



SINGAPORE HOCKEY FEDERATION TOURNAMENT RULES 2025

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SINGAPORE HOCKEY FEDERATION

TOURNAMENT RULES

Rule	Arrangement of Rules	Pages
1.	Revision of Rules	3
2.	Definitions	4-5
3.	Construction	6
4.	Tournament Committee	6-7
5.	Eligibility	7-8
6.	Eligibility of Clubs	9
7.	Team Managers	9-10
8.	League	10
9.	Tournament Officials	11
10.	Discipline	11-12
11.	Fixtures	12
12.	Prizes	13
13.	Colours and Dress	13
14.	Composition of Team	13
15.	Ranking in League Competitions	14
16.	Duration of Matches	14-15
17.	Shoot-Out Competition	15-16
18.	Time-Keeping	16
19.	Balls	16
20.	Match Commencements and Interruptions	17
21.	Withdrawal	17
22.	Admission to the Pitch	17-18
23.	Substitution of Players	18
24.	Protests	19
25.	General	19
26.	Appendix 1	20
27.	Appendix 2	21-22

Revision of Rules

Rule	Tournament Rules 2024 (Previous)	Tournament Rules 2025 (Revised)
4.4	<p>The persons referred to in Rules 4.1 and 4.2 shall only be eligible to play; (A) for the Club</p> <p>(B) for the calendar year in respect of This proviso shall apply to a maximum of 3 (three) players in a Club in one division. Provided further that the Tournament Committee may allow a Goalkeeper to play for a Club in more than one division in a Tournament referred to in Rule 7, but only for a maximum of 3 (three) matches in any subsequent division that he is registered to play and only for the aforesaid Club in a division higher than that which the player is registered to play.</p> <p>The players' names are to be submitted to SHF before the commencement of the tournament.</p>	<p>The persons referred to in Rules 4.1 and 4.2 shall only be eligible to play; (A) for the Club</p> <p>(B) for the calendar year in respect of This proviso shall apply to a maximum of 5 (Five) players in a Club in one division. Provided further that the Tournament Committee may allow a Goalkeeper to play for a Club in more than one division in a Tournament referred to in Rule 7, but only for a maximum of 3 (three) matches in any subsequent division that he is registered to play and only for the aforesaid Club in a division higher than that which the player is registered to play.</p>
Appendix 2	<u>GUIDELINES ON MATCH WALKOVER</u>	Amended Fine amount on the <u>GUIDELINES ON MATCH WALKOVER</u>

1. DEFINITIONS

In the Rules, the following expressions shall, except where the context otherwise require, have the following meanings:

“Approved Coach”	means a person who has successfully passed a coaching course conducted by the SHF and is currently on the National Registry of Coaches;
“Club”	means a full or associate member as defined in of the SHF Constitution;
“Disciplinary Panel”	means the disciplinary panel as defined in the SHF Disciplinary Rules;
“Disciplinary Sub-Committee”	means the disciplinary sub-committee as defined in the SHF Disciplinary Rules;
“EB”	means the executive board of the SHF as set out in the SHF Constitution;
“FIH”	means the International Hockey Federation (Federation Internationale de Hockey);
“Home Club”	means the Club whose name appears first in any match fixture;
“Inquiry Committee”	means the inquiry committee as defined in the SHF Disciplinary Rules;
“National Team”	means any team or squad selected to represent Singapore or the SHF and shall include an age group team or squad;
“National Registry of Coaches”	means the national registry of coaches of the Singapore Sports Council
“the Rules”	means these Tournament Rules;
“Permanent Resident of Singapore”	means a person holding a Singapore identity card issued by the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority to Permanent Residents of Singapore;
“Rules of Hockey”	means FIH Rules of Hockey
“Singapore Citizen”	means a person holding a Singapore identity card issued by the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority to Singapore citizens;
“Secretary General”	means the secretary general or assistant secretary general of the SHF as defined in the SHF Constitution;
“SHF”	means the Singapore Hockey Federation;
“SHF Constitution”	means the constitution of SHF;

“Tournament Committee”

means the committee appointed by the EB to organise and run Tournaments and to exercise the powers and discharge the duties and functions under the Rules;

“Tournament”

means a tournament organised by and/or under the jurisdiction and/or purview of the Tournament Committee and/or the SHF;

“Unsanctioned Event”

means an unsanctioned event as defined in the FIH statutes, or the SHF Constitution;

“Visiting Club”

means the Club scheduled to play against the Home Club in any match fixture

2. CONSTRUCTION

- 2.1 The headings in the Rules are for ease of reference only and shall not affect the interpretation or construction of the Rules.
- 2.2 A reference to a Rule or sub-Rule is to a Rule or sub-Rule of the Rules.
- 2.3 Unless the context otherwise requires:
 - (A) words in the singular include the plural, and vice-versa; and
 - (B) words importing any gender include all genders.

3. TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

- 3.1 The EB shall appoint the Tournament Committee which may comprise:
 - (A) a Chairman;
 - (B) a Deputy Chairman;
 - (C) a Secretary;
 - (D) up to six (6) Ordinary Members;
 - (E) the Secretary General (ex-officio); and
 - (F) such other ex-officio members as EB may decide
- 3.2 The Tournament Committee may meet for the purpose of its business, adjourn and otherwise regulate the conduct and determine the procedure of its meetings and business as its members may think fit. The Tournament Committee may make decisions by resolutions circulated in writing or by electronic mail.
- 3.3 The Chairman, or if he is unable for any reason to do so, the Deputy Chairman, of the Tournament Committee may at any time summon a meeting of the Tournament Committee.
- 3.4 Any question arising out of any meeting of the Tournament Committee shall be determined by a majority of votes by the members of the Tournament Committee. The Chairman of the Tournament Committee shall, in the case of an equality of votes, have a casting vote.
- 3.5 Four (4) members of the Tournament Committee shall be present to establish a quorum for a meeting of the Tournament Committee. Any decision in writing endorsed by the present members of the Tournament Committee at that meeting shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been made and reached at a meeting of the Tournament Committee where all its members were present.
- 3.6 The Tournament Committee may delegate any of its powers under the Rules to any one or more of its members.
- 3.7 The Tournament Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy in the Tournament Committee with the approval of the EB.

- 3.8 The Tournament Committee shall;
- (A) have the powers vested in it by the Rules;
 - (B) have, amongst others, the power to impose the penalties set out in the Appendix to these Rules; and
 - (C) have the power to abridge or extend the time within which acts (*other than those referred to in Rule 9*) under the Rules are to be done or carried out

4. ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1 A person shall not be eligible to play for a Club in any Tournament (and only for the division which he/she is registered in where the Tournament is one referred to in rule 7) unless he/she has been registered in a form prescribed by the Tournament Committee and;

- (A) (*save where Rules 4.2 and 4.3 apply*) the Club for whom the said person will be playing submits a registration form prescribed by the Tournament Committee to the Secretary of the Tournament Committee no later than 5pm of the preceding Monday prior to playing his/her first match for the club; or

Provided that if expedited processing is required by the Club, which will be interpreted as any player registration form submitted between 5pm of the preceding Monday and 5pm of the preceding Thursday prior to playing his/her first match for the Club, a \$50 expediting administrative fee will apply. Should the Club wish to apply for an expedited processing, the expedited administrative fee shall be payable at the time of the expedited processing application

- (B) the said registration form is accompanied by a registration fee as prescribed by the Tournament Committee for the said person; and
- (C) in the case of a person who is not a Singapore citizen or a Permanent Resident of Singapore, the said registration form is accompanied with a copy of the player's valid Employment Pass, Student Pass, Work Permit or Dependant's Pass and with a declaration that the person is not serving any ban or suspension and is permitted by the rules of his home federation to be so registered;

For avoidance of doubt, a Work Pass is not a document which confers eligibility of a person under Rule 4.1 (C); and

- (D) the said registration is accepted by the Tournament Committee, with written documentation given to the club as acknowledgement, which may then be used by the Club as proof that the said player has been successfully registered

- 4.2 A person eligible to play for a Club in any Tournament as set out above in Rule 4.1 shall be eligible to play for another Club ("the Other Club") provided that

- (A) the said registration is accompanied by a letter from the Club for whom the person was eligible to play consenting to the cancellation of the existing registration; and
- (B) an administrative fee prescribed by the Tournament Committee is paid, the said registration form is accepted by the Tournament Committee, and the said person is registered

- 4.3 The Tournament Committee may, in its discretion, refuse to register any person or de-register any person already registered;
- (A) if the requirements in the Rules have not been complied with; or
 - (B) who is already registered or with respect to whom more than one registration form has been submitted for registration; or
 - (C) whose registration application is not properly completed; or
 - (D) where any of the particulars in the said registration application or any accompanying document(s) is/are not correct or not submitted; or
 - (E) where any sum due to the SHF by the Club for whom the said person will be playing or by the said person or by a Club for whom the said person had played for, whether by way of application fees, entry fees, registration fees, affiliation fees, entrance fees, annual subscriptions, levies, penalties or howsoever otherwise, remains unpaid at the date of the submission of the said registration form; or
 - (F) if the Club for whom the said person will be playing, or the said person is under a disqualification or suspension which, in the opinion of the Tournament Committee, renders it inappropriate for the said person to be registered; or
 - (G) if the person, having been called to train with or play for the National Team failed, refused or neglected to attend National Team training as and when required to, and/or failed, refused or neglected to play for the National Team as and when required to; or
 - (H) if the Club for whom the person or persons will be playing refuses or is unable to comply with Rule 7; or
 - (I) if the person has played or participated in any way in an Unsanctioned Event

Provided always that the Tournament Committee may instead of refusing to register any person, register the said person on such conditions as the Tournament Committee may stipulate.

