

FAR NORTH COAST HOCKEY INCORPORATED



**Men's & Junior's Subcommittee**

**RULES AND BY-LAWS**

June 2009

# **Far North Coast Hockey Incorporated** **Men's and Junior's Subcommittee Management Rules**

## **Rules and By-Laws** (June 2009)

These rules and by-laws consists of three (3) parts:

1. General Rules;
2. Competition By-laws; and
3. Judiciary Committee Procedures.

These rules and by-laws shall only be altered at an Annual Meeting or Special General Meeting convened for that purpose. Such alterations shall only be adopted if approved by a three-quarters (3/4) majority of those duly authorised persons present and voting.

## **Part One – General Rules**

### **1. Title**

This Body will be known as the Far North Coast Hockey Incorporated Men's and Junior's Subcommittee and referred to in this document as "the Committee".

### **2. Objects of the Committee**

The objects of the Committee are to:

- a) foster and promote the game of hockey on the Far North Coast;
- b) control and administer the game of hockey in this area; and

### **3. Members of the Committee**

Members of the Committee are defined as those clubs admitted for affiliation at each Annual Meeting.

#### **4. Admission for Affiliation**

The Committee may admit for affiliation those clubs it deems appropriate, subject to the following conditions:

- a) any club seeking affiliation with the Committee shall do so by making application in writing and include information on club colours and uniform design;
- b) no club shall be admitted for affiliation if it has a membership less than thirteen (13) players. Should a club's membership fall below the requisite thirteen (13) players, the club's affiliation with the Committee may be revoked, at the discretion of the Committee. If and when said club has thirteen (13) players, re-admission of affiliation, on written application, will be made without penalty;
- c) affiliation shall be granted on a simple majority vote of the Committee;
- d) upon affiliation being granted, the club becomes liable for any registration and affiliation fees that are decided at any Annual General Meeting;
- e) in affiliating with this Committee, all clubs shall give complete and unconditional acceptance of this the Competition By-laws and Judiciary procedures;
- f) any club may withdraw its affiliation from the Committee at any time. Should such club seek re-admission, then it will be assessed as for a new club;
- g) should any club withdraw from affiliation or be have its affiliation withdrawn, said club shall be liable for all monies owed to the Far North Coast Hockey Inc to that date; and
- h) a club's affiliation may be withdrawn for reasons not stated or specified in the Rules on a three-quarters (3/4) majority vote of the members present at a Special General Meeting convened for that purpose. This can only take place if all clubs shall be represented at such a meeting. If all clubs are not represented then the affected club can be suspended indefinitely until such time that all clubs can be represented and a resolution reached on any such matter.

#### **5. Control of the Committee**

The control and management of these Rules and By Laws is vested in the Committee, subject to the terms and conditions of these Rules and any regulations as prescribed by

the membership at the Annual Meeting, Special General Meeting or General Meeting of the Committee.

The Executive consists of the President, Secretary and Vice President and has the power to make decisions and rulings on matters of urgency and the day-to-day running of the Committee. These decisions and rulings shall be referred to the next General Meeting for Committee ratification.

Control of the Committee is subject to the following conditions:

- a) the Committee shall consist of the following Officers:
  - (i) President;
  - (ii) Vice-President, Junior Chairperson automatically appointed;
  - (iii) Secretary;
  - (iv) Assistant Secretary, Junior Registrar automatically appointed;
  - (v) Life Members; and
  - (vii) One delegate appointed by each club
  
- b) **Junior sub-committee positions include:**
  - (i) Chairperson
  - (ii) Junior Registrar.
  
- c) non-Committee positions include:
  - (i) **Draw Secretary two (2) 1 senior and 1 junior;**
  - (ii) **Recording Secretary two(2) 1 senior and 1 junior;**
  - (iii) Senior Selection/Grading Committee of three (3), each delegate from a different club;
  - (iv) Veteran Selection Committee of three (3), each delegate from a different club;
  - (v) Judiciary Committee of five (5), President and Secretary are automatic members with the other three (3) members each from a different club. All clubs must nominate a delegate. If the President and Secretary are from the same club, then the nominated club delegate shall be the last reserve;
  - (vi) Umpires Committee of three (3), one of whom shall be Umpires Convenor;
  - (vii) Coaches Convenor;

