



SINGAPORE HOCKEY FEDERATION

UMPIRES' RULES

(As approved by SHF Executive Board or EB on 26th August 2026)

Singapore Hockey Federation
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SINGAPORE HOCKEY FEDERATION UMPIRES' RULES

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1. DEFINITIONS

In these Umpires' Rules, the following expressions shall, except where the context otherwise requires, have the following meanings:

"Member as Affiliate or Life Member"	means Affiliate Member as defined in the SHF Constitution;
"Executive Board or EB"	means the Executive Committee of the SHF;
"FIH"	means the Federation Internationale de Hockey (International Hockey Federation);
"Secretary General"	means the Secretary General or Assistant Secretary General of the SHF;
"Grade I Umpire"	means the highest grade of Umpire and shall include an FIH International Umpire;
"Grade II Umpire"	means the Grade of Umpire next below and Grade I Umpire Grade;
"Grade III Umpire"	means the Grade of Umpire next below the Grade II Umpire Grade;
"International Hockey Match"	means matches controlled by FIH;
"Roll"	means the roll of Umpires maintained by the Umpires' Committee;
"Rules"	means these Umpires' Rules;
"SHF"	means the Singapore Hockey Federation;
"Trainee Umpire"	means any person intending to qualify as an Umpire and who has successfully completed an assessment as directed by the Umpires' Committee;
"Umpire"	means a person who is a Grade I Umpire or Grade II Umpire or Grade III Umpire;
"Umpires' Committee"	means the Sub Committee appointed by the Executive Board or EB to: (i) regulate, determine and control all matters concerning Umpires and umpiring;

- (ii) exercise the powers and discharge the duties and functions under the Rules; and
- (iii) exercise such other powers or discharge such other duties as may be delegated to it by the Executive Board or EB from time to time;

“Unsanctioned Event” means an unsanctioned event as defined in the FIH Statutes, Constitution, Rules and Bylaws

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 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 both genders.

3. UMPIRES' COMMITTEE

- 3.1 The Executive Board or EB shall appoint the Umpires' Committee which shall comprise of:
 - (A) a Chairperson;
 - (b) a Vice Chairperson;
 - (C) a Secretary;
 - (D) such number of Members as the Executive Board or EB may determine; and
 - (E) the Secretary General (ex-officio).
- 3.2 The Umpires' 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.

- 3.3 The Chairman, or if he is unable for any reason to do so, the Vice Chairman, of the Umpires' Committee may at any time summon a meeting of the Umpires' Committee. Any question arising out of any meeting of the Umpires' Committee shall be determined by a majority of votes by the members of the Umpires' Committee. The chairman of the Umpires Committee shall, in the case of an equality of votes, have a casting vote.
- 3.4 Four (4) members of the Umpires' committee shall be present to establish a quorum for a meeting of the Umpires' Committee. Any decision in writing signed by all the members of the Umpires' Committee shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been made and reached at a meeting of the Umpires' Committee where all its members were present.
- 3.5 The Umpires' Committee may delegate any of its powers under the Rules to any one or more of its members.
- 3.6 The Umpires' Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy in the Committee subject to the approval of the Executive Board or EB.
- 3.7 The Umpires' Committee shall:
- (A) have the powers vested in by the Rules; and
 - (B) have the power to abridge or to extend the time within which acts under the Rules are to be done or carried out.

4. ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1 Subject to the Rules, a person shall not be eligible to Umpire a hockey match unless:
- (A) he applies to the Umpires' Committee (in a form prescribed by the Umpires' Committee) to have his name entered in the Roll as an Umpire or Trainee Umpire;
 - (B) (except where the said person intends to apply to be a Trainee Umpire), the application referred to in the Rule 4.1 (A) is accompanied by evidence (satisfactory to the Umpires' Committee) that the said person is qualified as:
 - (i) a Grade I Umpire
 - (ii) a Grade II Umpire; or
 - (iii) a Grade III Umpire; and
 - (C) the said application is accompanied by a registration fee of \$20 (or such other fees as the Umpires' Committee may from time to time prescribe); and
 - (D) the said application is accepted by the Umpires' Committee



and the said person's name is entered in the Roll as:

- (i) a Grade I Umpire; or
- (ii) a Grade II Umpire; or
- (iii) a Grade III Umpire; or
- (iv) a Trainee Umpire.

