



2021 SENIOR COMPETITION RULES



Senior Competition Rules 2020

Senior Competition Rules: Intent and Purposes	1
1. Definitions	2
2. Conduct of matches	3
2.1 Match conditions	3
2.2 Team conditions	3
2.3 Club uniforms	4
2.4 Ground conditions	4
2.5 Blood rule	5
3. Forfeits and withdrawals	5
3.1 Forfeits	5
3.2 Withdrawals	6
4. Officiating	6
4.1 Technical Officials	6
4.2 Umpiring	7
5. Misconduct	7
5.1 Misconduct cards	8
5.2 Suspensions	9
6. Player qualification	9
6.1 Qualifying Season player qualification	9
6.2 Two games in a week	10
6.3 Permit Player	10
6.4 Finals qualification	10
7. Match reporting	11
7.1 Protests	11
8. Ineligible players	12
9. Premiership table	12
10. Finals	13
10.1 Format for Finals	13
10.2 Tie breakers	14
11. Situations not covered by these Rules	15
12. Seeking an unfair advantage	15
Appendix A: Lightning	15
Appendix B: Green, yellow and red misconduct cards	16

Senior Competition Rules: Intents & Purposes

A Authority

The Senior Competition Rules should be read in conjunction with the Peel Hockey Affiliation Rules and FIH Rules of Hockey. The FIH Rules of Hockey are an important source of information regarding how matches should be conducted. However, where the Senior Competition Rules differ from the FIH Rules of Hockey, then the Senior Competition Rules will apply.

To the extent of any inconsistency with any other rule or by-law of Peel Hockey, these Rules prevail.

B Purpose

The Senior Competition Rules are intended to:

- (a) encourage the largest amount of participation at all levels of our sport;
- (b) create an atmosphere of sportsmanship, equality and fair play; and
- (c) penalise Clubs who seek to gain an unfair advantage.

C Rules

The Rules contained within the body of the Senior Competition Rules apply to all Clubs and Teams, regardless of their position within the Competition structure.

1. Definitions

In these rules, unless contrary intention appears:

- “**Administrator**” refers to Peel Hockey’s Administrator
- “**Association**”, “**Peel Hockey**” both refer to the name of the Peel Hockey Association (Inc.) its Board, Employees and Committees.
- “**Club**” means any Club or Association, or any other group within Australia or overseas controlling the playing of field hockey, according to the rules of hockey.
- “**Committee**” refers to a Committee that is set up by Peel Hockey to carry out delegated functions or powers of Peel Hockey
- “**Competition**” means the competitions controlled by Peel Hockey
- “**FIH**” refers to the International Hockey Federation
- “**Final**” refers to any of the series of matches played at the end of the Qualifying Season to determine the Premier.
- “**Fixture Week**” refers to a period during which a set of fixtures for that Competition takes place as set out in Peel Hockey’s season calendar.
- “**Members**” are Clubs (includes Schools) and Associations affiliated with Peel Hockey
- “**Online Portal**” refers to the online competitions, fixtures and results portal used by Peel Hockey.
- “**Permit Player**” is a player who has met the criteria in Rule 6.3.
- “**Player**” refers to any player regardless of their position, includes field players and goalkeepers.
- “**Protective Headgear**” refers to a full goalkeeping helmet, not just a facemask.
- “**Protests and Disputes Tribunal and Protest Fee** have the meanings given to them in the Peel Hockey Affiliation Rules
- “**Qualifying Season**” is defined as the round games played prior to the Final series
- “**Regular Grade**” is the grade in which a player has played most of their matches in the current season at that point in time up to and including the last qualifying round. Where a player has played an equal number of matches in more than one grade, his/her Regular Grade will be the higher of those grades.
- “**Rules of Hockey**” means current edition of the FIH Rules of Hockey.
- “**Season Premier**” refers to the Team in each grade that finishes on top of the premiership table at the end of the Qualifying Season
- “**Senior Competition**” refers to the Senior Competition
- “**Teams**” means a number of players registered with a Club and designated by that Club to represent it in a scheduled match in the competition.
- “**Winter Season**” means a winter hockey season competition run by Peel Hockey, including junior competitions, the first day of which shall be the date of the first match of the competition and the last day of which shall be the date of the grand final of the competition for that season.

2. Conduct of matches

2.1 Match conditions

- (a) The fixture week is deemed to be Friday through to the following Thursday.
- (b) Double Headers named as such, will be classed as two (2) fixture rounds. All other divisions will be deemed to be on a bye week.
- (c) All matches must be played on the date and time and at the ground nominated, unless determined by Peel Hockey.
- (d) A match will consist of:

Four (4) periods of play	Timing of play	Intervals of play immediately preceding the nominated period of play	Other match conditions
First quarter	Seventeen (17) minutes	First interval will be two (2) minutes	No end swap, same team passes back on recommencement Teams must remain on the pitch during the interval
Second quarter	Seventeen (17) minutes	Half-time interval will be three (3) minutes	Teams must swap ends after half-time, other Team passes back on recommencement
Third quarter	Seventeen (17) minutes	Third interval will be two (2) minutes	No end swap, same team passes back on recommencement Teams must remain on the pitch during the interval
Fourth quarter	Seventeen (17) minutes	Fourth interval will be the end of the match	Not applicable

- (c) A maximum period of ten (10) minutes may be added for delays or interruptions but the match must conclude at a time which is the earlier of:
 - (i) five (5) minutes before the scheduled commencement of the next match scheduled to take place on the same field; or
 - (ii) eighty-three (85) minutes after the commencement of play.
- (d) Each Team must provide at least one (1) white hockey ball of standard requirements in serviceable condition, to the satisfaction of the umpires.

