



HOCKEY BALLARAT BY-LAWS

To be read in conjunction with the Rules of Association.
Current as of 22 January 2004

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1. Association Colours

1.1. The Association Colours shall be Red and White.

2. Administration

2.1. One delegate from each club must attend ALL Meetings. Any absences without an apology or appointment of a proxy will result in loss of points at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

2.2. All fees are due and payable to Hockey Ballarat by the fourth playing week. Any player who has not paid fees after this time cannot take the field until outstanding fees have been paid.

2.3. Duty teams will be responsible for all duties allotted to them by the Executive Committee.

3. Uniforms

3.1. Each club shall have distinguishing colours, which must be worn, and no Club joining the Association shall adapt colours used by any other Club or by the State.

3.2. Each team is to register its team colours and uniform on the Team Registration Form prior to the commencement of the season. Skirts or shorts must be registered.

3.3. All team members are to wear individually numbered shirts.

3.4. All team members must wear the correct registered uniform after the first three matches. After this period ANY player not in uniform cannot take the field.

4. Defunct Clubs

4.1. Clubs or Teams who have not fielded a team for the current year shall be declared defunct by the Executive Committee, or a Club or Team who makes application to the Executive may be declared defunct and members of such Clubs or teams will automatically have open clearances.

5. Competition Rules

5.1. All games shall be played in Accordance with the playing rules set down by the Hockey Rules Board and authorised by Hockey Australia subject to such additions, alterations and omissions as shall be agreed upon from time to time to suit local conditions.

5.2. All match balls will be supplied by the Association.

5.3. Three points shall be awarded for a win and one point for a draw in Association matches. Scores for a walkover shall count as 5 – 0 and in interrupted matches the score shall remain as on the scorecard. A team giving a walkover prior to the scheduled round is required to inform the opposition team and the executive committee.

5.4. A team forfeiting a match shall pay the turf fees for both teams for that scheduled match

5.5. In the case of teams being level on points, the team with the higher goal percentage shall assume the higher position on the ladder.

- 5.6. Matches must be played as arranged on the draw card except that in special circumstances a match may be played at another time by mutual consent of the teams concerned and with the Approval of the Executive Committee.
- 5.7. No team shall commence a match with less than seven players.
- 5.8. If a match is not commenced within ten minutes of the starting time of the scheduled game, the team unable to proceed shall forfeit the match.
- 5.9. If a match commences after the scheduled time and this causes the match to be shortened, the Umpires shall deduct the lost time equally from the two halves and inform the Captains prior to the start of the length of the halves.
- 5.10. Prior to each Association game, the Captains must complete the game card by writing full names of all players on the card.
- 5.11. At the completion of the game, the Umpires and Captains must sign the card and the names of players not taking the field crossed off the card.
- 5.12. Best and Fairest votes to be awarded by the Umpires giving 3, 2, & 1 votes to each match.
- 5.13. All players are only permitted to play one match per fixtured round with the exception being when clause 10.6 or 10.7 applies.
- 5.14. Clubs are permitted to play fill-in players. Any fill-in player who plays three or more matches with any team will be bound to that team or a higher grade team in the same club, for the balance of the season. Once bound to a team the player must register with that team.
- 5.15. To qualify to play in a final series, a player must have played at least 25 percent of the preliminary rounds (rounded up to the nearest whole number) in that particular grade or any lower grade with the same club.
- 5.16. Any team failing to play three consecutive matches will withdraw for the remainder of the season, unless a satisfactory explanation can be furnished to the committee. Any team conceding three (3) or more walkovers in a season may, at the discretion of the executive committee, be withdrawn from the competition.
- 5.17. In the event of a team being found guilty of fielding an ineligible player, the opposing team will be awarded a 5-0 win. In the final series if an in-eligible player plays, the team shall forfeit that match.
- 5.18. Registered Junior players are permitted to play their own grade and one senior game per fixtured round.

6. Junior Grades

- 6.1. Junior matches shall consist of two 25 minute halves (2x25).
- 6.2. In all under age and Junior club matches, the "sticks" rule will be enforced by Umpires, and players will be encourage to control the ball before hitting. Umpires, at their discretion will be allowed to penalise players for dangerous play, if it is felt that the player concerned did not attempt to fully control the ball before striking it.

7. Final Series

- 7.1. All finals series shall be played as determined by the Executive Committee.
- 7.2. In the event of a finals match resulting in a draw, extra time consisting of two ten minute halves, shall be played.

JUNIOR MATCHES – if the game is still drawn, the team ahead on premiership points proceeds to the next final. In the event of a draw in the Junior Grand Final, extra time only shall be played. If the game is still drawn then the Premiership shall be shared.

SENIOR MATCHES – if the match is still drawn, a penalty stroke competition will be held in accordance with the rules set down by the Hockey Rules Board and authorised by Hockey Australia.