- 4.4 The persons referred to in Rules 4.1 and 4.2 shall only be eligible to play;
- (A) for the Club which successfully submitted a registration on behalf of the said person (and for the division for which he/she is registered where the Tournament is one referred to in Rule 7); and
 - (B) for the calendar year in respect of which the said person was registered

Provided that the Tournament Committee may allow a player below the age of 21 years to play for a Club in more than one division in a Tournament referred to in Rule 7, but only for a maximum of 3 (three) matches in any subsequent division that he is registered to play and only for the aforesaid Club in a division higher than that which the player is registered to play. This proviso shall apply to a maximum of 5 (five) players in a Club in one division.

Provided further that the Tournament Committee may allow a Goalkeeper to play for a Club in more than one division in a Tournament referred to in Rule 7, but only for a maximum of 3 (three) matches in any subsequent division that he is registered to play and only for the aforesaid Club in a division higher than that which the player is registered to play.

5. ELIGIBILITY OF CLUBS

- 5.1 A Club shall not be eligible to participate in any Tournament unless;
- (A) it submits an entry form (*or, where the Tournament is organised into divisions, an entry form for the division in which it desires to participate*) prescribed by the Tournament Committee to the Secretary of the Tournament Committee not later than thirty (30) days before the commencement of the Tournament; and
 - (B) (*subject to the rights of the Tournament Committee to vary the entry fees or determine the quantum of entry fees for any Tournament*) the said entry form is accompanied by the relevant requisite entry fee as determined by the Tournament Committee; and
 - (C) it has a minimum of sixteen (16) registered persons per team at the commencement of and for the entire duration of the Tournament
- 5.2 The Tournament Committee may, in its discretion, refuse to accept an entry form of any Club;
- (A) if the requirements in Rule 5.1 are not complied with; or
 - (B) if a Club fails to successfully register a minimum of sixteen (16) registered persons per team for the Tournament; or
 - (C) if the entry form is not properly completed; or
 - (D) where any of the particulars in the entry form is not correct; or
 - (E) which has competed in or participated in any way in an Unsanctioned Event
 - (F) if any sum due to the SHF by the Club or any persons registered or proposed to be registered to play for the said Club, whether by way of application fees, entry fees, registration fees, annual subscriptions, levies, penalties or howsoever otherwise, remains unpaid at the date of the submission of the said entry form

Provided that the Tournament Committee may instead of refusing to accept an entry form, accept the said form on such conditions as the Tournament Committee may stipulate.

6. TEAM MANAGERS

- 6.1 No Club shall be permitted to play in any match in any Tournament unless;
- (A) it has a Team Manager; and
 - (B) the Team Manager is present at and for the duration of the said match
- 6.2 The Team Manager;
- (A) must be a person above 21 years of age and have completed a registration form as prescribed by the Tournament Committee;
 - (B) may be one of the registered players (who is above 21 years of age) of that Club, but must not be one of the Listed Players for that match; and
 - (C) must not be serving any suspension or ban as provided under these Rules or otherwise;

- 6.3 In relation to every match in any Tournament, the Team Manager shall be responsible;
- (A) to submit the Team Sheet, duly completed and signed, to the Technical Delegate (TD) or Reserve Umpire responsible for the match not less than fifteen (15) minutes before the commencement of the said match;
 - (B) for the accuracy of the information in the said Team Sheet;
 - (C) to ensure that all persons named in the Team Sheet as players and/or substitutes (*“the Listed Players”*) have complied with and will comply with the Rules;
 - (D) to ensure that no player who is suspended under Rule 9 or any Rule of the SHF is included among the Listed Players for any match;
 - (E) for the conduct and discipline of the Listed Players; and
 - (F) to ensure that:
 - (i) the team of which he/she is Team Manager plays and completes the match; and
 - (ii) complies with the decisions of the persons officiating at the match, in particular the persons referred to in Rule 8.

7. LEAGUE

- 7.1 The Tournament, shall, unless the Tournament Committee determines otherwise, be organised as follows:
- (A) it shall be played in such divisions and with such teams as the Tournament Committee determines;
 - (B) at the end of the relevant competition:
 - (i) the Club ranked last in any division, except the lowest division, may be relegated to the division below it and shall play in the said division in the next SHF League; and
 - (ii) the Club ranked first in any division, except the highest division, may be promoted to the division above it and shall play in the said division in the next SHF League;

Should the Club ranked first in any division, except the highest division, refuse to promote, the Club shall pay a fine of \$500 and 60% of the Club’s registered players that played for the Club in that year where the Club was ranked first shall not be allowed to play in the same division or lower division the following year.
- 7.2 Clubs with an existing team in the next highest league may not be promoted, and the Tournament Committee will review the promotion suitability for the next highest placed team(s).
- 7.3 All other Tournaments shall be organised as the Tournament Committee deems fit.

8. TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS

- 8.1 Except for any Tournament that the Tournament Committee determines, the following officials may be appointed for every match;
- (A) a Technical Official (TO) whose responsibilities include checking player clothing and equipment, conduct of the officials and players on the team bench, keeping time and score and ensuring substitutions are carried out properly;
 - (B) two umpires who shall have the power and authority vested in them by the Rules;
 - (C) a reserve umpire who may also be the TO referred to in Rule 8.1 (A) and exercise the powers therein

9. DISCIPLINE

- 9.1 If in the opinion of the Tournament Committee, Technical Officer (TO), Umpire or Reserve Umpire, one or more Listed Players or Officials or Representatives of a Club or Approved Coach or Team Manager or Club is guilty of misconduct or is in breach of the Tournament Rules before, during or after a match, the Tournament Committee, Technical Officer (TO), Umpire or Reserve Umpire shall submit a complaint to the Chairman of the Disciplinary Sub-Committee through the Secretary General within seven (7) working days of the said incident (for avoidance of doubt a working day shall not include Saturdays, Sundays or Public Holidays) or such time that the EB may allow.
- 9.2 A complaint made under Rule 9.1 of the Rules above shall be dealt with by the Chairman of the Disciplinary Sub-Committee in accordance with the "SHF Disciplinary Rules" enacted by the EB pursuant to the SHF Constitution or any other relevant Rules in effect at that time.
- 9.3 The decision of the Disciplinary Panel shall be communicated to the Tournament Committee and the party against whom the complaint is made no later than thirty (30) days after the Disciplinary Panel makes its determination under the appropriate Rules, and shall take effect on such date as the Disciplinary Panel shall determine.
- 9.4 In the event, during the course of one Tournament (or division in a Tournament where the Tournament is one referred to in Rule 7), a Listed Player receives;
- (A) three (3) warnings (green cards); or
 - (B) two (2) temporary suspensions (yellow cards); or
 - (C) two (2) warnings (green cards) and 1 temporary suspension (yellow card);

the said player ("the Suspended Player") shall be automatically suspended from playing in the match, next following the match (walkover matches inclusive) in which the suspended player received the last of the card(s) referred to herein and where the suspension becomes operative after his/her Club's last match of the Tournament, the Suspended Player shall be suspended from playing in the first match of the next Tournament for which the Suspended Player is registered.

- (D) one (1) permanent suspension (red card);
- the said player ("the Suspended Player") shall be automatically suspended from playing in the match immediately following the match in which the Suspended Player received the card (walkover matches inclusive). *In addition to the automatic suspension, the Tournament Committee will submit a request to Disciplinary Committee to determine if the infraction warrants a further suspension/action, beyond the standard 1 game*

suspension. The Disciplinary Committee has the discretion to extend the suspension, if deemed necessary.

Where any part of the suspension becomes operative after his/her Club's last match of the Tournament, the Suspended Player shall be suspended from playing in the remaining number of matches of the next Tournament(s) for which the Suspended Player is registered.

9.5 In the event the Suspended Player does not comply with the suspension referred to in Rule 9.5 (*without prejudice to any fine or penalty that the Inquiry Committee or any other committee of the SHF may impose*), the Tournament Committee may order that

(A) the Club fielding the Suspended Player in the match which the Suspended Player is suspended from playing shall concede the match in favour of the opposing Club with a score of 5-0 or such other score as the Tournament Committee shall determine; and

(C) the Suspended Player be disqualified for such period as the Tournament Committee, Inquiry Committee or any other committee of the SHF shall determine

The responsibility of monitoring the cards received by a Listed Player in any tournament is that of the Club for whom the said Listed Player is registered.

10. FIXTURES

10.1 All match fixtures shall be scheduled and arranged by the Tournament Committee. No requests for postponements of or changes to the said match fixtures shall be entertained after a Tournament has commenced. Matches that cannot be commenced or are interrupted under Rule 19 shall be re-scheduled at the discretion of the Tournament Committee and no requests for changes can be entertained. In the event that the re-scheduled game is further interrupted at the end of the season, the Tournament Committee shall have a discretion to apply the score prior to the interruption or any other score, as the final score for the match.

10.2 Rescheduling of matches will be allowed, provided there is a mutual agreement on the exact match date and time and without any disruption to pre-existing tournament matches. There are, however, the following caveats:

(A) teams should inform the Tournament Committee at least 3 weeks in advance of the scheduled match, failing which the team which requested the reschedule will incur the cost of the pitch for the scheduled match; and

(B) any request for rescheduling made less than a week prior to the scheduled match will be rejected; and

(C) teams will not be allowed to reschedule their matches in the last 2 weekends of the allocated league duration

Block-out dates will be placed at timely intervals of the leagues and any postponed games will be scheduled in accordance to the SHF's decision.