2.2 Team conditions

- (a) Teams can comprise of up to sixteen (16) Players, of which a maximum of eleven Players (including any players who have been suspended by the Umpires) may be allowed on the field of play at one time. Players may be interchanged at any time except during penalty corners.

Each Team must play with either:

- (i) a goalkeeper with goalkeeping privileges wearing full protective equipment comprised of at least Protective Headgear (see definition), leg guards and kickers and a different coloured shirt; or

- (ii) 11 field players; no player has goalkeeping privileges or may wear a different colour shirt; no player may wear protective headgear except a face mask when defending a penalty corner or a penalty stroke; all team players wear the same colour shirt;

Any Team wanting to change between these options must make a substitution at a break in play when their team is in possession.

- (b) No Team is permitted to commence play with less than seven (7) Players in uniform.
- (c) A Team with less than eleven (11) Players may add extra players during the progress of a game until the full complement of eleven (11) Players is reached.
- (d) Two teams in same division.
 - (i) Core player list for clubs who have two (2) teams in the same competition to **be six (6) players that are ineligible to move** from Team 1 to Team 2 and vice versa
 - (ii) Clubs to advise Administrator by 4th fixture date of the six (6) player's names
 - (iii) Limit to 5 fill-in players and that the team be limited to 14 players.
 - (iv) Permit requests must be received by COB Wednesday prior to the game.
 - (v) The Permit Player must be clearly indicated on the second scorecard by a 'P' against the player's name

2.3 Club uniforms (refer also to Affiliation Rule 8)

Subject to any Special Rules the Club uniforms Rules are as follows:

Where both Teams have similar playing uniforms	If the playing uniforms of both Teams in a match are so similar that it may lead to a possible confusion, the second named Team must wear an alternate contrasting uniform (shirt and socks).
Skins and undergarments	Must be neutral coloured or one of the colours of the team uniform.
	The wearing of any peaked cap is not permitted unless it is made of a soft flexible material
Goalkeepers	Must wear an over shirt that is of a colour contrasting to the shirt colour of both Teams.
Recording a breach of these Rules	Technical Officers (or opposition Team managers where there is no Technical Officer) must record on the match report sheet, all Players not in registered uniform. Any special exception to Rule 2.3 will be at the discretion of the Technical Officer (or umpires where there is no Technical Officer).
Behaviour of Players when in uniform	When in uniform, a Player must not behave on any occasion in a manner which reflects discredit to Peel Hockey. A breach of this Rule may result in expulsion of the Player(s) or Club concerned from Peel Hockey.

2.4 Ground conditions

- (a) If the weather (refer to Appendix 'A' Lightning) or ground conditions are unsatisfactory, or there are any other extraordinary circumstances, a match may be postponed if both umpires and one captain/TO or Judge agree.
- (b) Where a match is postponed the following conditions will apply:

Situation prior to postponement	Outcome
The match had not started or was abandoned before quarter time	Match will be replayed in full
The match was abandoned at any point between quarter time and three-quarter time	The remaining time will be completed at a postponed time and place
The match was abandoned after three-quarter time	The match will be considered complete, no postponement or replay

- (c) Any match needing to be replayed or completed will be carried out at a time and venue determined by Peel Hockey
- (d) A postponed or replayed match will be deemed to have been played on the date originally fixtured.
- (e) If during the course of a match a Team declines to continue the match or to take it up where it left off, or if at any time during a match the number of its Players on the field is fewer than seven (7), this Team will be deemed to have lost the match. The opposing Team will be deemed to have won with the score standing at the time or by a score of three (3) goals to nil (0), whichever is the greater.

2.5 Blood rule

- (a) If a Player is bleeding they must immediately leave the field to receive treatment (substitution may be made).
- (b) If the bleeding Player does not leave the field voluntarily or when asked, the umpire may suspend them for misconduct.
- (c) The Player may return to the field once the bleeding has been controlled, the wound covered and any blood contaminated clothing changed. Managers need to have spare shirts and socks available for Players.
- (d) Recommendation for the cleaning of the playing area:
 - (i) If an area on the field becomes contaminated with blood, the umpire **MUST STOP** the game. The blood must be mopped up and the area washed with soapy water using a broom and again washed with clean water (this is the Technical Officer/Judge (or if no TO/Judge then umpires) responsibility when playing on artificial turf.
 - (ii) Equipment Required
 - 2 plastic buckets
 - 1 mop
 - 1 broom
 - Detergent
 - Disposable protective gloves
- (e) Grass Field: If an area on the field becomes contaminated with blood, the umpire must stop the game. The area should be cleaned so there is no chance of contamination.