- (viii) Publicity Officer;
- (ix) Junior Selection committee of three (3) for each age division, each delegate from a different club for a division. Coach of number 1 (a) team of each age division is automatically appointed:
  - (x) Two Far North Coast Hockey Inc. delegates; and
  - (xi) Coaches and Managers of Committee representative teams.
- d) All the above positions require a simple majority for election except for:
  - (i) Life Members require a three-quarters (3/4) majority vote; and
  - (ii) Delegates for the Judiciary Committee are required to be ranked from one (1) to eight (8). The first five (5) will be included on the Committee, with the last three (3) being called on as reserves, in their elected order.
- e) the above Officers shall be elected annually at the Committee's Annual Meeting and shall hold office for that year subject to clause 5(g). Each Officer shall retire at each Annual General Meeting and are eligible for re-election;
- f) each club shall notify the Secretary, in writing, within seven (7) days of the Annual General Meeting of nominees for any position in the Committee. No nomination shall be accepted from the floor of the Annual General Meeting unless the nominee is present and accepts the nomination;
- g) any casual vacancy occurring in the Committee shall be filled by resolution of the Committee. Any person so chosen shall retire at the next Annual General Meeting;
- h) any Officer found to be incompetent in fulfilling his/her duties in that position shall be removed by three-quarters (3/4) majority vote of the Committee, and the Office shall be filled as for clause 5(f). In the case of a club delegate, the Committee shall direct the club concerned to replace the delegate; and
- i) all Officers of the Committee (except club delegates) shall remain impartial and not represent the interests of a club, but the interests of the **Committee**

## **6. Duties of Officers**

### **A. Committee Positions:**

- a) the President shall:
  - (i) preside over all meetings of the Committee the Executive and the Judiciary Committee;
  - (ii) represent the Committee to other bodies; and
  - (iii) remain impartial when making all decisions.
  
- b) the Junior Chairperson/Vice-Presidents shall:
  - (i) take the place of the President when he/she is unavailable and undertake the duties of the President as set out in Clause 6.A.a);
  - (ii) remain impartial when making all decisions.
  - (ii) preside over all meetings of the Junior Sub committee
  
- c) the Secretary shall:
  - (i) keep an accurate record of the proceedings (minutes) of each Committee meeting in an appropriate journal;
  - (ii) post a copy of the minutes to all clubs following a meeting;
  - (iii) receive all correspondence relating to the Committee;
  - (iv) transmit all correspondence as directed by the Committee;
  - (v) organise and carry out undertakings as directed by the Committee;
  - (vi) keep accurate records of all undertakings of the Committee; and
  - (vii) be responsible for the safe-keeping of all records of the Committee; and
  - (viii) remain impartial when making all decisions.
  
- d) the Junior Registrar/Assistant Secretary shall:
  - (i) take the minutes of any meeting of the Men's and Juniors at his convenience;
  - (ii) remain impartial when making all decisions.
  - (iii) keep an accurate record of the Junior Members;
  - (iv) receive and transmit all correspondence in relation to junior members;
  - (v) organise and carry out duties as directed by the Men's and Junior committee;
  - (vi) present a copy of minutes including correspondence from the junior subcommittee meetings to the committee for approval:
  
- e) Life Members shall:

- (i) represent the Committee in an official capacity; and
- (ii) remain impartial when making all decisions.

f) Club Delegates shall:

- (i) attend all meetings of the Committee;
- (ii) consider all issues at each meeting with regard to their respective clubs;
- (iii) ensure that their respective clubs are kept up to date on the issues before the Committee;
- (iv) present to the meetings of the Committee their respective club's position on such issues; and
- (v) and present to the meetings of the Committee any issue on behalf of their respective club.

B. Non-Committee Positions:

a) the Draw Secretary shall:

- (i) regarding the directions of the Committee, liaise with the Far North Coast Women's Committee to determine the artificial turf playing times and co-ordinate use of grass venues;
- (ii) prepare a suitable draw for the Committee, for all grades, with regard to Clause 6.B.a) (i) and the Rules;
- (iii) present such draw to the Committee for adoption; and
- (iv) remain impartial when making all decisions.

b) the Recording Secretary shall:

- (i) keep accurate and up-to date records of the competition including goals for and against for each team, point-scores of all grades and a list of dates and players receiving yellow cards (temporary suspensions); and
- (ii) remain impartial when making all decisions.

c) the Senior Selection/Grading Committee shall:

- (i) conduct trials, as required, for the selection of players to represent the FNC at any fixture in senior or U/21 competition;
- (ii) examine the team lists of all the clubs, at the beginning of the season, to determine the appropriate grading of players, regarding Part four (4) of the Competition By-laws;
- (iii) throughout the season, review the grading of players in all grades;
- (iv) require a simple majority for all decisions; and
- (v) remain impartial when making all decisions.

d) the Veteran Selection Committee shall:

- (i) conduct trials, as required, for the selection of players to represent the FNC at any fixture in veterans competition;
  - (ii) require a simple majority for all decisions; and
  - (iii) remain impartial when making all decisions.
- e) the Judiciary Committee shall:
  - (i) conduct hearings in accordance with the Judiciary Committee Procedures of this Constitution; and
  - (iii) remain impartial when making all decisions.
- f) the Umpires Committee shall:
  - (i) assign umpires to all FNC Hockey Inc fixtures, ensuring umpires of appropriate ability are appointed;
  - (ii) provide the Umpires Convenor with expertise and support in the development and maintenance of skilled umpires; and
  - (iii) remain impartial when making all decisions.
- g) the Umpires Convenor shall:
  - (i) provide all umpires with on-going coaching and assessment/testing for the award of appropriate umpiring badges;
  - (ii) with the aid of suitably qualified personnel, regularly assess and give advice to all umpires appointed to Reserve Grade and A Grade matches on performance;
  - (iii) convene, on a regular basis, forums for discussion and interpretation of the rules of hockey and Directions to Umpires; and
  - (iv) remain impartial when making all decisions.
- h) the Coaches Convenor shall:
  - (i) assess the number of qualified coaches and endeavour to increase their number;
  - (ii) conduct coaching courses, updates and other seminars;
  - (iii) liaise with AHA and NSWHA for resources; and
  - (iv) remain impartial when making all decisions.
- i) the Publicity Officer shall:
  - (i) seek to expose the game of hockey in all forms of the media; and
  - (ii) remain impartial when making all decisions.

- n) Each Far North Coast Hockey Inc. Delegate shall:
  - (i) represent the interests of this Committee to the Far North Coast Inc Board and
  - (ii) report to each General Meeting on the issues affecting this Committee.
  
- o) the Coach of a representative team shall:
  - (i) organise, announce and conduct training sessions for the squad;
  - (ii) liaise with the Selection/Grading Committee in the selection of the team;
  - (iii) carry out duties as directed by the Committee;
  - (iv) accompany the team to all representative matches/functions;
  - (v) make all selections for those representative matches; and
  - (vi) remain impartial when making all decisions.
  
- p) the Manager of a representative team shall:
  - (i) liaise with the Committee regarding transport and accommodation;
  - (ii) carry out duties as directed by the Committee;
  - (iii) distribute and collect Far North Coast uniforms. If required, determine a uniform order;
  - (iv) allocate accommodation;
  - (v) be responsible for the welfare and discipline of team members;
  - (vi) accompany the team to representative matches/functions;
  - (vii) submit a written report to the Committee following the completion of the representative duties of the team; and
  - (viii) remain impartial when making all decisions.
  
- q) the Junior Selection Committee shall:
  - (i) conduct trials, as required, for the selection of players to represent the Far North Coast Hockey at junior fixtures;
  - (ii) require a simple majority for all decisions; and
  - (iii) remain impartial when making all decisions;

## **7. Finance**

The finance of the Committee shall be controlled and managed by Far North Hockey Inc Board, subject to the following conditions:

- a) no liabilities shall be incurred on behalf of the Committee by any Officer without the prior approval of the Far North Coast Hockey Inc Board;
- b) no monies shall be paid on behalf of the Committee by any Officer without approval of the Far North Coast Hockey Inc Board;

## 8. Meetings of the Committee

The following general conditions shall apply:

- a) each Officer or Delegate present at any meeting of the Committee is entitled to one (1) vote on each motion and amendment, except the President (or his/her deputy), who shall be entitled to a casting vote as well as a deliberative vote;
- b) the President, or his/her Deputy, with the consent of the meeting, may adjourn any meeting of the Committee. Only unfinished business shall be dealt with when, and if, this adjourned meeting is reconvened;
- c) General Meetings of the Committee shall be held monthly during the hockey season, or as directed by the Committee;
- d) Special General Meetings shall be called as directed by the Committee for a specific purpose or on written application of at least two (2) affiliated clubs. If the petitioned meeting is not called within seven (7) days, the petitioners shall proceed to call the meeting;
- e) the Secretary shall be given fourteen (14) days written notice of any business an affiliated club wishes to be discussed at the next meeting of the Committee;
- f) any affiliated club owing overdue monies to the Far North Hockey Inc shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Committee and may participate in matches under the control of the Committee, but do so under forfeit conditions [By-laws clause 2.e)(iv)], until such time as said monies are paid;
- g) any affiliated club not represented by their delegate at any meeting of the Committee shall, at the discretion of the Committee, be liable to a fine of \$50.00 for non-attendance; and
- h) when any affiliated club has not attended any meeting of the Committee on three (3) consecutive occasions, that club shall have its affiliation reviewed.

