



SINGAPORE HOCKEY FEDERATION

RULES GOVERNING APPEALS

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1. DEFINITIONS

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

“Accused”	The Member, player, official, umpire, coach who is accused of the breach, infraction, infringement or misconduct, in the Disciplinary Panel;
“Appeals Committee”	means the Appeals Committee as set out under the Constitution;
“Appeal Panel”	means a panel appointed by the Chairman of the Appeals Committee pursuant to these Rules to hear and determine any appeal;
“Appellant”	means any person, Club or Corporate Member who has made an appeal under these Rules and includes the SHF
“Application”	means an application under Article 5(6)(b)(iii) of the Constitution;
“Applicant”	means the applicant under Article Article 5(6)(b)(iii) of the Constitution;
“Club” and “Club members”	means club and club members as described in the Constitution of SHF;
“Constitution”	means the Constitution of the SHF;
“Disciplinary Panel”	means the committee as constituted by the Chairman of the Disciplinary Sub-Committee pursuant to the SHF Disciplinary Rules to hear and rule on the charges against an Accused;
"Disciplinary Sub-Committee"	means the Sub-Committee appointed by the Executive Board pursuant to the Constitution to deal with any breach, infraction, infringement or misconduct of any Member, player, official, umpire, coach, anyone with authorisation from SHF in particular in respect of conduct pertaining or relating to a match, competition or other event which is organised and/or sanctioned by the SHF;
"Executive Board"	means the Executive Board of the SHF;
“FIH”	means the Federation Internationale de Hockey (International Hockey Federation);
“Secretary General”	means the Secretary General of the SHF;

"Inquiry Panel"	means the Panel as constituted by the Chairman of the Disciplinary Sub-Committee to hear anyone accused of any breach, infringement or misconduct before, during or after a hockey match or otherwise;
"Member"	means a Club, Corporate Member or Life Member as defined in the SHF Constitution;
"Qualified Person"	means a qualified person as defined in the Legal Profession Act;
"Respondent"	means a person, Club or Corporate Member, and includes the SHF, who is the adverse party in an Appeal brought by an Appellant;
" Rules"	means the Rules Governing Appeals;
"SHF"	means the Singapore Hockey Federation;

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 is to the Rules herein.
- 2.3 Unless the context otherwise requires:
 - 2.3.1 words in the singular include the plural, and vice-versa; and
 - 2.3.2 words importing any gender include all genders.

3. CONSTITUTION OF THE APPEALS COMMITTEE

- 3.1 The Executive Board shall appoint an Appeals Committee which shall comprise
 - 3.1.1 a Chairman who shall be a Qualified Person; and
 - 3.1.2 any number of persons as the Executive Board shall determine from time to time.
- 3.2 The Appeals Committee may meet for the purposes 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 Appeals Committee may make decisions at meetings or by resolutions circulated in writing or by electronic mail.

- 3.3 Any question arising out of any meeting of the Appeals Committee shall be determined by a majority of votes by members of the Appeals Committee. The Chairman of the Appeals Committee, in the case of equality of votes, shall have the casting vote.
- 3.4 The quorum for a meeting of an Appeals Committee shall be not less than half of its current members. For the avoidance of doubt, Rules 3.2 to 3.4 do not apply to sittings of an Appeal Panel under Rules 4 and 5.

4. APPEALS FROM SHF DISCIPLINARY PANEL

- 4.1 Any Accused or the SHF (hereinafter the Appellant) may appeal against any decision (including the penalty imposed by a Disciplinary Panel. Any such appeal shall be made and conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Rule. If the appeal is by the Accused, the SHF shall be the Respondent. If the appeal is by the SHF, the Accused shall be the Respondent.
- 4.2 Any Appellant may, within seven (7) working days of being informed of the decision of the Disciplinary Panel, require the Disciplinary Panel to specify in writing the findings of fact leading to the decision and the reasons for the decision (the "Grounds of Decision") if the same has not already been done. A fee of Dollars Seventy Five (\$75.00) must accompany such request or such amount that may be the prescribed fees as the Executive Board may decide from time to time unless the request is by the SHF.
- 4.3 The Appellant must lodge a Notice of Appeal in writing with the Secretary General within fourteen (14) working days of receiving a copy of the Grounds of Decision, failing which the appeal shall lapse. Except when the Appellant is the SHF, a fee of Dollars One Hundred and Fifty (\$150.00) (or such other sum as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board) must be paid together with the Notice of Appeal.
- 4.4 Together with the Notice of Appeal, the Appellant shall also lodge with the Secretary General the following:
 - 4.4.1 a statement of the grounds of appeal; and
 - 4.4.2 if a request is made to present any fresh evidence to the Appeal Panel, particulars of such evidence and of the reasons why it was not presented earlier to the Disciplinary Panel; and
 - 4.4.3 particulars of any fact or circumstances which do not appear from the statement or accompanying documents upon which the Appellant is seeking to rely.
- 4.5 The Chairman of the Appeals Committee shall appoint a panel of a minimum of three