3. Forfeits and withdrawals

3.1 Forfeits

- (a) If a Team does not have at least seven (7) Players on the field at any time then it shall forfeit the match.
- (b) If a Team does not take the field within five (5) minutes of the nominated starting time, it shall forfeit the game. Forfeiture of a game may incur a fine as per Fines schedule (refer to Peel Hockey Affiliation Rule 12.3)
- (c) If a Team forfeits a match, this will be recorded as having lost the game nil (0) goals to three (3), and the opposing Team is credited with three (3) premiership points.
 - (i) For a third and subsequent games forfeited in a season, a team shall incur a fine as set in the Fines Schedule (refer to Affiliations Rules Section 12)
- (d) A Team intending to forfeit without attending the venue must notify the Peel Hockey Administrator, the umpires or Club responsible for umpiring and phone contacts of the opposing Club, by 5pm Thursday prior to the fixture. Failure to notify all required personnel shall incur a fine as set in the Fines Schedule.
 - (i) To forfeit a match without attending the venue, the Team must have fewer than seven (7) Players available. Teams that attend a venue with more than seven

- (7) Players in attendance may still forfeit a match, but this decision must be made at the venue.
- (ii) Should a Team forfeit a match, without complying with this sub-rule (d), it will be responsible for all associated costs including administrative, ground hire and umpiring charges.
 - (iii) The penalty for failure to comply with this sub-rule (d) will not apply if a Team attempts to field a side but finds, on arrival at the ground, that they do not have the required minimum number of Players present.
- (e) When a Team forfeits or abandons a game after the game has started, it will be deemed to have lost the game. If the Team was losing at the time of the forfeit, goals scored for and against each Team will stand, or a three (3) goals to nil (0) result shall be awarded to the opposing Team, whichever results in a greater goal difference in favour of the non-forfeiting Team.
- (f) If the forfeiting Team was winning, or scores were level at the time of the forfeit, a three (3) goals to nil (0) result will be awarded to the non-forfeiting Team.

3.2 Withdrawals

- (a) When a Team withdraws after the commencement of the season all points and goals scored in games involving that Team prior to its withdrawal are cancelled.
- (b) When a Club has more than one Team in a Competition and wishes to withdraw a Team from a grade, it must withdraw the lowest grade in which it is represented in that Competition.

4. Officiating

An Association appointed Technical Officer/Judge or Umpire shall be considered a delegate with the authority of the Association during the progress of a match and proper respect due to them. Their rulings during the progress of the match shall be final and shall not be subject of dispute or argument.

Payments for Association appointed Technical Officers, Judges & Umpires to be set by the Peel Hockey annually.

4.1 Technical Officials

- (a) Peel Hockey may appoint Technical Officers/Judges to control matches in any grade. The function and powers of Technical Officers/Judges are as outlined in the Hockey Australia Australian Championship Operations Manual and as determined from time to time by Hockey WA.
- (b) Technical Officers/Judges/Umpires (where there is no TO/Judge) are to check player's shirt numbers on cards five (5) minutes before the commencement of all games.
 - (i) Technical Officers, Judges, Umpires, Senior Committee Executive must record on the scorecard all players not wearing registered uniform (includes suitable footwear) after the teams third (3rd) fixture date of the season. Failure to wear correct uniform will incur a fine as per Fines Schedule 12.3
 - (ii) Any special exception to the rules as to playing in uniform shall be at the discretion of the Senior Director or Administrator on written application.
- (c) No Player may enter the playing arena without the consent of the Technical Officer/Judge unless they are wearing their team's correct playing uniform and they display the correct number of their shirt.
- (d) Where a Technical Officer/Judge is present, the captain or manager of each Team must accurately complete the line-up sheet clearly indicating the starting eleven (11) and return it to the Technical Officer/Judge at least five (5) minutes before the scheduled start time of the game.

- (e) The Technical Officer/Judge will allow up to a maximum of four (4) non-playing persons on a Team bench during a game including the coach, assistant coach, manager and any medical staff, plus up to five (5) reserve Players. All medical staff present on a Team bench must have sufficient documentation of accreditation.
- (f) The Technical Officer/Judge can require any person on a Team bench who engages in loud or offensive behaviour to withdraw from the playing arena.