11. PRIZES

- 11.1 Unless otherwise determined by the Tournament Committee, the following prizes shall be awarded in each Tournament or, where the Tournament is organised into divisions, in each division:
- (A) a trophy to the winning Club;
 - (B) twenty-five (25) gold medals to 25 persons (*registered to play for the winning Club at the conclusion of the relevant Tournament*) nominated by the winning Club;
 - (C) twenty-five (25) silver medals to 25 persons (*registered to play for the first runner-up Club at the conclusion of the relevant Tournament*) nominated by the first runner-up Club;
 - (D) twenty-five (25) bronze medals to 25 persons (*registered to play for the second runner-up Club at the conclusion of the relevant Tournament*) nominated by the second runner-up Club;
 - (E) a top scorer trophy to the top scorer(s) of each division
 - (F) a discount of 75% for the winning club on League Fees for the following year. However, this discount will not apply if for any reason, the winning club does not end up being promoted.
- 11.2 The Tournament Committee may also specify the award of prize money to one or any of the above-mentioned prize winners.

12. COLOURS AND DRESS

- 12.1 Each team must wear the colours of its Club (*either primary or alternative*) as specified on the entry form referred to in Rule 5.1 (A). Goalkeepers must wear a shirt of a colour which is different and distinctive from those of both teams. If in the opinion of the Technical Officer (TO) or the Umpires or the Reserve Umpire, the colours of two (2) opposing teams might lead to confusion, the Home Club shall change colours.
- 12.2 A Listed Player must be properly dressed at all times during a match and all Listed Players must be dressed uniformly. Female players must be attired in skorts or skirts.
- 12.3 Each Club must give each of its Listed Players a shirt bearing a number corresponding to the number appearing in the Team Sheet. The said number shall appear on the back of the Listed Players' shirts in full figures, shall not be outlined and shall not be less than twenty (20) cm in height. A goalkeeper or any Listed Player playing the role or position of goalkeeper shall wear his/her number on the front as well as on the back of his/her shirt. The captain of a Club or his/her replacement in the case of a substitution must wear a distinctive arm band while playing in the match.
- 12.4 Subject to the Rules of Hockey, Goalkeepers or any Listed Player playing the role or position of goalkeeper in a match or penalty stroke competition must wear protective headgear at all times during the game, including when defending a penalty stroke. A goalkeeper may remove the said protective headgear when the said goalkeeper takes a penalty stroke.
- 12.5 All Listed Players on the pitch, except goalkeepers, shall wear shin guards during a match.
- 12.6 Non-compliance with Rule 12 or any sub-Rule thereto may result in an imposition of a fine as set out at Appendix 1 to the Rules.

13. COMPOSITION OF TEAM

- 13.1 Each Club must submit a team sheet in a form prescribed by the Tournament Committee to the Technical Director (TD) or Reserve Umpire responsible for the match not less than fifteen (15) minutes before the commencement of the match in which the Club is playing. Only the Listed Players shall, subject to compliance with the Rules, be eligible to play the said match. Each Club participating in the top most division of the SHF Hockey League may only name a maximum of 18 players in the Team Sheet per match. Teams participating in all other divisions may name a maximum of 20 players.

Provided that the Tournament Committee may be at liberty to vary the number of players permitted to be registered or named for any match or tournament.

14. RANKING IN LEAGUE COMPETITIONS

- 14.1 Unless the Tournament Committee determines otherwise, the following points will be awarded for each match played in a league Tournament:

- (A) three (3) points to the winner; and
- (B) one (1) point to each Club, in the event of a draw

- 14.2 If at the end of a Tournament, or any part of a Tournament played in a league format:

- (A) two (2) or more Clubs have the same number of points for any place in the ranking, the said Clubs shall be ranked according to their respective number of matches won;
- (B) in the event two (2) or more Clubs have an identical number of points and matches won, then the said Clubs shall be ranked by reference to their relative superiority in goal difference between goals scored and goals conceded;
- (C) in the event two (2) or more Clubs have an identical number of points, matches won and goal difference, then the said Clubs shall be ranked by reference to their relative superiority in the number of goals scored;
- (D) should there remain no difference between the Clubs then the results of the matches played between them will determine the ranking of the Clubs;
- (E) unless the Tournament Committee determines otherwise, in the event two (2) or more Clubs have an identical number of points, matches won, goals scored and goal difference and equality in terms of the matches played between the said Clubs, the Rules 16.1, 16.2, 16.3, 16.6, 16.7 and 16.8 shall apply;
- (F) at the conclusion of the said shoot-out competition, a ranking shall be established on the basis that 3 points shall be awarded to the winning Club of a shoot-out competition;
- (G) if, where there are more than two (2) Clubs participating in the said shoot-out competition, the said Clubs (*after competing in a shoot-out competition against each other*) shall have an equal number of points, the ranking shall be determined by applying Rule 14.2 (A) (B) (C) and (D) (*mutatis mutandis*);
- (H) if, by the application of the said Rule 14.2 (A) (B) and (C), two (2) or more Clubs remain equally ranked, the procedure set out in Rule 14.2 (E) (F) and (G) shall be repeated (*mutatis mutandis*), until a ranking is achieved

15. DURATION OF MATCHES

- 15.1 A match shall consist of four (4) periods of seventeen (17) minutes each unless otherwise specified by the Tournament Committee. There shall be an interval of two (2) minutes at the end of the first and third period and there shall be an interval of five (5) minutes at the end of the second period, unless otherwise specified by the Tournament Committee.
- 15.2 Time shall not be stopped for Penalty Corners.