The following specific conditions shall apply:

- a) Annual Meetings:
  - (i) shall be conducted on the **3rd Sunday in October** each year, unless otherwise determined by the Committee, to elect Officers and to transact other such business as is necessary;

- (ii) shall consist of the Officers of the Committee. Each affiliated club shall be allowed an extra three (3) delegates; and
  - (iii) a quorum shall consist of not less than four (4) Officers with not less than three-quarters (3/4) of clubs represented.
  - (iv) Clubs who are not represented by their delegates at the Annual Meeting shall at the discretion of the Committee be liable to a fine of \$150.00 for non-attendance.
- b) Special General Meetings:
- (i) shall consist of the Officers of the Committee. Each affiliated club shall be allowed an extra three (3) delegates; and
  - (ii) a quorum shall consist of not less than four (4) Officers with not less than three-quarters (3/4) of clubs represented, except as specified in Clause 4.h).
- c) General Meetings shall require a quorum of eight (8) Officers/Delegates.
- d) **Junior sub committee meetings shall be prior to the Men's committee general meetings.**

## **9. Trophies of the Committee**

The following conditions apply to the trophies of the Committee:

- a) all trophies issued shall remain the property of the Committee and shall be competed for annually;
- b) the Committee reserves the right to withdraw a trophy from competition if circumstances warrant; and
- c) The Committee shall present to each winning team a duplicate trophy.

## **Part Two – Competition By-laws**

The game of hockey administered by the Far North Coast Hockey Inc and the Committee on the Far North Coast shall be governed by the Rules of Hockey issued by FIH, any Directives to Umpires issued by AHA or NSWHA and by the following By-laws. These By-laws take precedence over the Rules of Hockey and Directives to Umpires.

### **1. Competition**

Hockey competitions conducted by the Committee are subject to the following conditions:

- a) the competition for each grade shall be determined by the Committee following team nominations received by the Draw Secretary;
- b) each grade shall play a pre-season, minor and major competition;
- c) the pre-season and minor competitions shall follow a round-robin format, where each team shall play all other teams in that grade at least once. However, there may be exceptions in the pre-season competition to allow all grades to finish the minor competition at the same time; and
- d) the number of rounds played shall be determined by the Draw Secretary and variations between grades may occur. Alterations may be required with team withdrawals.
- e) age limit juniors all players participating in the junior age competitions must be under the specified age on the 1st January of the competition year only exceptions are to be approved at a General meeting.

### **2. Declaration of Winners**

Winning teams in Committee competitions are subject to the following conditions:

- a) following the minor competition, the leading team in each grade shall be Minor Premiers;
- b) following the minor competition, the leading four (4) teams in each grade shall proceed to the major competition;
- c) in each grade, the team with the greater number of goals in any final, shall be the winner;
- d) during the pre-season and minor competitions in each grade, points shall be awarded as follows:

- (i) three (#) points for a win;
  - (ii) one (1) point for a draw;
  - (iii) zero (0) points for a loss or bye; and
  - (iv) should a team forfeit, the opposing team shall be awarded three (3) points and three (3) goals.
- e) in the event of tied positions at the completion of the pre-season or minor competitions, goal average (goals for divided by goals against) shall be used to determine final placings;
- f) in each grade, the major competition shall consist of the following format:
- (i) two (2) semi-finals – 1v2 and 3v4;
  - (ii) one (1) final – loser 1v2 plays winner 3v4, winner 1v2 proceeds to grand final, loser 3v4 eliminated;
  - (iii) one (1) grand final – winner 1v2 semi-final plays winner final, loser final eliminated; and
  - (iv) grand final winner declared Major Premiers, and loser eliminated.
- g) in the event that semi-finals, finals and grand finals are drawn at full-time, then:
- (i) if the match is drawn at full time. Then two (2) players from each team shall leave the field every five (5) minutes until a goal is scored with that team being declared the winner. That is, following full time each team shall have nine (9) players. After five (5) minutes, if no winner results, then each team shall have (7) players, and so on. Those players who leave the field can be used as substitutes.
  - (iii) minimum of five (5) players till a goal is scored;

### **3. Match Play**

Matches played in Committee competitions are subject to the following conditions:

- a) teams shall be ready, on the ground, to commence matches at the times set by the Draw Secretary;
- b) any team taking the field with less than eight (8) at the appointed time shall be deemed to have forfeited the match;
- c) all players taking the field shall be dressed in their club uniform that has been approved by the Committee. Any player not dressed appropriately shall be prohibited from taking part in the match by the umpire;