4.2 Umpiring (Also refer to Affiliation Rule 7.5)

Subject to any Special Rules the umpiring Rules are as follows:

- (a) Clubs shall provide umpires as directed by Peel Hockey
- (b) When a Club is designated to provide an umpire or umpires for a game and that Club fails to provide such umpire/umpires for that game then the Club shall be subject to
 - (i) The fine for each umpire not provided as set out in the Fines Schedule 12
 - (ii) The amount set annually by Peel Hockey is to be paid to the substitute umpire, via the Association Administrator.
- (c) All Umpires must wear appropriate clothing i.e. black shorts, trouser/pants, skirt and Association umpire shirt/jacket and appropriate footwear i.e. joggers, runners etc.
- (d) An umpire appointed by the Club to perform allocated umpiring duties must have played at a level equal to or higher than the division they are umpiring unless the umpire is an accredited umpire or permission has been obtained from Peel Hockey.
 - (i) No umpire under the age of 18 years is permitted to umpire a Senior Fixture unless they have received accreditation to umpire a senior game OR
 - (ii) Is accompanied by a qualified mentor and senior co-umpire
 - (iii) Failure of a club to adhere to Rule 4.2(d) will be subject to the fine as set out in the Fines Schedule 12.5.3
- (e) Umpires appointed by Peel Hockey shall be given precedence over all other umpires at any match must wear the appropriate uniform.
- (f) Where the allocated umpire(s) fails to arrive ten (10) minutes before the scheduled starting time a replacement umpire(s) must be sourced by the competing Teams. Failure to source a replacement umpire(s) will result in the competing Teams nominating a Player(s) to undertake the umpiring allocation.
 - (i) In the event that both Teams are required to nominate a Player umpire under sub-rule (b), failure of one (1) Team to do so will result in forfeiture of the match.
 - (ii) Failure of the allocated umpire(s) to attend the match does not give cause to request re-fixturing of the match.
- (g) If the allocated umpire(s) arrive after the commencement of the match, they may take the place of the replacement umpire(s) by agreement of both Teams.
- (h) A minimum of five (5) players from each team will be required to attend an Association sanctioned rule of hockey and/or interpretation session. Failure for the Club to have the required number attend will be subject to the fine as set out in the Fines Schedule 12
- (i) Each club will be required to have two (2) people achieve Community Level Umpire accreditation each year. Those clubs not achieving this requirement may be fined as per Fines Schedule 12

5. Misconduct

- (a) All Clubs, Players and Team officials must comply with Peel Hockey Codes of Behaviour. Any Club, Player or Team official considered by Peel Hockey to be in breach of any of the Codes of Behaviour may be fined or suspended or otherwise penalised as decided by the Peel Hockey's Protests and Disputes Tribunal.
- (b) In the event of excessive harassment of an umpire/TO/Judge by Coaches, Club officials or supporters, the umpire (or Technical Officer/Judge where applicable) has the power

to stop the game, call both captains and ascertain whether the offending person(s) is a coach, Club official or supporter.

(c) The procedure and consequences of harassment are as follows:

Offender engaged in harassment	Procedure and consequence
Coach or Club official	The offender's name and Club should be written on the match report and the relevant captain asked to warn the offender that if the harassment persists, the game may be suspended and allocation of points will be decided by the Protests and Disputes Tribunal.
Supporter	The offender must be ignored and the game continued. Peel Hockey may notify the Club after the game and require the Club to take action to address supporter behaviour.

(d) A Player may be reported by the umpire or opposing Team captain if they:

- (i) disputed the decision of any umpire;
- (ii) used insulting or abusive language before, during or after the match;
- (iii) performed a deliberate act contrary to fair play;
- (iv) caused interference or attempted to cause interference with the control exercised by an umpire during a match; or
- (v) acted in a manner likely to bring discredit on the game of hockey.

(e) A Player who is reported may be referred by Peel Hockey to the Protests and Disputes Tribunal for consideration of disciplinary action.

(f) The following personnel shall also have the power to report any player, team official or supporter for misconduct or any breach of Peel Hockey Rules.

- (i) An official Umpire's Coach or Mentor whilst in an observing capacity;
- (ii) A Director of Peel Hockey Board
- (iii) A Peel Hockey Employee
- (iv) A Club Executive member of the opposing team (on club letterhead)

5.1 Misconduct cards

A breach of the FIH Rules of Hockey may be dealt with in one of the following ways:

Action	Misconduct card	Duration of suspension for offending player	Imposition on offending Team
Verbal warning	None	No suspension	The Team does not play with any less Players
Warning/Temporary suspension	Green card	Two (2) minutes	The Team plays with one (1) less player
Temporary suspension	Yellow card	A minimum of three (3) minutes	The Team plays with one (1) less player
Permanent suspension	Red card	The remainder of the match, the next following Fixture Week for which they are available and they may face a tribunal where the tribunal will decide if further penalties are to be incurred	The Team plays with one (1) less player for the remainder of the match. Player remains seated in Penalty area.

(a) Misconduct cards cannot be contested after the fixture match except in the case of mistaken identity. A Player seeking to complain about mistaken identity in relation to a misconduct card may lodge a protest with Peel Hockey who will refer the matter to the Protests and Disputes Tribunal.

- (b) For further explanation of green, yellow and red cards and the procedure attached to each refer to **Appendix 'B'**.