16. SHOOT-OUT COMPETITION

- 16.1 Five (5) persons and *[if the said five (5) persons do not include a goalkeeper]* one (1) goalkeeper from each of the two (2) Clubs, chosen by their respective Team Managers from the Listed Players shall participate in a shoot-out competition. The said five (5) Listed Players shall take a shoot-out against the goalkeeper of the opposing Club in alternate sequence. The names of the said five (5) persons and *[if the said five (5) persons do not include a goalkeeper]* and one (1) goalkeeper shall be communicated by the Team Managers to the Umpires of the match prior to the commencement of the penalty shoot-out competition. The said five (5) persons shall take the shoot-out in the sequence in which their names are communicated to the Umpires. The goalkeeper playing in the shoot-out competition shall not be replaced in the course of the said shoot-out competition unless he/she is, to the satisfaction of the Umpires of the said match, incapacitated and unable to perform the role of a goalkeeper.
- 16.2 If during a shoot-out competition a player is suspended, then that said player shall take no further part in the said shoot-out competition. If during a shoot-out competition a goalkeeper is suspended, that said goalkeeper may be substituted, but by another player nominated in Rule 16.1 only, who must wear protective headgear when defending a shoot-out. The said player replacing the said goalkeeper may, unless he/she has already taken a shoot-out, continue to take a shoot-out.
- 16.3 The Umpires of the match shall choose the goalpost to be used for the shoot-out competition, and they shall toss a coin in the presence of the captains of the Clubs to decide which Club shall take the first shoot-out. The Club having the highest number of goals shall be the winner and the said competition shall cease once a winner has been established.
- 16.4 In the event both Clubs score an equal number of goals, another series of shoot-outs shall be taken with the same persons who were nominated to take the penalty shoot-out competition referred to in Rule 16.1 (*"the First Competition"*). Such person(s) may be replaced only if the Umpires of the match are satisfied that the said person(s) is/are incapacitated and is/are unable to participate any further in this series of shoot-outs. This series shall be played on a "sudden death" basis, i.e. the winner shall be the first Club to score more goals after an equal number of shoot-outs (*no minimum*) have been taken by each Club. The Team Manager shall be entitled to alter the sequence of his/her shoot-out takers from the sequence adopted for the (*"the First Competition"*).
- 16.5 The Club which took the first shoot-outs in (*"the First Competition"*) shall not take the first shoot-out of the "sudden death" series referred to in Rule 16.4.
- 16.6 Subject to Rule 16.7 below, only the Team Managers and the Listed Players may enter the pitch during a shoot-out competition.
- 16.7 Only the shoot-out taker, goalkeeper (*defending the stroke*) and Umpires of the match shall be entitled to remain within the twenty-three (23) meters area of the goalpost where the shoot-out is being taken.

- 16.8 No one who has been shown a red card during a match shall be eligible to participate in a shoot out competition held at the conclusion of the said match.
- 16.9 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 centre of the goal;
 - (C) an attacker stands outside the 23m area near the ball;
 - (D) the umpire blows the whistle to signal the start of the shoot-out; the attacker and the goalkeeper/defending player may then move in any direction;
 - (E) the shoot-out is completed when:
 - (i) 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 offence 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 offence inside or outside the circle, in which case a penalty stroke is awarded and taken;
 - (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
- 16.10 If a penalty stroke is awarded as specified above, it can be taken by any of the Listen Players named in Rule 13.

17. TIME-KEEPING

- 17.1 Unless otherwise directed by the Tournament Committee, time-keeping shall be the responsibility of the Technical Director (TD) or Umpires officiating at a match.

18. BALLS

- 18.1 The Home Club shall provide a minimum of three (3) white balls (*acceptable to the Umpires of the match*) for the match.

19. MATCH COMMENCEMENTS AND INTERRUPTIONS

- 19.1 If the Umpires of a match are of the view that any match cannot be commenced due to inclement weather or dangerous conditions or other sufficient cause, the Umpires shall wait for a period of up to twenty (20) minutes to determine if conditions have improved such that the match can commence. If upon the expiry of twenty (20) minutes, the Umpires are of the view that the match cannot be commenced, the match will be called off and played at such time and place (*but not necessarily on the same pitch*) as the Tournament Committee shall determine.
- 19.2 If the Umpires of a match decide to interrupt a match due to inclement weather or dangerous conditions or other sufficient cause, that match shall be resumed as soon as possible (*but not necessarily on the same pitch nor on the same day*) on the following terms:
- (A) match must be completed up to the agreed regulation time;
 - (B) score on the resumption shall be that which prevailed at the time of the interruption; and
 - (C) any of the players eligible to play for the Club at the point in time the match is replayed, can play in the resumed match
- 19.3 Matches should not be resumed on the same day if the interruption is for a period of twenty (20) minutes or more.
- 19.4 If the Tournament Committee is of the view that a match cannot be commenced due to inclement or hazardous weather or dangerous conditions or other sufficient cause, the Tournament Committee may call off the match and re-schedule it according to Rule 10. Any player registered for the Club will be eligible to play in the re-scheduled match (*save for players who are serving their suspensions at the time of the re-scheduled match*).

