

PORT MACQUARIE HASTINGS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

MATCH OFFICIALS' POLICY

Overview

This policy has been generated to reflect the motions and minutes of the various sub-committees of PMHHA around compliance of member clubs to undertake and fulfill match official duties.

Great effort has been placed into the development of playing rules and regulations over the years by member clubs and individuals to ensure that all member clubs commit to ensuring hockey is played in a safe and enjoyable manner.

This policy is to be read in conjunction with all umpires, technical official and other match officiating guidelines, policies and published information that supports hockey officials within PMHHA.

Umpires

Member Clubs are primarily responsible for the identification, training, coaching, mentoring and appointment of all individual umpires.

PMHHA will provide support to assist in the identification, training, and support of umpires.

PMHHA will maintain a list of competent umpires that, in their opinion, and based off individual assessments and collaboration with member clubs, are suitable umpires to use across the various grades of local hockey.

All member clubs will receive one (1) weekly umpiring appointment for every team in their club that plays in any given week or round of matches – i.e. if a member club enters 5 teams in local hockey, they will be responsible to fulfill 5 umpire duties every week / round of matches. Teams that have a BYE in any given week will not be allocated to fulfil an umpiring duty if at all possible.

PMHHA will appoint two (2) 'duty umpire teams' for each match. Each of these duty teams are to arrange a suitable umpire to fulfil the duty of umpire. Where possible, PMHHA will appoint the duty umpire teams on a 'match before / match after' basis except where an odd number of matches is played. Duties may not be on a 'match before / match after' basis when an odd number of matches are scheduled in any given grade on any given day.

It is the responsibility of the 'duty umpire team' to ensure that the duty is fulfilled. PMHHA will try to ensure that all 'duty umpire team' appointments are on the same playing day as the team in question.

All umpires are to be registered under the Hockey Australia / Hockey NSW registration process.

Technical Officials – 3rd Umpire

Member Clubs are primarily responsible for the identification, training, coaching, mentoring and appointment of all Technical Officials / 3rd Umpires (TOs).

PMHHA will provide support to assist in the identification, training and support of all TOs.

All member clubs will receive an even spread of TO's duties throughout the season. Teams that have a BYE in any given week will not be allocated to fulfil a TO duty if at all possible.

PMHHA will appoint one (1) 'duty TO team' for each match. These duty teams are to arrange a suitable person to fulfil the duty of TO. Where possible, PMHHA will appoint the duty TO teams on a 'match before / match after' basis except where an odd number of matches is played. Duties may not be on a 'match before / match after' basis when an odd number of matches are scheduled in any given grade on any given day.

It is the responsibility of the 'duty TO team' to ensure that the duty is fulfilled. PMHHA will try to ensure that all 'duty TO team' appointments are on the same playing day as the team in question.

All TO's are to be registered under the Hockey Australia / Hockey NSW registration process.

Obligations to PMHHA

The match umpires, and TOs, along with both team Captains are the official representatives of PMHHA for the duration of any given match and are to promote and conduct themselves accordingly.

The umpires are to ensure that the match is played in a fair and sport-like manner in line with current FIH rules, local playing rules and policies and they behave in a manner befitting that of a hockey umpire.

The TO is to ensure that they fulfil the duties of a TO as stipulated in any PMHHA policy on the duties of a TO and they behave in a manner befitting that of a hockey umpire.

The captains are responsible for the behaviour of the players under their control.

Match Reports

Collectively, the umpires, TO and Captains are to ensure that the match report is correctly filled out, all injuries and incidents are recorded, and the card represents a 'true and accurate record' of the match. Ultimately however, the TO is responsible for the correct administration and completion of the match reports and their submission to PMHHA Management.

Risk Management

The match report may be used in evidence in any judiciary investigation, insurance claim, civil or criminal actions and its completeness and accuracy is an imperative tool in PMHHA risk management.

Persons are limited to officiating in an Umpiring capacity to a maximum of three (3) games in any given week to manage mental fatigue.

Persons are limited to officiating in a Technical Officer capacity to a maximum of three (3) games in any given week to manage mental fatigue.

Penalties

PMHHA management shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with this Policy.

Where non-compliance with this policy is detected, the following shall apply;

- First offence – the team from which the Umpire or TO is representing shall lose one (1) competition point,
- Second offence – the team from which the Umpire or TO is representing shall lose (3) competition points,
- Third offence – the team from which the Umpire or TO is representing shall lose six (6) competition points, and a \$150 fine attributed to the Member Club, payable to the Association within two (2) weeks from notification,
- For the fourth or any subsequent offences by any person from a team, the matter will be deemed systemic and referred PMHHA Management for further action,
- Where the performance of an umpire is not acceptable, their behaviour is not to standard, or their names are illegible / missing on match reports, they may have their match honorarium withheld, suspended or terminated at the discretion of PMHHA Management.

Where an umpire or TO is appointed directly by PMHHA Management or is from outside of the jurisdiction of PMHHA and appointed by PMHHA, PMHHA reserve the right to withhold match honorariums or impose other penalties that are consistent with this policy and other relevant policies of Hockey Australia, Hockey NSW and PMHHA, for any breeches of this policy.

Definitions

For the purposes of clarity, the following interpretation shall apply.

- Offence
 - Failing to provide / fulfill an umpire duty,
 - Failing to provide / fulfill a TO duty,
 - Using an umpire / TO deemed 'not competent',
 - Incorrect details on, or incomplete match reports, and
 - Officiating greater than 3 matches in any week.
- Round / Week – means the same thing – all hockey played within Monday – Sunday in any given calendar week,
- Game / Match – means the same thing. A game or match is played within a round / week.

NOTE: *A person may umpire 3 games as well as TO 3 games, in any given week.*