5.2 Suspensions

- (a) Peel Hockey will notify Clubs whose players are suspended, either through accrual of yellow cards or as a direct result of a red card, with a minimum forty eight (48) hours notice prior to the next fixtured match.
- (b) For the avoidance of doubt, a Player will be available for a game unless the Player is serving one of the following:

Misconduct card	Rule (also refer to Appendix A)
Yellow card	When a Player accumulates three (3) yellow cards in any Peel Hockey game during the Competition season, a one (1) Fixture Week suspension from all Peel Hockey games will take effect upon notification by Peel Hockey
Yellow card	For every additional two (2) yellow cards a player receives in any Peel Hockey game during the Competition season, a two (2) Fixture Week suspension from all Peel Hockey games will take effect upon notification by Peel Hockey
Yellow card	When a Player accumulates two (2) yellow cards in any Peel Hockey game during a Finals series, a one (1) Fixture Week suspension will take effect in the next following Fixture Week for which they are available
Red card	The Player will be suspended for the next following Fixture Week for which they are available

- (c) For the purpose of Finals, all yellow cards will be removed from a Player's record at the end of the Qualifying Season.
- (d) If at the end of the qualifying season a player is due for suspension under Rule 5.3, then the suspension will be served in the next Fixture week for which they are available.
- (e) A player who is suspended during the qualifying season shall not be eligible to receive an Association Fairest and Best Award.

6. **Player qualification** (also refer to Affiliation Rule 9)

6.1 Qualifying Season player qualification

- (a) A Player may only play in one (1) Senior Competition match within the same Fixture Week, unless:
- (i) They are a Permit Player under Rule 6.3
 - (ii) Peel Hockey's Affiliation Rule 9.2.5 applies (which deals with playing more than one (1) match in a Fixture Week across different age restrictions) or
 - (iii) More than one (1) match in the same grade is scheduled to be played during the same Fixture Week;
- (b) A Player may play in any grade for which they are qualified provided that when that Player's Regular Grade has a bye or forfeits a game, they cannot play in a lower grade unless permission has been granted by Peel Hockey. Application for permission must be in writing and submitted to the Peel Hockey office two (2) full business days prior to the fixture. Peel Hockey will not give permission unless the Club can clearly demonstrate that an unfair advantage will not be obtained.
- This sub-rule (b) only applies after the first three (3) weeks of the Season.
- (c) Peel Hockey may declare a forfeit where it deems that a Club, without a satisfactory explanation to Peel Hockey, has played a disproportionate number of regular Players from a higher ranked Team in a lower ranked Team in a manner likely to gain an unfair advantage or to distort the rankings of the lower ranked grade.

- (d) During the Eligibility Period, a Team must not include more than two (2) Players whose Regular Grade immediately prior to the Eligibility Period, was in a higher ranked Team. The two (2) Players may only play one (1) match for that Fixture Week.
- (e) **AGE:** (refer to Affiliation Rule 9.3) Junior Players playing Seniors must have attained the following ages:
 - (i) MENS's – turning 15 years of age in year of competition
 - (ii) WOMEN'S – turning 15 years of age in year of competition
- (f) **GENDER:** Peel Hockey Senior Competitions are gender specific.
- (g) A player playing for another Club in METRO competition,
 - (i) Premier Division 1, 2 & 3 player may be eligible to play in Peel competition if their regular grade is Premier Division 1, 2 or 3 on written application from the President or Secretary of the Peel Club and complies with the following.
 - (ii) The Player resides within the Peel Hockey Region; and
 - (iii) The player has previously played for a member club of the Association;
 - (iv) The written application must be sent to the Administrator (5) five business days prior to the player's first game.
 - a. Peel Hockey will not give permission unless the Club can clearly demonstrate that an unfair advantage will not be obtained.
 - (v) Peel Hockey will review permission if one or more clubs submit a written complaint. Peel Hockey will seek feedback from other clubs before a decision is made either to withdraw permission or leave as is.
 - (vi) The player MUST be identified with an asterisk (*) on the scorecard
 - (vii) Asterisk players must play 50% of the season games to qualify for finals.
 - (viii) If a player plays without approval, it will be considered that the team has played an ineligible player – refer to Senior Competition Rule 8.
 - (ix) Clubs must apply to the Board each season for approval.

6.2 Two Games in a Week

- (a) No player is permitted to play in more than one Senior Competition game in any fixture week unless playing as a Permit Player or where more than one game in the same grade is scheduled to be played during the same week.
- (b) These rules shall not prevent a player from playing two Senior Competition games in the same fixture week:

6.3 Permit Player

- (a) The Rules about eligibility of a Permit Player are as follows:
 - (i) Goalkeeper permit (automatic). A Player may play two (2) games in the same fixture week if that player assumes the role of goalkeeper in both the games. Both games must be in the same or consecutively ranked Club teams.
 - (ii) Goalkeeper/Player permit (automatic) A player may take the field in one of the games as a goalkeeper and in the other game as a field player.
 - (iii) If a player plays as a field player and a goalkeeper throughout the season, that player can qualify for two finals, BUT can only qualify in a final for the position in which the player has played in that grade throughout the year.
 - (iv) In exceptional circumstances Peel Hockey may grant permission for a player to play in two games in a fixture week. Peel Hockey will not give permission unless the Club can clearly demonstrate that an unfair advantage will not be obtained. Permit requests must be received by close of business on the second last working day prior to the game.
 - (v) The Permit Player must be clearly indicated on the second scorecard by a 'P' against the player's name.