- d) for all matches, each team shall provide a hockey ball as set out in Rule three (3) of the Rules of Hockey;
- e) each team shall be allowed to use not more than sixteen (16) players with not more eleven (11) to take the field at the same time;
- f) at the commencement of each match, all captains shall hand to the umpires a Committee team card listing the names of the players taking part and only those listed shall play;
  - i) that winning teams playing a player not listed on the card lose the match and that a 3 nil result recorded against them. The match being awarded to the losing team.
  - ii) captains of both teams are to fill out both score cards before they are to participate in the match. This is done before it is to commence. If not done they are not to take part in the match till this is completed, the match is to go ahead without the captains.
- g) at the completion of the match, the umpires shall record the result and any player receiving a card. The team cards shall then be returned to the captains for signature;
- h) umpires shall be responsible for allotting best-and-fairest points;
- i) the team cards shall be returned to the Recording Secretary in the box at the hockey centre, but no later than the Tuesday following each match;
- j) any club not returning team cards shall be subject to sanctions deemed appropriate by the Executive;
- k) teams forfeiting a match shall be subject to the following conditions:
  - (i) the forfeiting team shall make every endeavour to notify their opponents by 4.00 PM for Friday night matches , 10.00 AM for Saturday matches and 9.00 AM for Sunday matches. Every effort shall be made to avoid unnecessary travelling for the opposing team;
  - (ii) the club of any team forfeiting after the prescribed times shall be liable for a \$50.00 fine, payable prior to the team's next match; and
  - (iii) the forfeiting team of any club not paying the fine may take part in further competition matches but do so under forfeit conditions [part 2 e)(iv)] until the fine is paid.
- l) matches postponed shall be subject to the following conditions:

- (i) any club seeking to have a match postponed must seek the approval of the opposing club. Communication shall be between Club Secretaries;
- (ii) the postponement request shall then be referred to the Executive 14 days prior to the original match date and, if approved, the Executive shall reschedule the match;
- (iii) matches on grass may be postponed due to excessive rain. The Executive will seek the advice of Club Secretaries on the condition of fields in outlying centres. Information on postponement will be relayed via 2LM; and
- (iv) matches on the artificial surface may only be delayed when, in the opinion of umpires weather conditions warrant a delay. Play shall continue when safe to do so.

#### **4. Players and Teams**

Only teams from clubs affiliated with the Committee are able to participate in any competition conducted by the Committee and the following conditions apply:

- a) all players in Far North Coast Hockey competitions must be registered, with all clubs required to provide to the Selection/Grading Committee a complete list of their players. Information should include name, address, phone number and age of each player. These lists shall be supplied on Committee team lists, by the first Friday of the pre-season competition;
- b) any team playing an unregistered player shall forfeit all the matches in which the player was used to their opponents;
- c) any player wishing to transfer to another club must seek a clearance from his registered club. No club shall refuse a request a clearance unless the player is unfinancial. Said clearance shall also be reported to the next General Meeting of the Committee
- d) the Selection/Grading Committee shall grade all teams and regrade players if required;
- e) clubs requesting regrading or a review of a regrading shall:
  - (i) ring a Selection/Grading Committee member, independent of the club concerned, with request/review;
  - (ii) provide to the Committee Secretary written notice, on club letterhead, with reasons for request/review;
  - (iii) result of request/review shall be phoned to the Club Secretary; and
  - (ii) written notice of result and reasons shall be sent to the Club Secretary.

(iii) A special Appeals Committee to be elected, comprising of 3 or 5

members. These committee members need not to be current hockey players.

(vi) Subject to all conditions having been met in Section 4 , f) ii, iii, iv. If a dispute is not resolved, the final appeal will be heard and dealt with by the Appeals Committee, who will examine all correspondence, and then call a Special meeting to hear all aspects of the appeal and the Grading Committee's rejection. This decision at the special meeting shall be final and binding.

- f) clubs shall register not less than eleven (11) players for each team entered in the pre-season competition. Not more than four (4) players shall be permitted to play in the next lowest grade;
- g) in the minor competition, clubs shall register not less than eleven (11) players and nominate eight (8) graded players for each team entered;
- h) clubs shall be permitted to substitute non-graded players (floaters) only to the next lower grade. If a club does not have a next lower grade then non-graded players are ineligible to play in lower grades;
- i) for clubs that have more than one (1) team in a grade, then both teams shall nominate eight (8) graded players;
- j) no player shall be eligible to play in the major competition in a specific grade unless he has played in not less than three (3) minor competition games in that grade;
- k) no player shall be permitted to play in the next lower grade once the major competition has commenced;
- l) no player shall be regraded after the commencement of the final round of the grade with the least amount of teams;
- m) the Recording Secretary shall check team cards weekly for any infringement of By-law four (4);i
- n) each infringement of By-law four (4) shall carry a fine of \$50.00. The team that contravenes By-law four (4) shall forfeit the game in which the infringement occurred to the opposition. Following any infringement, the said team may participate in matches conducted by the Committee, but shall be subject to forfeit conditions [part 2 e)(iv)] until the fine(s) is/are paid and the infringement(s) is/are corrected;
- o) any player receiving a red card shall appear before the Judiciary Committee;