8. Cancellations

- 8.1. In the event of extreme weather or other mitigating circumstances, the executive shall have authority to cancel or postpone all matches for that day. No points to be allotted for cancelled games.
- 8.2. If the Executive cancel a round of matches, teams will be notified.
- 8.3. If immediately prior to the scheduled starting time of the match or if in the course of any match, the Umpires and both Captains consider:
 - 8.3.1. the ground unfit for play
 - 8.3.2. conditions under which the game is played become potentially dangerous (e.g. fog, lightning) they may cancel or postpone the match and shall record on the scorecard their reasons for doing so.
- 8.4. An interrupted match shall be declared a regulation game providing the match has been in progress for more than half the allotted time. If a match has been in progress for less than half the allotted time:
 - 8.4.1. The opposing teams may agree to share the points or
 - 8.4.2. The opposing teams may arrange a rescheduled match within a reasonable period of time, and inform the Executive Officer of the arrangements.

9. Umpires

- 9.1 Each Senior Team is to nominate a minimum of two umpires on the registration form to perform umpiring duties throughout the season.
- 9.2 All Umpires will be rostered by the Umpires Convenor appointed by the Association. If a rostered Umpire fails to umpire when named, without notifying the Umpires Convenor, his/her playing team will lose points at the discretion of the Executive.
- 9.3 NO Senior game will proceed with only ONE Umpire. In the event of only one rostered umpire being available for a game the opposing captains will come to an agreement as to who umpires.
- 9.4 Meetings convened by the Umpires Convenor must be attended by all nominated umpires from each Senior Team.

10. Clearances/Permits

- 10.1. A player desiring to transfer from one club to another shall obtain an official clearance form and submit this to the Executive Committee. No player shall play for a new Club, until such clearance has been received and approved by the Executive Committee. Only one such clearance per player will be accepted within a Season.

- 10.2. Automatic Permit will apply where a club has teams from different grades, until that player has qualified for the higher grade. Where a club has more than one team in the same grade, free interchange of players will be allowed for the first quarter (25%) of the season.
- 10.3. After a player has not played for one complete season they shall automatically have an open clearance.
- 10.4. Players shall have the right to transfer from Association to Association on obtaining a written clearance from the Club/Team with who she last played, endorsed by that Association.
- 10.5. Permits – The Executive of the Association can grant a permit on receipt of written application.
- 10.6. When a club has two teams playing in the same grade, a player who has played in 4 games during the regular season in the "First Team", is ineligible to play in "Second Team", except when:
The "Second Team" can not field 9 players.
In this instance the club shall be allowed to select a maximum of 2 players from the "First Team", to match the number of players on the opposing team, up to 9 players.
Only under these circumstances shall the "First Team" players be permitted to play in two matches per fixtured round.
- 10.7. When a club having only one team in a particular grade cannot field 9 players, they may select a maximum of 2 players from another club to match the number of players on the opposing team, up to 9 players.

11. Protests & Disputes

- 11.1. In the event of any complaints, charges or disputes being brought to the notice of the Executive, the Executive will appoint a Dispute Committee of three, but no member shall sit on a hearing concerning the Zone, Association or Club of which he/she is a member.
- 11.2. All Clubs referring disputes, protests or charges against other clubs or players, or reporting any infringements of the rules or laws of Hockey, shall furnish to the Executive through the Secretary particulars thereof in writing by the first Tuesday after the match.

12. Inter Association Games

- 12.1. Only registered players can represent Ballarat in Inter Association games.
- 12.2. Representative teams will be selected by the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee shall consist of those appointed by the Executive Committee.
- 12.3. Permit players may be eligible on receipt of registration fees.
- 12.4. Only selected representative teams may use the name "Ballarat".
- 12.5. In all games arranged by the Association the mode of transport shall be arranged by the Executive Committee and members selected shall comply with the requirements of the Executive as to transport, accommodation and behaviour.

12.6. A player found guilty and suspended by the Hockey Ballarat investigation committee, will be deemed ineligible for selection with a representative team until they have served their suspension

13. Health & Medical Considerations

13.1. The Association recommends no player shall play in an Association match after the first three months of pregnancy.

13.2. All open cuts and abrasions must be reported and treated immediately. All contaminated clothing and equipment must be replaced prior to the player allowed to resume play.

13.3. If bleeding recurs, the above procedure should be repeated.

13.4. If bleeding cannot be controlled and the wound securely covered, the player must not continue in the game.

14. Changes to or Varying the By Laws of the Association

14.1. Applications to vary these rules must be lodged in writing to the Executive Officer. The Executive Committee to have 14 days to deal with the application.

14.2. Changes to the By-Laws must be ratified by a simple majority at a Special General Meeting and eligible to vote. In the event of a tied vote the chair of the meeting shall have the casting vote.

14.3. Any additions to be accompanied by a Date of adoption.