6.4 FINALS QUALIFICATIONS

- (a) To play in a Final:
 - (i) A player must have played at least five (5) fixtures prior to the finals for the Club in the Senior Competition, or have obtained the prior permission of Peel Hockey and

- (ii) A player must have played at least half of their games for the Winter Season for the same club in the grade they are seeking to play Finals or lower;
- (b) A player who has played the majority (more than half) of their games in a higher division, shall be ineligible to play in any lower division final, except in special cases where permission to return to lower division is given by the Association.
- (c) **Permission requests.** A written application must be lodged with the Administrator by Tuesday prior to the game. Peel Hockey will not give permission unless the Club can clearly demonstrate that an unfair advantage will not be obtained.
- (d) A player who plays under a false name and the person whose name that player plays under shall be deemed not to have played in the game for the purposes of qualifying for finals.
- (e) No team may participate in a final series match unless the club is fully paid up financial member eight (8) days prior to the scheduled day of the match. This applies to invoices issued up to two weeks (2) weeks prior to the finals series.
- (f) In the event of an ineligible player playing in a Finals fixture, the outcome will be forfeiture of the fixture in which the breach occurred, as set out in Rule 8.

7. **Match reporting**

- (a) Each match report must record:
 - (i) the result of the match played;
 - (ii) a list of Players (both surname and first names) in the Team completing the match report;
 - (iii) details of misconduct cards received by individual Players;
 - (iv) details of goal scorers;
 - (v) details of Player roles (Goalkeepers = GK, Permit Players = P) Multiple codes may be entered);
 - (vi) names and Club (if applicable) of umpires who officiated; and
 - (vii) all injuries or incidents that have occurred during the match.
 - (viii) Umpires are responsible for ensuring
 - ❖ Fairest & Best votes for the Association and each team are recorded on the scorecard.
 - The Point allocation shall be three (3), two (2) and one (1) with the highest points given to the best player.
 - ❖ The player with the most votes at the end of the qualifying rounds, shall be declared the Association Fairest & Best player for that competition/division.
- (b) In the event of a forfeit, no scores should be entered for either Team. Only the result should be entered. Team lists should be entered for both Teams that reflect the Players available for the match.
- (c) If a Player does not take the field they must be removed from the match report or indicated as 'did not play' (DNP).

7.1 **PROTESTS**

- (a) It is the responsibility of the opposing team to ensure that their opposition's team details have been entered correctly on the Online Portal.
- (b) Should an error on the Online Portal not be protested or otherwise corrected within two (2) weeks of the date of publication, the Online Portal will be deemed to be correct.

8. Ineligible players/Penalties

- (a) A Player is an ineligible player if:
 - (i) they do not meet the player qualification Rules set out in Rule 6.
- (b) Postponed Game - A Team can only use Players who were eligible to play on the original nominated date.
- (c) Any protest relating to ineligible players must be made by the opposing Team in writing and submitted to the Peel Hockey office within fourteen (14) days of the match with the accompanying Protest Fee.
- (d) A protest relating to the last two (2) rounds of the Qualifying Season and Finals matches must be lodged within two (2) business days of the match with the accompanying Protest Fee.
- (e) If Peel Hockey believes that there is good cause for doing so, then it may investigate any match at Peel Hockey's discretion through random audits, regardless of receipt of a protest.
- (f) Should a Team be found to have played an ineligible player, the consequence will be forfeiture of the match. The Team that has not offended will be awarded the three (3) premiership points and the score of the match will reflect a three (3) goals to nil (0) result in favour of the non-offending Team, unless the original score-line reflects a greater goal difference in favour of the non-offending Team, in which case this score will be kept.
- (g) Should the opposing Team also have fielded an ineligible player, then neither Team will receive any points, and nil (0) goals will be recorded against both Teams.
- (h) Clubs found to have played an ineligible player will be issued with a \$50.00 fine by Peel Hockey.
 - (i) This fine will only be issued once per investigation
 - (ii) Any subsequent occasions in which the same team are found to be in breach of Peel Hockey Rules, playing ineligible players again after the issue of the first fine, then this financial penalty will compound as follows: \$150.00 for second offence, \$300.00 for third offence, etc...
- (i) In the event of the false recording of a Player name on a match report the offending Team forfeits the fixture.
- (j) A Player who plays under a false name and the person whose name that Player plays under will be deemed not to have played in the game for the purposes of qualifying for Finals under Rule 6.5.
- (k) If a Team plays an ineligible player or records a false Player name on the match report in a Final, it loses the Final.
- (l) Should the opposing Team also have fielded an ineligible player in a Final, then neither team will win the Final, and nil (0) goals will be recorded against both Teams. In this instance, how the result impacts other Finals within that division will be decided by Peel Hockey.
- (m) Fairest & Best votes allocated to the non-offending team's players shall stand for award purposes.
- (n) All penalties will be subject to the Fines Schedule set in the Affiliation Rules.
- (o) If a team or a player contravenes a Rule for which no specific penalty is provided for then the club shall be liable to a fine as set in the Fines Schedule (refer to Affiliation Rule 12.1)

9. Premiership table

- (a) Teams will be awarded three (3) premiership points for a win, one (1) premiership point for a draw and nil (0) premiership points for a loss.