- p) any player shall appear before the Judiciary Committee after exceeding an allowance of not more than three (3) yellow cards, where:
- (i) if suspended, the player shall re-appear after exceeding a reduced allowance of not more than two (2) yellow cards; and
  - (ii) if warned, the player shall reappear after receiving not more than one (1) yellow card and following that, be allowed a reduced allowance of not more than two (2) yellow cards.
  - (iii) Any player who abuses the umpire and receives a yellow card after the hooter/whistle when a game is completed, shall sit out the first ten minutes of the next game he is to play in. That team team to commence the game with ten players. Umpires are to note this on the score card and also advise the president of the Committee of this occurring.
- q) any player receiving one (1) yellow card during the major competition may, depending on past record, be required to appear before the Judiciary Committee.
- r) Points For Offence System:

The following are guidelines for Umpires to allocate a number of points for the seriousness of each Yellow and Red card issued. **The Umpire must interpret the seriousness of each offence** and write a point score next to the reason for the Yellow or Red card on the Match Result sheet.

The Umpire must still use their discretion as to the length of time off the field for any temporary suspensions and if the offence is serious enough to warrant a RED card.

### **YELLOW CARDS Guidelines**

#### **2 Point Offences:**

- Hitting the ball away after an infringement
- Failing to retire 5 yards after a free hit is awarded
- Delaying the opponent from taking a free hit
- Playing the ball which is above shoulder height
- Illegal left side tackle
- Misconduct
- Swearing
- Deliberate use of the foot to stop the ball

#### **3 Point Offences:**

- Derogatory remarks about the umpire
- Derogatory comments towards the umpire
- Dissension & swearing
- Serious illegal left side tackle

#### **4 Point Offences:**

- Barging/trapping/pushing
- Late tackle

- Swinging stick in tackle
- Dangerous/ over aggressive play
- Misconduct
- Very serious illegal left side tackle
- Bad stick or body tackle

**5 Point Offences:**

- Deliberate left side tackle bringing player down to the ground
- Wrestling
- Deliberately provoking opponent into retaliating
- Retaliating
- Confronting an opponent in a threatening manner
- Striking a player with a stick
- Barging/pushing
- Continual back chatting to umpire
- Running in to get involved in a melee

**Once a player has reached a total of 10 points from the above points allocation – the player is suspended for ONE (1) competition round.**

**For every two (2) additional points accumulated by the offending player a further ONE (1) competition round suspension is added to the penalty.**

**Examples:**

- A) if a player has accumulated 9 points and is given a 2 point offence allocation, the total accumulated would be 11 points and the player would be given a 1 week suspension.
- B) if a player has accumulated 11 points and is given a 2 point offence allocation, the total accumulated would be 13 points and the player would be given an additional 1 week suspension.
- C) if a player has accumulated 9 points and is given a 5 point offence allocation, the total accumulated would be 14 point and the player would be given a 3 week suspension.

**In addition, if a player reaches a total of 10 point or more, that player MUST appear before the Judiciary Committee to discuss the situation.**

Some examples of the circumstances where a Red Card could be issued by the umpires include: **Fighting; Deliberately hitting the player with a stick; Continual verbal abuse of an umpire.**

**If a player receives a RED Card, the player CANNOT play in a competition match until the Judiciary Committee has met to issue the relevant penalty.**

**However, if any player is given a RED Card, they have the right to appear before the Judiciary Committee to discuss the circumstances of the Red Card.**

**For every Red Card issued the player will receive an automatic ONE round suspension and the umpires are also asked to allocate a number of points (in a range of 2 to 5, being the most serious offence) depending on the seriousness of the offence. These points must be recorded on the Match Result Sheet.**

**These Red Card points will be added to a player's accumulated Yellow Card point score. Once a player has reached a total of 10 points – the player is suspended for ONE competition round.**

**Please Note:** If a player is given a second yellow card for the same offence during the match, the Umpire must issue a Red card to the player and the player is suspended for the remainder of the match. Points received for both Yellow cards must be recorded on the Match Results Sheet. The automatic one round suspension would apply if both the Yellow cards were adjudged as 5 point offences (unless the player has accumulated other points, which now total over the 10 point total).

**Any player who has received three (3) temporary suspensions (yellow cards), during the season shall incur a one round suspension. This one round suspension shall be next round (excluding a bye) following the third temporary suspension (yellow card). In the event of a bye occurring in the next round, in the grade in which the player is graded, then suspension shall apply to the following round. For every two subsequent temporary suspensions, following the one (1) round suspension, the player shall incur a further one (1) round suspension.**

## **5. Umpires**

In addition to those responsibilities detailed in the Rules of Hockey, Committee umpires shall have the following powers:

- a) any member of the Committee shall be subject to appropriate conduct at any Association fixture. Umpires have the power to issue a red card to any member behaving inappropriately;
- b) any umpire issuing a red card and the player receiving said card shall be bound by Part four (4) of the Judiciary Committee Procedures;
- c) any spectator, not a member of Far North Coast Hockey, behaving inappropriately at an Far North Coast Hockey fixture shall be subject to the following conditions:
  - (i) the spectator shall be instructed by the umpire to remove him/herself from the vicinity;
  - (ii) if any spectator refuses to do so, the match shall be stopped and the captain of the team which the spectator supports shall be instructed by the umpire that the match will not continue until the spectator abides with the ruling;

- (iii) any umpire shall treat such an incident as though issuing a red card and follow Part eight (8) of the Judiciary Procedures; and
  - (iv) the Judiciary Committee shall consider appropriate sanctions against the club concerned.
- d) any umpire unable to officiate at a Committee fixture must seek his/her own replacement of similar ability. Failure of an umpire to officiate shall result in the team in which he plays in having three (3) points deducted and a non-playing umpire's club shall be fined \$50.00; and
- e) team captains shall note on the team card when an umpire has not officiated and the Recording Secretary shall deduct the three (3) points and advise the Executive of said actions.

## **6. Home Grounds**

All clubs shall take some responsibility for their home grounds by:

- a) ensuring that the council responsible is servicing the grounds appropriately; and/or
- b) organising self-help sessions to keep the grounds in good order.

## **Part Three – Judiciary Committee Procedures**

### **1. Jurisdiction**

The Judiciary Committee shall have sole responsibility for:

- a) assessing the cases that come before it; and
- b) determining if and when penalties shall be imposed.

All decisions made by the Judiciary Committee shall be final and binding.

### **2. The Committee**

The Judiciary Committee shall be subject to the following conditions:

- a) the Judiciary Committee shall consist of:
  - (i) President;
  - (ii) Secretary;
  - (iii) three (3) elected club delegates; and
  - (iv) five (5) club delegate reserves.
- b) the President shall be Chairman of the Judiciary Committee with a casting vote and the Secretary shall take the minutes of all meetings;
- c) at the first meeting following the AGM, the Judiciary Committee members shall elect Senior and Junior Vice-Chairmen, who shall chair meetings if the Chairman is unavailable;
- d) if a Chairman is not available for a meeting, then the members shall elect a temporary Chair for that meeting;
- e) a quorum shall consist of not less than four (4) Judiciary Committee members;
- f) the Judiciary Committee shall disqualify any member from hearing a case where there may be a conflict of interest;
- g) Judiciary Committee delegate reserves shall be called on, in order of ballot, to replace members not available due to disqualification in clause 2 f); and
- h) when calling a meeting, the Secretary shall consider the possibility of members' involvement and ensure a quorum is formed.

### **3. Meetings**

Meetings of the Judiciary Committee shall be subject to the following conditions:

- a) ordinary meetings of the Committee shall be held at 7.00 PM on the Tuesday of any week, at a venue adjacent to the artificial surface (Far North Coast Clubhouse).
- b) extraordinary meetings to consider urgent matters shall be called by the Secretary, observing the conditions of Part two (2) of these procedures;
- c) the Judiciary Committee shall have the right to call any person or use any form of evidence in determining a case;
- d) the Judiciary Committee shall meet to consider the following:
  - (i) any player receiving a red card (other than that issued for two (2) yellow cards in the same match) as a player or as a spectator;
  - (ii) any player receiving yellow cards in excess of the allowances;
  - (iii) any player called to appear ;
  - (iv) any protest or dispute notified by a club; and
  - (v) the inappropriate behaviour of a non-playing spectator (club supporter).

### **4. Red Card as a Player or as a Spectator**

The following conditions apply to meetings convened for a red card issued as a player or as a spectator:

- a) any umpire issuing a red card or reporting inappropriate behaviour shall record the incident on the game card and shall notify the Secretary, verbally or in writing, within 48 hours of the incident;
- b) the Secretary shall convene a Judiciary Committee meeting observing Part two (2) of these procedures;
- c) the umpire shall provide a written report to the Judiciary Committee meeting even if he/she is in attendance;
- d) the umpire is not required to attend the Judiciary Committee meeting but is expected they do so to support their actions;
- e) any player receiving a red card as a player or as a spectator, shall be suspended from participating in any representative matches, competition fixtures and any club fixtures, until his case is heard; and

- f) the player shall be able to call not more than two (2) persons who have witnessed the incident and/or present video evidence, if available.

## **5. Excessive Yellow Cards**

The following conditions apply to meetings convened for exceeding yellow card allowances:

- a) all umpires should accurately record reasons for issuing a yellow card on the game card;
- b) Recording Secretary to advise Secretary of any player exceeding yellow card allowances;
- c) the Secretary shall convene a Judiciary Committee meeting observing Part two (2) of these procedures;
- d) any player exceeding yellow card allowances shall be suspended from participating in any Committee representative matches, competition fixtures and any club fixtures, until his case is heard; and
- e) any player called to appear before the Judiciary Committee for excessive yellow cards shall not be allowed any witnesses and/or video evidence.