20. WITHDRAWAL

- 20.1 A Club shall be deemed to have withdrawn from a match in the event it fails to have at least eight (8) Listed Players on the pitch at the commencement of the match or if it (or its player, Team Manager, Approved Coach or other representative) breaches or fails or refuses to comply with any part of Rules 4, or 12.1, or if it refuses to play a match.
- 20.2 In the event of such a deemed withdrawal from a match, the Club deemed to have withdrawn will be considered as giving a match walkover and shall concede the said match to the opposing Club with a score of 5-0.
- 20.3 The Tournament Committee will review based on the guidelines in Appendix 2 for the penalty (if any) to be meted out to the team giving the match walkover.

21. ADMISSION TO THE PITCH

- 21.1 Unless permitted by the Umpires of the match, no one except the Umpires and the Listed Players playing in a match, may enter the pitch during the match.
- 21.2 Save where the Technical Officer (TO) or Reserve Umpire otherwise directs, the Listed Players not playing on the pitch, together with the Team Managers, Approved Coaches, Medical Doctor or Trainer (a maximum of three (3) officials are allowed on the team bench), shall remain seated on the Club's team bench during regulation time, including time stoppages, except in the case of substitution procedures referred to in Rule 22 or the provision of medical assistance referred to in Rule 21.5. The Approved Coach shall sit nearest to the technical table, and the Team Manager shall sit next to the Approved Coach.

- 21.3 Persons seated or required to be seated on the Club's team bench shall not make any comment of any nature whatsoever about or at the Umpires of the match, the Officials of the match or the Listed Players and Officials, Approved Coach and Team Manager of the opposing Club. No communication by whatever means is permitted during the match between those seated or required to be seated on the Club's team bench and persons not listed in the Team Sheet, except during the match interval. The Umpires of the match are empowered to order any person breaching this sub-Rule to leave the pitch or bench and remain in the changing room for the remainder of the match.
- 21.4 In the event a Listed Player is injured while playing in a match, the Umpires of the match may authorise the Club's Team Manager to enter the pitch to assist and/or remove the player concerned. The Approved Coach may not enter the pitch at any time during the match.
- 21.5 Any Listed Player wishing to consume refreshments during a match, including during time stoppages, shall leave the pitch and may return to the pitch only after consuming such refreshments. The Listed Player (other than a goalkeeper) shall not re-enter the pitch within twenty three (23) metres of any goal line. A goalkeeper may re-enter the pitch at the centre line or within five (5) metres from the goalpost that the said goalkeeper is defending. No liquid or other refreshment may be brought onto and/or consumed on the pitch.
- 21.6 No Listed Player shall leave the pitch during the match interval without prior permission of the Umpires of the match. If such permission is granted, the said Listed Player shall leave their goalkeepers, hockey sticks, gloves and headgear(s) at their respective team benches and shall return to the pitch not less than two (2) minutes before the match is due to resume.

22. SUBSTITUTION OF PLAYERS

- 22.1 Subject to this Rule, each Club shall be permitted to substitute any Listed Player with another Listed Player any time during a match.
- 22.2 Substitutes shall be selected from amongst the Listed Players who either start the match as a player or sit on the Club's team bench at and from the start of the match. When a Listed Player is substituted, the said Listed Player shall return immediately to and sit on the Club's team bench.
- 22.3 A Listed Player who has been substituted may be used as a substitute during the same match, and this Rule shall apply accordingly.
- 22.4 Substitution of a Listed Player shall take place under the supervision of the Technical Officer (TO) or Reserve Umpire at the technical table.
- 22.5 A Listed Player nominated by the Team Manager to enter the pitch as a substitute shall report to the Technical Officer (TO) or Reserve Umpire at the technical table and furnish the number of the Listed Player being substituted. The Listed Player preparing to enter the pitch to substitute another shall not enter the pitch until the Listed Player being substituted has left the pitch.
- 22.6 Listed Players involved in a substitution shall enter and depart from the pitch in the vicinity of the centre line of the pitch closest to the reserve umpire's technical table.
- 22.7 A Listed Player who is suspended from play by the Umpire(s) of the match may not, for the duration of the said suspension, be substituted or be used as a substitute.
- 22.8 Time shall not be stopped for the purposes of substitution, save that the umpires of the match shall have the discretion to stop time from running in the case of a substitution of a Listed Player who, in their opinion, is incapacitated, and in the case of the substitution of a goalkeeper.