- (b) The Team finishing first at the completion of the Qualifying Season in each grade is the Season Premier (or a name to be determined by Peel Hockey) for that grade.
- (c) Where two (2) or more Teams have played in an equal number of fixtures and have an equal number of premiership points, their relative positions on the premiership table will be decided:
- (i) firstly, on goal difference. Goal difference is determined by subtracting the goals scored against a Team from the goals scored by it (e.g. 40 goals scored by the Team and 20 goals conceded by the Team, gives a goal difference of +20);
 - (ii) then if still equal, by the most number of goals scored for;
 - (iii) then if still equal, on the number of matches won;
 - (iv) then if still equal, by the highest total of goals scored when the Teams played each other during the Qualifying Season;
 - (v) then if still equal, by the tossing of a coin.
- (d) Where two (2) or more Teams have played an unequal number of matches at the end of the Qualifying Season and have an equal number of premiership points, their relative positions on the premiership table will be decided on:
- (i) firstly, percentages. A Team percentage is arrived at by dividing the points scored by the possible points and multiplying the result by a hundred (e.g. matches played 10 = possible points 30, points scored = 15. Percentage $15/30 \times 100 = 50\%$);
 - (ii) then if still equal, by following the steps outlined above in sub-rule (c).
- (e) Clubs querying or wishing to correct the premiership table must do so in writing to Peel Hockey. Changes will not be made without confirmation from Clubs directly affected by the correction.
- (f) Should an error on the premiership table not be queried or otherwise corrected within two (2) weeks of the date of publication of that premiership table, the premiership table will be deemed to be correct.

10. Finals

10.1 Format for Finals

Subject to any Special Rules the format for Finals will be as follows:

- (a) The final series will comprise of one of the following:

5 or more team competition, 3 round Final Series

Final	Explanation	Result
First semi-final	The third and fourth placed Teams on the premiership table play each other	The losing Team is eliminated from Finals. The winning Team will play the losing Team of the Second semi-final in the preliminary final.
Second semi-final	The first and second placed Teams on the premiership table play each other	The losing Team will play the winning Team of the first semi-final in the preliminary final. The winning Team will play the winning Team of the preliminary final in the Grand Final.
Preliminary final	The winning Team of the first semi-final and the losing Team of the second semi-final	The losing Team is eliminated from Finals. The winning Team moves into the Grand Final to play the winner of the second semi-final.
Grand Final	The winning Team of the second semi-final and the winning Team of the preliminary final play each other	The winning Team is the winner of the grade.

5 or more team competition, 2 round Final Series

Final	Explanation	Result
First semi-final	The second and third placed Teams on the premiership table play each other	The winning Team will play the winning Team of the Second semi-final in the Grand Final
Second semi-final	The first and fourth placed Teams on the premiership table play each other	The winning Team will play the winning Team of the First semi-final in the Grand Final.
Grand Final	The winning Team of the second semi-final and the winning Team of the preliminary final play each other	The winning Team is the winner of the grade.

4 team competition, 2 round Final Series

Final	Explanation	Result
First team	Will move straight to Grand Final	Will play winner of semi-final in Grand Final
Semi-Final	The second and third placed Teams on the premiership table play each other	The winning Team will play the first placed Team in the Grand Final.
Grand Final	The winning Team of the semi-final and the First Team will play each other	The winning Team is the winner of the grade.

10.2 TIE BREAKERS

Subject to any Special Rules the format for Tie breakers will be as follows:

- (a) If the score in a Finals game is level at the end of normal time then, after a three (3) minute rest period, umpires will toss a coin with the captains and the winner will have the choice of ends or possession of the ball to re-start the match. Two (2) periods of up to three (3) minutes of extra time will be played, in between which Teams must change ends without a rest period.
- (b) The first Team to score a goal in extra time is the winner of the game.
- (c) In the event that the score is still level at the end of the two (2) periods of extra time then a penalty stroke competition as outlined in the Hockey Australia Tournament Regulations will be played to establish the winner of the match.
- (d) In a penalty stroke competition, three (3) Players from each Team will take a penalty stroke alternatively.
- (e) Permanently suspended (red card) Players are ineligible to take part in a penalty stroke competition.
- (f) The umpires, after consultation with the Team captains and Technical Officer if present, will choose the goal to be used and will toss a coin with the captains, the winner having the choice to take or defend the first penalty stroke.
- (g) One of a team's nominated goalkeeper/s must defend for their Team unless unable to do so, in which case another Player may replace them. This Player must wear approved goal keeping equipment, including Protective Headgear.
- (h) Once each Team has taken three (3) penalty strokes, the Team with the highest number of goals is the winner of the game.
- (i) In the event of an equal number of goals having been awarded to each Team during the first penalty stroke competition, a second penalty stroke competition will occur as follows:
 - (i) the same Players as featured in the first penalty stroke competition will take part;