## **6. Player Called to Appear**

The following conditions apply to meetings convened where a player is called to appear before the Judiciary Committee:

- a) the Judiciary Committee has the right to call any player at any time provided such action has the support of four (4) members, where:
  - (i) the Secretary shall convene a Judiciary Committee meeting observing Part two (2) of these procedures; and
  - (ii) the Judiciary Committee shall determine whether the player concerned has the rights of a red card or those of excessive yellow cards.
- b) any club has the right make a complaint concerning any player of the Committee, where:
  - (i) the club must supply a thorough written description of the events stating who, what, where, when, why and how;

- (ii) the written notice shall be received by the Secretary within one (1) week of the alleged incident and be accompanied by a fee of \$200.00;
  - (iii) the Secretary shall convene a Judiciary Committee meeting observing Part two (2) of these procedures;
  - (iv) the Judiciary Committee shall consider the written notice and either:
    - 1. dismiss the application and retain the fee; or
    - 2. conduct a hearing to determine the circumstances and, if required, impose a appropriate penalties/sanctions. In this case the fee shall be refunded.
- c) any player concerned shall be suspended from participating in any Committee representative matches, competition fixtures and any club fixtures, until his case is heard

## **7. Protests or Disputes**

The following conditions shall apply to meetings convened to determine protests or disputes;

- a) any club may lodge a written protest or dispute with the Committee Secretary within three (3) days of the incident, accompanied by a fee of \$50.00;
- b) the club must supply a thorough written description of the events stating who, what, where, when, why and how;
- c) the Secretary shall convene a Judiciary Committee meeting observing Clause two (2) of these procedures; and
- d) the Judiciary Committee shall consider the written notice and either:
  - (i) dismiss the application and retain the fee; or
  - (ii) conduct a hearing to determine the circumstances and, if required, impose a appropriate penalties/sanctions. In this case the fee shall be refunded.

## **8. Inappropriate Behaviour of a Non-playing Spectator**

The following conditions apply to meetings convened for inappropriate behaviour of a non-playing-spectator:

- a) any umpire reporting inappropriate behaviour shall record the incident on the game card and shall notify the Secretary, verbally or in writing, within 48 hours of the incident;
- b) the Secretary shall convene a Judiciary Committee meeting observing Part two (2) of these procedures;
- c) the umpire shall provide a written report to the Judiciary Committee meeting even if he/she is in attendance;
- d) the umpire is not required to attend the Judiciary Committee meeting but is expected they do so to support their actions; and
- e) the club concerned shall be represented by their President and/or Secretary.

## **9. Suspension**

The following conditions apply to players serving a suspension:

- a) suspension shall be over a period of time;
- b) a player shall be unable to participate in any representative matches, competition fixtures and any club fixtures for the period of suspension;
- c) in the event of a bye, the player shall not play for the number of weeks suspension plus one (1) week for the bye, in his registered grade; and
- d) in the event of postponement or no scheduled games for a public holiday, the player shall not play for the number of weeks suspension plus those number of weeks for postponement or public holiday.

## **10. Confidentiality**

Judiciary Committee members should refrain from discussing cases. Each Judiciary Committee member should respect their position and be discreet with any comments they may choose to make.

At the discretion of the Judiciary Committee, a report concerning a case may be made to the Committee.

## **11. Voting by Judiciary Committee members**

After discussion of any case, the Judiciary Committee shall decide on a penalty or not. These actions shall be performed by secret ballot by the following method:

- a) in each case the first vote will be whether a suspension is required or not. A simple majority will determine same;
- b) The second vote, if required, shall be in support of a period of weeks, moved and seconded by two (2) Judiciary Committee members. This shall require a simple majority for success; and
- c) If the second vote is defeated, another period of weeks shall be moved and seconded, and so on, until a majority is found.

## **12. Appeals**

Appeals shall be subject to the following conditions:

- a) a club may appeal a decision made by the Judiciary Committee to the Committee when evidence that would have affected the decision was not available, becomes available
- b) the club must supply a thorough written description of this evidence stating who, what, where, when, why and how;
- c) this written application must be received by the Committee Secretary within three (3) days of the Judiciary Committee's decision, with a fee of \$200.00;
- d) the Committee shall consider the written notice and either:
  - (i) dismiss the application, confirm the Judiciary Committee decision and retain the fee; or
  - (ii) direct the Judiciary Committee to re-open the case. In this case the fee shall be refunded.
- e) in the event of a re-opened case, the Judiciary Committee shall consider the new evidence and make a decision accordingly.