5. APPOINTMENT

- 5.1 Subject to Rules 5.2 and 5.3, the Umpires' Committee shall appoint from the persons whose names appear on the Roll, Umpires for every Hockey match played under the jurisdiction or purview of the SHF.
- 5.2 The Umpires' Committee may appoint Trainee Umpires to umpire Hockey matches so as to enable the Umpires' Committee or Assessors appointed by it to assess the trainee Umpires.
- 5.3 In making appointments, the Umpires' Committee shall abide by the following requirements:
 - (A) all international Hockey matches shall be Umpired by Grade I Umpires;
 - (B) all Hockey matches played in the highest division shall be Umpired by Grade I or Grade II Umpires;
 - (C) all other Hockey matches may be Umpired by such Umpires or trainee Umpires as the Umpires' Committee may appoint.
- 5.4 No person whose name appears on the Roll shall agree to Umpire any Hockey match under the jurisdiction or purview of the SHF without the prior approval of the Umpires' Committee.

6. UPGRADING, DOWNGRADING AND REMOVAL OF NAMES FROM ROLL

- 6.1 All upgrading, downgrading and removal of names of Trainee Umpires and Umpires shall be under the control and discretion of the Executive Board or EB who, in so acting, may have regard to, but shall not be bound by, the recommendation(s) of the Umpires' Committee.
- 6.2 The Umpires' Committee shall organise Umpires' Circles, Seminars Workshops, Dialogues and courses and prescribe such tests and requirements as it considers desirable and necessary for the purposes of the upgrading referred to in this Rule.



- 6.3 (A) A Trainee Umpire shall not be upgraded to Grade III Umpire unless he is, in the opinion of the Umpires' Committee, competent to Umpire a Hockey match.
- (B) A person shall not be upgraded to Grade II Umpire unless:
- (i) he has been a Grade III Umpire for a continuous period of twelve months immediately preceding his upgrading for Grade II Umpire;
 - (ii) he is in opinion of the Umpires' Committee, competent to Umpire a Hockey match played in the highest division of any tournament;
 - (iii) he has attended no less than seventy percent (70%) of the Umpires' circles in the twelve (12) months immediately preceding his upgrading to Grade II Umpire, and has participated in such Circles in a manner satisfactory to the Umpires' Committee;
 - (iv) he had passed such tests (practical, fitness, written and oral) as may be prescribed by the Umpires' Committee; and
 - (v) he is not more than forty-five (45) years of age at the time of his upgrading to Grade II Umpire.
- (C) A person shall not be upgraded to Grade I Umpire unless:
- (i) he has been a Grade II Umpire for a continuous period of twenty-four (24) months immediately preceding his upgrading to Grade I Umpire;
 - (ii) he is, in the opinion of the Umpires' Committee, competent to Umpire a Hockey match in the highest division of any tournament;
 - (iii) he has attended no less than eighty percent (80%) of the Umpires' Circles' in the twelve months (12) immediately preceding his upgrading to Grade I Umpire, and has participated in such circles in a manner satisfactory to the Umpires' Committee;
 - (iv) he has passed such tests (practical, fitness, written and oral) as may be prescribed by the Umpires' Committee; and
 - (v) he is not more than forty (40) years of age at the time of the upgrading to Grade I Umpire.
- 6.4 The Executive Board or EB may, notwithstanding the fact that the requirements in Rule 6.3 have not been met, effect an upgrading in circumstances where the Executive Board or EB is satisfied that the person to be upgraded has the potential for exceptional ability as an Umpire.
7. CODE OF CONDUCT
- 7.1 All Umpires and trainee Umpires shall abide by and be bound by the SHF Hockey Umpires' Code of Conduct stated at Appendix A of these Rules and shall sign a declaration to that effect as required by the Umpires' committee.



8. DISCIPLINE

- 8.1 If, in the opinion of the Umpires' Committee, an Umpire or Trainee Umpire behaves or conducts himself (whether on or off the pitch) in breach of these Rules including the Umpires' Code of Conduct, the Umpires' Committee shall be entitled to send a written complaint to the Chairman of the SHF Disciplinary Sub Committee through the Secretary General within thirty (30) days of the occurrence of any incident, behaviour or conduct or within such other time as the Disciplinary subcommittee may allow. For the avoidance of doubt, this does not affect the right of the Tournament-subcommittee, where the alleged breach occurs during any tournament organised or sanctioned by the SHF, to send a complaint to the Chairman of the Disciplinary Subcommittee through the Secretary General in accordance with the Tournament Rules in force at the time.
- 8.2 A complaint referred to in Rule 8.1 of these Rules shall be dealt with by the Chairman of the Disciplinary Subcommittee in accordance with the SHF Disciplinary Rules enacted by the Executive Board or EB pursuant to the SHF Constitution or any other relevant rules in effect at the that time.
- 8.3 Where a complaint referred in Rule 8.1 has been sent to the Chairman of the Disciplinary Subcommittee, and pending a decision by the Disciplinary Subcommittee, the Umpires' Committee may, if it considers it to be in the interests of any game of Hockey, suspend a person against whom the complaint is made from upgrading, until such time that the Disciplinary Subcommittee makes a determination.
- 8.4 The decision of the Disciplinary Subcommittee shall be communicated to the Executive Board or EB, the Umpires' Committee and the party against whom the complaint is made no later than thirty (30) days after the Disciplinary Sub Committee makes its determination and shall take effect on such date as the Disciplinary Sub Committee shall determine.
- 8.5 Any appeal against the decision of the Disciplinary Subcommittee by the dissatisfied party will be governed by the SHF Disciplinary Rules, the SHF Rules governing Appeals and/or any other such relevant Rules in effect at that time.