23. PROTESTS

- 23.1 A protest in relation to any matter relating to a match in which a Club is involved may be lodged by the Club's Team Manager after the aforesaid match.
- 23.2 No protest can be lodged from a field of play decision made by the umpires during the match.
- 23.3 In the event a Club's Team Manager wishes to lodge such a protest, he shall do so in writing and hand the same to the Secretary of the Tournament Committee not later than two (2) working days (*excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and Public Holidays*) after the conclusion of the match together with \$100.00. The Tournament Committee shall not accept any protest which is not in writing or is not received within the said stipulated time or is not accompanied by \$100.00.
- 23.4 The Tournament Committee shall communicate its decision on the said protest to the affected parties within seven (7) days after receipt by its Secretary of the said protest (*and \$100.00*) or before the commencement of the next match in which any of the teams player in the match which is the subject of the protest is involved (*whichever is earlier*).

24. GENERAL

- 24.1 All sums payable under the Rules to the SHF, whether by way of fees, penalties or otherwise howsoever, shall be recoverable by the SHF as a debt due to it.
- 24.2 All acts bona fide done by the Tournament Committee or any Committee of the SHF or any meeting of any such committee, or any person(s) empowered to act on behalf of any such committee, or any Tournament Official (*including Technical Delegate, Umpire and Reserve Umpire*), referred to in the Rules shall, notwithstanding that it shall be afterwards discovered that there was some defect or irregularity in the appointment of the said committee, person or official be as valid as if the said committee, person or official had been duly and properly appointed and was competent to act.
- 24.3 No committee or person who under the Rules is empowered to make any decision or determination or exercise a discretion shall be bound, unless the Rules otherwise provide to adhere to the rules and principles of natural justice or to permit legal representation to any party likely to be affected by any such decision, determination or exercise of discretion.
- 24.4 In the event there is any dispute or difference relating to or in connection with interpretation of the Rules, the said dispute or difference shall be referred to and determined by the EB whose decision shall be final and binding.
- 24.5 In the event any matter or question or dispute or issue relating to or in any way connected with the conduct and/or administration of any Tournament (*which is not dealt with by the Rules*) shall arise, the matter or question shall be referred to and determined by the Tournament Committee whose decision shall be final and binding.
- 24.6 For the avoidance of doubt, any committee or person compelled or entitled to impose a sanction shall be entitled to do so notwithstanding that a sanction (*identical or different in nature*) may be imposed by the same or some other committee or person or by or under the Rules.
- 24.7 All participants in matches acknowledge that there is an inherent and unavoidable risk involved in participating in any sport and voluntarily submit themselves to the risk. The SHF and all Committees of the SHF, and their employees, officers or agents shall not be liable for any injuries sustained by any person registered under these Rules whether such injury is incurred before, during or after a match played in any tournament under these Rules.

Appendix 1

SCHEDULE OF PENALTIES

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Team withdrawing from a match | Up to \$500 |
| 2. Breach of Rule 12 (players not attired consistently or team being unable to change where there is a clash of colours) | Up to \$50 |

Appendix 2

GUIDELINES ON MATCH WALKOVER

The below guidelines serve to provide a consistent and fair methodology of appraising the reasons for the walkover as well as the actions that should be undertaken by the SHF Tournament Committee (TC).

It should be noted that the Events Manager/Executive shall seek TC's approval on the actions to be meted out to the offending party, with reference to the guidelines below, and shall not undertake decisions individually.

Match Walkover Guidelines	Participating Team's Action	No. of Walkovers in Tournament	Suggested Actions by SHF Tournament Committee
Did the team provide valid reason(s) for walkover and notify SHF at least 2 days in advance?	Yes	1 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Written warning; remind team of inconvenience caused, increase in fine if this is repeated. - Award game to opposing team 5-0
	No	1 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fine S\$200 - Written warning; remind team of inconvenience caused and potential fine if this is repeated. - Award game to opposing team 5-0
Did the team provide valid reason(s) for walkover and notify SHF at least 2 days in advance?	Yes	2 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fine S\$100 - Written warning; remind team of inconvenience caused and potential fine if this is repeated. - Award game to opposing team 5-0
	No	2 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fine \$300 - Written warning; remind team of inconvenience caused and increase in fine if this is repeated. - Award game to opposing team 5-0
Did the team provide valid reason(s) for walkover and notify SHF at least 2 days in advance?	Yes	3 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fine \$200 - Written warning; remind team of inconvenience caused and increase in fine if this is repeated. - Award game to opposing team 5-0

	No	3 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fine \$400 - Written warning; remind team of inconvenience caused, and increase in fine if this is repeated. - Award game to opposing team 5-0
Did the team provide valid reason(s) for walkover and notify SHF at least 2 days in advance?	Yes	4 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fine \$300 - Withdrawal of team from league
	No	4 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fine \$500 - Withdrawal of team from league