(3) members, and a maximum of five (5) members to hear any appeal under these Rules, (hereinafter, the Appeal Panel). If the Chairman of the Appeals Committee, is not a member of the Appeal Panel he shall appoint a member of the Appeals Committee to act as the Appeal Panel Chairman who shall also be a Qualified Person. Any decision in writing signed by the Appeal Panel Chairman shall be valid and effectual as a decision of the Appeal Panel. No member of the Appeal Panel shall have taken part in any previous proceedings relating to the same matter. The decision of the Appeal Panel shall be final and binding on all parties concerned.

- 4.6 Upon the application of either party, or of its own motion, the Appeal Panel may hold preliminary hearings for the purpose of:
- 4.6.1 deciding any request to present fresh evidence;
 - 4.6.2 giving any other directions or orders which it considers necessary for the conduct of the proceedings; and the Appeal Panel may at any time extend or abridge all or any time limits governing appeals and may permit amendments to documents lodged by the parties on such terms as it thinks fit.
- 4.7 No fresh evidence shall be presented to the Appeal Panel without its permission. Save in exceptional circumstances, no such leave shall be given unless:
- 4.7.1 the evidence was not available at the time of the hearing appealed against despite the exercise of reasonable diligence;
 - 4.7.2 it is credible evidence; and
 - 4.7.3 it is relevant.
- 4.8 An appeal shall be by way of re-hearing based on the evidence adduced before the Disciplinary Panel except where the Appeal Panel gives leave to present fresh evidence, and save that the parties shall be entitled to make representations and submissions to the Appeal Panel at the appeal hearing.
- 4.9 The Appeal Panel may conduct the hearing in such a manner and at such times as it considers desirable and/or suitable. If either party fails to attend at the hearing, the Appeal Panel may proceed in its absence. The Appeal Panel shall not be bound by any enactment or rule of law relating to the inadmissibility of evidence in proceedings before any court of law. Both the Appellant and the Respondent shall be entitled to be represented and otherwise assisted in the appeal, including by a lawyer.
- 4.10 Except so far as the Appeals Committee or Appeal Panel may otherwise direct, an appeal shall not operate as a stay of the order or decision of the Disciplinary Panel.
- 4.11 The Appeal Panel shall have power:
- 4.11.1 to allow or dismiss the appeal;

- 4.11.2 to vary the decision and/or penalty in such a manner as it shall think fit, including the power to increase, decrease or remit any penalty included in such decision except when such penalty shall be specified in these Rules when the Appeal Panel shall impose such penalty if it finds the case proved;
- 4.11.3 to remit the matter with such directions as it thinks fit for re-hearing and determination by the earlier decision making body;
- 4.11.4 to make such further or other order as it thinks fit, including such sanctions and/or penalties as set out in the Rules.
- 4.12 The Appeal Panel shall not be bound to allow an appeal on the ground of misdirection or wrong evaluation of evidence, unless in the opinion of the Appeal Panel, substantial injustice, including a miscarriage of justice, has thereby been occasioned.
- 4.13 The Appeal Panel may take into account facts or matters which have become evident or have occurred since the date of the decision appealed against where, pursuant to leave given to call fresh evidence, evidence has been given about such matters.
- 4.14 Where the appeal is successful the fees paid under Rules 4.2 and /or 4.3 may be refunded to the Appellant at the discretion of the Appeal Panel.