9. REPORTS

All Umpires and Trainee Umpires shall within forty-eight (48) hours of the end of the assigned match (excluding Sunday and public holidays) submit a written match report of the Assigned Match to the Tournament Committee of the SHF, with a copy to the Umpires' Committee, which report shall include any matter in respect of which the Umpire making the said report requires a decision to be taken by the Umpires' committee or any other Committee or the Executive Board or EB.

10. GENERAL

- 10.1 All sums payable under the Rules to the SHF, whether by way of fees, penalties or otherwise howsoever, shall be recovered by the SHF as a debt due to it.



- 10.2 All acts bona fide done by the Umpires' Committee or any meeting of any such Committee, or any person(s) empowered to act on behalf of the Umpire's Committee, referred to in the Rules shall, notwithstanding that it shall be afterwards discovered that there was some defect or the Rules shall, notwithstanding that it shall be afterwards discovered that there was some defect or irregularity in the appointment of the Umpire's Committee, person or official be as valid as if the said Committee, person, or official had been duly and properly constituted and was competent to act.
- 10.3 The Umpires' Committee who under the rules is empowered to make any decision, determination and exercise of 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 and exercise of discretion.
- 10.4 In the event any matter is in dispute or difference relating to or in connection with the interpretation of the rules, the said dispute or difference shall be referred to and determined by the Executive Board or EB.
- 10.5 In the event any matter or question relating to or in any way connected with the conduct of any Umpire or Trainee Umpire (which is not dealt with by the Rules) shall arise, the matter or question shall be referred to and determined by the Umpires' Committee.

APPENDIX "A"

HOCKEY UMPIRES' CODE OF CONDUCT

All Umpires (including Trainee Umpires) shall;

- (A) officiate at all Hockey matches to which they have been assigned (" the Assigned Match') by the Umpires' Committee unless they submit a request to be released to the Chairman of the Umpires' subcommittee not less than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the commencement of the assigned match;
- (B) arrive at the venue of the assigned match and be prepared to Umpire the assigned match not less than twenty (20) minutes before the scheduled commencement time of the assigned Match;
- (C) at all times during an Assigned match be smartly and properly dressed in attire approved by the Umpires' Committee;
- (D) not engage in any dispute with any members of the public or team official or any personnel of the media in connection with the assigned match which he Umpires;
- (E) not make any comment to any personnel of the media in any matter relating to or connected with the SHF, the Council of the SHF, the Executive Board or EB, the

Tournament Committee of the SHF and the Umpires' Committee or with any of the members of any of these bodies;

- (F) attend all Umpires' Circles Seminars, Workshops', Dialogues and courses organised by the Umpires' Committee;
- (G) not umpire or participate in an Unsanctioned Event;
- (H) at all times;
 - (i) discharge their duties and responsibilities, and exercise their powers, as Umpires and Trainee Umpires impartially and faithfully;
 - (ii) acquaint themselves with, abide, uphold and apply the Rules of the game of Hockey and the Rules of the SHF, including but not limited to the SHF Tournament Rules; and
 - (iii) maintain a level of fitness which will enable them to properly, fairly and effectively discharge their duties and responsibilities, and exercise their powers, as Umpires and Trainee Umpires;
- (I) ensure that they do not conduct themselves in any manner prejudicial to or which may bring disrepute to the SHF, Council of the SHF, the Executive Board or EB, any of these bodies or of the game of hockey; not interfere with, or obstruct, any other Umpire or Trainee Umpire in the discharge of his duties and responsibilities, and in the exercise of his powers; and
- (J) abide by all directions and instructions issued by the Umpires' Committee from time to time.