the recipient of two red cards in the same tournament they will be suspended from the tournament and will be suspended from all future USA Field Hockey events for 12-months (details continued below).
5. **Upon receiving a red card, a coach will be in a 12-month "warning" period (beginning on the date the red card was received) in which they cannot receive a second red card without additional consequences. If any coach is the recipient of two red cards in a span of 12-months between infractions they will not be permitted to coach at any USA Field Hockey event or sanctioned event for 12-months after the date the second red card was received.**
6. Any team using a disqualified coach/player shall forfeit the game in which the disqualified coach/player was a participant and the disqualified coach/player shall be immediately ejected from the tournament.

K. APPEALS PROCEDURE FOR GAME PROTESTS

1. Please refer to the Score Card Appeal Process document.
2. Game protests will not be allowed at any event.

Appendix 1

SHOOT-OUT COMPETITION

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

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

1. If the shoot-out competition takes place after the end of a match, it shall take place immediately.
2. The respective Teams provide five players to take and one player to defend the shoot-outs from those on the approved roster except as excluded below. A player nominated to defend the shoot-outs can also be nominated to take a shoot-out. No substitutions / replacements are permitted during the shoot-out competition other than as specified below.
3. A player who is still serving a disciplinary suspension at the time the shoot-out competition takes place or has been excluded permanently (red card) during the match which leads to the shoot-out competition, cannot take part in that shoot-out competition. A player who has been warned (green card) or temporarily suspended (yellow card) may take part in the shoot-out competition even if the period of their suspension has not been completed at the end of the match.
4. A coin is tossed; the team which wins the toss has the choice to take or defend the first shoot-out.
5. All persons listed on the Match Report other than any player who has been excluded permanently (red card) during the match which leads to the shoot-out competition are permitted to enter the field of play outside the 23m area used for the shoot-out



- but must be at least 10 meters from the spot where the ball is placed at the start of the shoot-out.
6. The goalkeeper / defending player of the team taking a shoot-out shall wait on the back-line outside the circle.
 7. A player taking or defending a shoot-out may enter the 23m area for that purpose.
 8. Players taking a shoot-out and also defending the shoot-outs taken by opponents are allowed reasonable time to take off their protective equipment to take their shoot-out and subsequently to put back on their protective equipment.
 9. Five players from each team take a shoot-out alternately against the goalkeeper / defending player of the other team making a total of 10 shoot-outs.
 10. Taking a shoot-out:
 - a. The goalkeeper/defending player starts on or behind the goal-line between the goal posts;
 - b. The ball is placed on the nearest 23m line opposite the center of the goal;
 - c. An attacker stands outside the 23m area near the ball;
 - d. The Umpire blows the whistle to start time;
 - e. An official at the technical table starts the clock;
 - f. The attacker and the goalkeeper/defending player may then move in any direction;
 - g. The shoot-out is completed when:
 - i. The 8 seconds has elapsed since the starting signal
 - ii. A goal is scored;
 - iii. The attacker commits an offence;
 - iv. The goalkeeper / defending player commits an unintentional offense inside or outside the circle in which case the shoot-out is re-taken by the same player against the same goalkeeper / defending player;
 - v. The goalkeeper/defending player commits an intentional offense inside or outside the circle in which case a penalty stroke is awarded and taken;
 - If a penalty stroke is awarded as a specific above, it can be taken and defended by an eligible player
 - vi. The ball goes out of play over the back-line or side-line; this includes the goalkeeper / defending player intentionally playing the ball over the back-line.
 11. The team scoring the most goals (or ahead by more goals than the other team has untaken shoot-outs available) is the winner.
 12. A player may be suspended by a yellow or red card but not by a green card during the shoot-out competition.
 13. If during a shoot-out competition (including during any penalty stroke which is awarded) a player is suspended by a yellow or red card:
 - a. That player takes no further part in that shoot-out competition and, unless a goalkeeper / defending player, cannot be replaced;
 - b. The replacement for a suspended goalkeeper / defending player can only come from the five players of that team nominated to take part in the shoot-out competition:
 - i. The replacement goalkeeper / defending player is allowed reasonable time to put on protective equipment similar to that which the goalkeeper / defending player they are replacing was wearing;
 - ii. For taking their own shoot-out, this player is allowed reasonable time to take off their protective equipment to take their shoot-out and



subsequently to put it on again.

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

Appendix 2

SCORING APPEALS

In an effort to reduce the number of incorrect scores posted while maintaining all fairness to the athletes and teams involved, USA Field Hockey will collect a \$50 appeal fee for any request to review or change a posted score. The appeal process and \$50 fee can be avoided by ensuring that the scorecard is correct in the following ways: the score is written down correctly and the winning team is circled. The following procedure will be in effect for all USA Field Hockey events:

1. Each head coach is responsible for confirming the final score and signing the correct



- scorecard at the conclusion of each game.
2. In the event an incorrect scorecard is submitted and an incorrect score is posted, teams may post a \$50 appeal fee to have the score reviewed.
 3. The decision to appeal a score posting rests entirely with the teams involved. USA Field Hockey will consider signed cards as the correct and final outcome of the contest. No changes will be made to the official score unless an appeal is submitted and upheld.
 4. The \$50 fee must be posted by the team requesting the score review within 24 hours of the posting of the pool match results.
 5. In the event that crossovers are involved, the \$50 fee must be posted by the team requesting the score review within 30 minutes of the first crossover game.
 6. Team contacts or coaches are the only individuals who can post the appeal fee and request a review. Parents, athletes, fans or umpires cannot initiate the appeal process.
 7. Upon consensus by the coaches and umpires involved in the match, the score will be overturned and any changes will be made to the official results.
 8. The \$50 appeal fee will not be returned if the error is the result of submitting an incorrect scorecard.
 9. The \$50 appeal fee will be returned in the event of a tournament administrative error.
 10. Failure to sign a scorecard does not nullify the outcome of the contest or excuse individuals from the appeal process.
 11. Any disputes on the final score must be settled with the umpires at the time the cards are signed.
 12. The appeal process applies to posted scores only. There is no appeal process for calls made during any match.
 13. Deception on a scorecard is considered unsportsmanlike conduct and is a violation of USA Field Hockey's Code of Conduct (Rule 4). Code of Conduct violations are grounds for restriction of an individual from future USA Field Hockey programs and/or the loss of eligibility of a team in future USA Field Hockey events.