5. APPEALS FROM EXECUTIVE BOARD

- 5.1 Any person, Club Member or Corporate Member (hereinafter the Appellant) on whom a decision and/or penalty has been imposed by the Executive Board under Articles 5(6)(b)(i) of the Constitution may appeal against such decision and/or against the penalty so imposed. Any such appeal shall be made and conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Rule. The SHF shall be the Respondent to the appeal.
- 5.2 Any Appellant may, within seven (7) working days of being informed of the decision of the Executive Board, require the Executive Board to specify in writing the findings of fact leading to the decision and the reasons for the decision (the "Grounds of Decision") if the same has not already been done. A fee of Dollars Seventy Five (\$75.00) (or such amount that may be the prescribed fees as the Executive Board may decide from time to time) must accompany such request.
- 5.3 The Appellant must lodge a Notice of Appeal in writing with the Secretary General within fourteen (14) working days of receiving a copy of the Grounds of Decision, failing which the appeal shall lapse. . A fee of Dollars One Hundred and Fifty (\$150.00) (or such other sum as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board) must be paid together with the Notice of Appeal.
- 5.4 Together with the Notice of Appeal, the Appellant shall also lodge with the

Secretary General the following:

- 5.4.1 a statement of the grounds of appeal; and
 - 5.4.2 if a request is made to present any fresh evidence to the Appeals Committee, particulars of such evidence and of the reasons why it was not presented earlier to the Sub-Committee; and
 - 5.4.3 particulars of any fact or circumstances which do not appear from the statement or accompanying documents upon which the Appellant is seeking to rely.
- 5.5 The Chairman of the Appeals Committee shall appoint a panel of a minimum of three (3) members, and a maximum of five (5) members to hear any appeal under these Rules, (hereinafter, the Appeal Panel). If the Chairman of the Appeals Committee, is not a member of the Appeal Panel, he shall appoint a member of the Appeals Committee to act as the Appeal Panel Chairman who shall also be a Qualified Person. Any decision in writing signed by the Appeal Panel Chairman shall be valid and effectual as a decision of the Appeal Panel. No member of the Appeal Panel shall have taken part in any previous proceedings relating to the same matter. The decision of the Appeal Panel shall be final and binding on all parties concerned.
- 5.6 Upon the application of either party, or of its own motion, the Appeals Committee may hold preliminary hearings for the purpose of:
- 5.6.1 deciding any request to present fresh evidence;
 - 5.6.2 giving any other directions or orders which it considers necessary for the conduct of the proceedings; and the Appeals Committee may at anytime extend or abridge all or any time limits governing appeals and may permit amendments to documents lodged by the parties on such terms as it thinks fit.
- 5.7 No fresh evidence shall be presented to the Appeals Committee without its permission. Save in the exceptional circumstances, no such leave shall be given unless:
- 5.7.1 the evidence was not available at the time of the hearing appealed against despite the exercise of reasonable diligence;
 - 5.7.2 it is credible evidence; and
 - 5.7.3 it is relevant.
- 5.8 An appeal shall be by way of re-hearing based on the evidence adduced before the Executive Board, except where the Appeal Panel gives leave to present fresh evidence, and save that the parties shall be entitled to make representations and submissions to the Appeal Panel at the appeal hearing.
- 5.9 The Appeal Panel may conduct the hearing in such a manner and at such times as it considers desirable and/or suitable. If either party fails to attend at the hearing,

the Appeal Panel may proceed in its absence. The Appeal Panel shall not be bound by any enactment or rule of law relating to the inadmissibility of evidence in proceedings before any court of law. Both the Appellant and the Respondent shall be entitled to be represented and otherwise assisted in the appeal, including by a lawyer.

5.10 Except so far as the Appeals Committee or Appeal Panel may otherwise direct, an appeal shall not operate as a stay of the order or decision of the Executive Board.

5.11 The Appeal Panel shall have power:

5.11.1 to allow or dismiss the appeal;

5.11.2 to vary the decision and/or penalty in such a manner as it shall think fit, including the power to increase, decrease or remit any penalty included in such decision except when such penalty shall be specified in these Rules when the Appeal Panel shall impose such penalty if it finds the case proved;

5.11.3 to remit the matter with such directions as it thinks fit for re-hearing and determination by the earlier decision making body;

5.11.4 to make such further or other order as it thinks fit, including such sanctions and/or penalties as set out in the Rules.