- (ii) it will feature 'sudden death', which means that the winning Team will be the first Team to have scored one (1) more goal than the opposing Team after an equal number of penalty strokes has been taken by each Team;
- (iii) the sequence of Players taking penalty strokes does not need to be the same as in the first penalty stroke competition and the Team captain has freedom of choice at the time of each penalty stroke as to which of the nominated Players will take it;
- (iv) all three (3) nominated Players must take a penalty stroke before any of them are eligible to take a further one;
- (v) the Team which defended the first penalty stroke of the first competition must not defend the first penalty stroke of this second competition.

11. Situations not covered by these Rules

- (a) Peel Hockey must consider the intent and purpose of these Rules so that they may be applied in any given situation.
- (b) Any situation not provided for explicitly in these Rules will be referred to Hockey WA for consideration and determination.

12. Seeking an unfair advantage

- (a) Clubs or Teams who deliberately seek to gain an unfair advantage will be subject to a penalty. Refer to Affiliation Rule 12. Fines Schedule
- (b) For example, Clubs or Teams that collude or conspire to predetermine the results of any match will be deemed to be seeking an unfair advantage.

APPENDIX 'A' excerpt from HA Extreme Weather Guidelines

LIGHTNING

Lightning is the visible part of an electrical discharge. Thunder is the resulting sound from the rapid expansion of the air after this electrical discharge. Sound follows light at 0.34klm/sec. Check the forecast and watch the sky. Darkening skies, flashes of lightning, or increasing wind may indicate an approaching storm.

Lightning safety tips:

- ❖ Use the **30/30 Lightning Rule**. If the time between the lightning flash and the thunder sound is **less than 30 SECONDS** then play should be suspended, and not resumed until 30 MINUTES after the last thunder (30 seconds relates to 10Klms away)
- ❖ Find safe shelter. Sturdy buildings are the safest place to be during lightning storms. Avoid sheds, metal coaching boxes and goals. Staying in a car with windows closed also offers some protection.

NOTE: Thunder is not usually heard 24-32Klms from the lightning strike.

Appendix B: Green, yellow and red misconduct cards

- (a) Further explanation of the Rules and procedure attached to a green card is as follows:

Explanation	Procedure
The offending player is temporarily suspended for two (2) minutes.	The offending player must leave the field immediately and the suspension commences when the player is seated in a place designated by the umpires, Technical Officer or Judge. The umpire will immediately restart the game and if the offending player interferes with play whilst leaving the field, the umpire will further penalise the player in accordance with the Rules of Hockey.

- (b) Further explanation of the Rules and procedure attached to a yellow card is as follows:

Explanation	Procedure
The offending player is temporarily suspended for a minimum of three (3) minutes.	<p>The timing of yellow card suspensions is determined by the umpire that issued the card. The offending player must leave the field immediately and the suspension commences when the player is seated in a place designated by the umpires, Technical Officer or Judge. The umpire will immediately restart the match and if the offending player interferes with play whilst leaving the field, the umpire will further penalise the player in accordance with the Rules of Hockey.</p> <p>If a player receives a second yellow card (for the same offence) in the same game, the player is not permitted to take any further part in the game.</p> <p>When a player accumulates three (3) yellow cards in any Hockey WA Competition during the Competition season, a one (1) Fixture Week suspension from all Hockey WA Competitions will take effect upon notification by Hockey WA.</p> <p>For every additional two (2) yellow cards a player receives in any Hockey WA Competition during the Competition season after the fourth caution, a two (2) Fixture Week suspension from all Hockey WA Competitions will take effect upon notification by Hockey WA.</p> <p>For the purpose of Finals, all yellow cards will be removed from a player's record at the end of the Qualifying Season. When a player accumulates two (2) temporary suspensions (yellow cards) in any Hockey WA Competition during finals series, a one (1) Fixture Week suspension will take effect upon notification by Hockey WA.</p>

- (c) Further explanation of the Rules and procedure attached to a red card is as follows:

Explanation	Procedure
The offending player is suspended for the remainder of the match.	The offending player must leave the field of play for the remainder of the match. Sit on penalty chaired managed by TO/Judge OR be accompanied by member of Club to changerooms until completion of game.
They are also suspended for the next following Fixture Week for which they are available and they may face a tribunal where the tribunal will decide if further penalty/penalties are to be incurred.	Should the umpire consider it necessary, they may require the offending player to leave altogether the venue where the match is being played.
If it goes to Tribunal, offending player and both umpires need to attend Tribunal Hearing.	The umpire who issued the red card must submit a report on the incident to the Administrator within 72 hours of the offence occurring.