5.12 The Appeal Panel shall not be bound to allow an appeal on the ground of misdirection or wrong evaluation of evidence, unless in the opinion of the Appeal Panel, substantial injustice, including a miscarriage of justice, has thereby been occasioned.

5.13 The Appeal Panel may take into account facts or matters which have become evident or have occurred since the date of the decision appealed against where, pursuant to leave given to call fresh evidence, evidence has been given about such matters.

5.14 Where the appeal is successful the fees paid under Rules 5.2 and /or 5.3 may be refunded to the Appellant at the discretion of the Appeal Panel.

6. APPLICATIONS (UNDER ARTICLE 5(6)(b)(iii) OF THE CONSTITUTION)

6.1 Any person (hereinafter the Applicant) who wishes to apply to commute or review or reconsider an expulsion or suspension of 10 years or more under Article 5(6)(b)(iii) of the Constitution may apply to the Appeals Committee by lodging the Application in writing with the Secretary General together with a non-refundable fee of Dollars One hundred and Fifty (\$150.00), or such other sum as may be

prescribed from time to time by Executive Board. The SHF may be a Respondent to the Application.

- 6.2 Any such application shall be made only after the Applicant has served a minimum of two-thirds of serving the suspension term ordered (or in the case of a life time ban or suspension, 7 years).
- 6.3 Upon the application of either party, or of its own motion, the Appeals Committee may hold preliminary hearings for the purpose of: giving any other directions or orders which it considers necessary for the conduct of the proceedings.
- 6.4 The Appeals Committee may conduct the hearing in such a manner and at such times as it considers desirable and/or suitable. Both the Appellant and the Respondent shall be entitled to be represented and otherwise assisted in the Application, including by a lawyer.
- 6.5 The Appeals Committee may take into account facts or matters which have become evident or have occurred since the date of the decision appealed against where, pursuant to leave given to call fresh evidence, evidence has been given about such matters.

7. APPEALS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES

- 7.1 Any person, Club or Corporate Member (hereinafter the Appellant) on whom a decision and/or penalty has been imposed by a Sub-Committee (other than a Disciplinary Sub-Committee) may appeal against such decision and/or against the penalty so imposed under Article 6(2)(e) of the Constitution to the Executive Board. Any such appeal shall be made and conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Rule. The SHF shall be the Respondent to the appeal.
- 7.2 Any Appellant may, within seven (7) working days of being informed of such a decision, require the Sub-Committee to specify in writing the findings of fact leading to the decision and the reasons for the decision (the "Grounds of Decision") if the same has not already been done. A fee of Dollars Seventy Five (\$75.00) must accompany such request or such amount that may be the prescribed fees as the Executive Board may decide from time to time.
- 7.3 The Appellant must lodge a Notice of Appeal in writing with the Secretary General within fourteen (14) working days after receiving a copy of the Grounds of Decision, failing which the appeal shall lapse. A fee of Dollars One Hundred and Fifty (\$150.00) (or such other sum that may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board) must be paid together with the Notice of Appeal.
- 7.4 Together with the Notice of Appeal, the Appellant shall also lodge with the Secretary General the following:

- 7.4.1. a statement of the grounds of appeal; and
 - 7.4.2. if a request is made to present any fresh evidence to the Executive Board, particulars of such evidence and of the reasons why it was not presented earlier to the Sub-committee; and
 - 7.4.3. particulars of any fact or circumstances which do not appear from the statement or accompanying documents upon which the Appellant is seeking to rely.
- 7.5 The quorum for a hearing of the Executive Board shall be a minimum of five (5) members and shall be governed by the provisions in the Constitution.
- 7.6 Upon the application of either party, or of its own motion, the Executive Board may hold preliminary hearings for the purpose of:
 - 7.6.1 deciding any request to present fresh evidence;
 - 7.6.2 giving any other directions or orders which it considers necessary for the conduct of the proceedings; and the Executive Board may at anytime extend or abridge all or any time limits governing appeals and may permit amendments to documents lodged by the parties on such terms as it thinks fit.
- 7.7 No fresh evidence shall be presented to the Executive Board without its permission. Save in the exceptional circumstances, no such leave shall be given unless:
 - 7.7.1 the evidence was not available at the time of the hearing appealed against despite the exercise of reasonable diligence;
 - 7.7.2 it is credible evidence; and
 - 7.7.3 it is relevant.
- 7.8 The appeal shall be by way of re-hearing based on the evidence adduced before the Sub-Committee, except where the Executive Board gives leave to present fresh evidence, and save that the parties shall be entitled to make representations and submissions at the appeal hearing.
- 7.9 The Executive Board may conduct the hearing in such a manner and at such times as it considers desirable and/or suitable. If either party fails to attend at the hearing, the Executive Board may proceed in its absence. The Executive Board shall not be bound by any enactment or rule of law relating to the inadmissibility of evidence in proceedings before any court of law.
- 7.10 Except so far as the Executive Board may otherwise direct, an appeal shall not operate as a stay of the order or decision on which the appeal is brought.
- 7.11 The Executive Board shall have power:

- 7.11.1 to allow or dismiss the appeal;
 - 7.11.2 to vary the decision and/or penalty in such a manner as it shall think fit, including the power to increase, decrease or remit any penalty included in such decision except when such penalty shall be specified in these Rules when the Executive Board shall impose such penalty if it finds the case proved;
 - 7.11.3 to remit the matter with such directions as it thinks fit for re-hearing and determination by the earlier decision making body;
 - 7.11.4 to make such further or other order as it thinks fit, including such sanctions and/or penalties as set out in the Rules.
- 7.12 The Executive Board shall not be bound to allow an appeal on the ground of misdirection or wrong evaluation of evidence, unless in the opinion of the Executive Board, substantial injustice, including a miscarriage of justice, has thereby been occasioned.
- 7.13 The Executive Board may take into account facts or matters which have become evident or have occurred since the date of the decision appealed against where, pursuant to leave given to call fresh evidence, evidence has been given about such matters.
- 7.15 Where the Appeal is successful the fees paid under Rule 7.2 and /or Rule 7.3 shall be refunded to the Respondent.

8. SANCTIONS / PENALTIES

- 8.1 Disciplinary sanctions and penalties which may be imposed by the Appeals Committee or the Executive Board on an Appellant shall include:
- 8.1.1 a caution;
 - 8.1.2 a censure;
 - 8.1.3 a fine;
 - 8.1.4 suspension for a specified number of matches and/or a specified period;
 - 8.1.5 ban for life or for a specified period;
 - 8.1.6 a ban on participating or being involved in a game in any capacity whatsoever;
 - 8.1.7 cancellation of a match (requiring a replay, if any);
 - 8.1.8 deduction or cancellation of points;

- 8.1.9 a win by default, in which case a score of two (2)-nil (0) will be given, unless the goal difference attained in the match is greater in favour of the non-infringing Club;
 - 8.1.10 a ban from any stadium/or any playing ground or on terms;
 - 8.1.11 matches to be played with the exclusion of the public or on certain conditions;
 - 8.1.12 a ban from taking part in the current and/or future tournaments or any part thereof;
 - 8.1.13 a cancellation/refusal of registration of a Player or on terms;
 - 8.1.14 withdrawal of any or all financial privileges given by the SHF or on terms; and/or
 - 8.1.15 offences under the Tournament Rules
 - 8.1.16 a combination of the sanctions and penalties stated herein.
- 8.2 In determining any disciplinary sanction or penalty to be imposed, the Appeals Committee or the Executive Board may be guided by the list of disciplinary measures as specified in the Rules and Regulations of the FIH.

9. GENERAL

- 9.1 The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final and binding on all parties affected by the said decision, determination and exercise of discretion and shall not unless the Rules otherwise provide be challenged or capable of being challenged appealed against, rescinded, quashed or called in question in any court of law. For the avoidance of doubt, the said decision, determination and exercise of discretion shall not be subject to certiorari, prohibition, injunction or any form of judicial review for any reason (whether related to issues of jurisdiction, constitution of the Panels / Appeals Committee, compliance with procedures, natural justice or otherwise) in any court of law.
- 9.2 In the event there is any dispute or difference relating to or in connection with the interpretation of the Rules or the decision of the Inquiry Panel or Disciplinary Panel, Executive Board and/or the Appeals Committee, the said dispute or difference shall be referred to and determined by the Executive Board whose decision shall be final and binding on all parties.