

LOWER GREAT SOUTHERN HOCKEY ASSOCIATION (INC)

BY-LAWS

AFFILIATION AND REGISTRATION

1. Any club wishing to join the Assn shall make application in writing and such application shall be signed by at least two (2) members of the proposed club.
2. Fees for all teams admitted to the Assn in all grades shall be decided at the AGM.
3. The Committee shall have power to grade the teams nominated by any club in such manner as in its opinion shall produce a balanced competition.

(a) Each club must consist of three teams or more of the same gender.

Clubs based in Mt Barker and Denmark to be exempt from By-Law 3a.

4. All clubs, including secondary schools and primary schools be allowed the same voting rights, which is one (1) voting delegate at any meeting (with the exception of Rule 10(a)iii). A fine of \$20.00 can be imposed for repeated non attendance at meetings.

Failure to pay the fine will render the club/team unfinancial with the Association.

5. All teams shall pay at least 50% of their annual fee by the third (3rd) playing date (inclusive) and be fully financial by the first (1st) of August. Any team fielding an unfinancial player after that date will forfeit any points won, after said date.
6. Every newly affiliated club or established club wishing to declare or make any change to their uniform, must register with the Assn Secretary its colours for approval by the Committee.
7. After the third (3rd) playing date, each player shall be individually registered before commencing to play. Any team playing an unregistered person shall be deemed to have played an ineligible player (see By-Law 32d for penalty). To add a new players to a team after the third (3rd) playing date, an Board of Management Officer must receive notification in writing prior to the new member playing. (NOTE: also By-Law 13).
8. Players from The Assn are not permitted to play in another association without being cleared from their team/club in The Assn. Once cleared by their team/club the player will no longer be considered a member of The Assn. Approval to play in another association while still playing in The Assn may be requested in writing to the Committee.

A team will be considered to have played an ineligible player if they do not satisfy the requirements of the By-Law.

9. Players from other Associations must provide either a clearance or a letter of approval from their home Club/Association before being eligible to play.

This does not apply to juniors who only play in junior competition.

(a) A Senior club shall not play a person who has played for another club (which is a member of the Assn) unless and until that player has satisfied the conditions of By-Law 12a.

A registered junior player may play in a higher grade with another club. The conditions of By-Law 7 apply.

- (b) Where competitions are provided for each gender, no player shall play in a team of the opposite gender, except for primary school competition where mixed teams may play in the boys competition

- 10. A player may play in their own grade and a higher grade on the same day. No player shall be qualified to play in a lower grade after they have taken part in six (6) matches in a higher grade except in special cases where special permission is given by the Committee. For the purpose of this By-Law the Fixtures and Grading Sub-Committee shall determine the order of grades for each season.
- 11. A club with two (2) or more teams in the one grade must register these as teams one (1) and two (2) stating players for each team. Each team shall be treated as separate entities within that grade.

CLEARANCES

- 12. (a) An Assn clearance form or letter must be forwarded to the Assn Secretary stating player details and signed by both the player and clearing club contact person when a player wishes clearance from a club. Once the Assn Secretary has received the clearance document the player is free to play with the club of their choice in the next fixture. After the 30th of June in each year, no player shall be cleared to another club, except in special circumstances approved by the Permits Sub-Committee.

If the contact person refuses to sign the clearance document, then the player requiring clearance may appeal to the Permits SubCommittee. If The Permits Sub-Committee disallows an application for clearance, then the player shall be automatically cleared at the end of that season, if financial.

- (b) In the event of the late detection of an ineligible player leading to a multiple offence, the Committee may impose a single penalty for the initial offence.

ELIGIBILITY FOR FINALS

- 13. (a) Players must have played in a minimum of four (4) games with that club (in the case of senior grades) or team (in the case of junior grades) to be eligible to play in finals and/or Challenge Cups for that club/team, subject to all other By-Laws.
- (b) No player may participate in finals or semi-finals of a lower grade if they have played more than six (6) games in a higher grade in that season.
- (c) If a club is playing finals or semi-finals in more than one grade, selection is open to a player who satisfies the criteria in By-Law 13a & By-Law 13b.
- (d) Players not meeting the criteria in By-Law 13a & By-Law 13b may obtain permission to play from the Permits Sub-Committee. Only in circumstances when it is proven to the satisfaction of the Permits Sub-Committee that an unfair advantage is not the objective of the club, may a permit be granted.
- (e) If a club has a fixtured bye in a higher grade, no more than two (2) players who played the previous fixture, may play in a lower grade in that fixtured round.

For the purposes of this By-Law:

If a Player's name is written on the match card, they shall be regarded as having played.

UNIFORMS

- 14. Players taking part in a match except in the uniform as registered by their club i.e. tops, shorts/skirts and socks shall cause their club to be fined \$5.00 per offence (see Constitution 9 (c)).

The offending player's name and club shall be listed on the match card by either the umpires or the opposing team captain.

Sub-law (1) a degree of discretion may be allowed up to and including the third (3rd) fixture.

Sub-law (2) shirts will be numbered with numerals of a standard size, as set by the Committee.

JUNIORS

- 15. Junior grades shall be determined by the Junior Sub-Committee each year, in age divisions. Age limits shall be set as of 1st January each year. Younger players may play in an older grade. No player can play in a grade for younger players without special dispensation from the Junior Sub-Committee.

SPECIAL COMPETITIONS

16. The Committee may create new competitions and determine the rules under which they are to be played.

CONDUCT OF MATCHES

17. Fixtures must be played on the day and time and at the ground appointed, unless prior authorization is obtained from the Board of Management.

Consultation must be made between a minimum of three (3) people from the Board of Management, Umpires and /or junior Representatives.

Agreement to fixture alteration must be gained from both team coaches, in the case of Junior fixtures and both team captains in the case of Senior fixtures.

Applications for fixture alterations must be made at least seventy (72) hours in advance of the scheduled or re-scheduled playing time (which ever is the earlier) and be made to the Turf Liaison Representative or a Board of Management Officer on the form provided. Failure to follow this procedure shall cause the team requesting the change to forfeit the game.

Notice of the fixture alterations shall be given by the requesting team to the Umpires' Co-ordinator and staff of the Albany Leisure Centre.

The team requesting the change shall be required to organise suitable umpires.

18. There shall be a scheduled time for starting each match and umpires shall commence timing from that time.

No team shall commence play with less than seven (7) members. In the event of any team being unready or unwilling to commence play within ten (10) minutes of the scheduled time, the match shall be forfeited in favour of the team ready to play, except when circumstances are deemed unavoidable by the Umpire/Ground Controller.

The Committee shall decide whether unplayed or abandoned games shall be re-scheduled.

In the event of loss of playing time due to power failure or unsatisfactory playing conditions, the following shall apply:

- (a) If less than 35 minutes of play has taken place, the game shall be abandoned and replayed (subject to Bylaw 28); or
- (b) If more than 35 minutes of play has taken place, the game shall be deemed finished and the result stand.

19. The teams claiming the forfeit will be awarded a three (3) goal win.
20. Each team shall be responsible for supplying one (1) ball [type as per rule book] per match.
21. Any team that is short of players may add eligible players during the progress of the game until the full complement of eleven (11) is reached on the field.

FIXTURE CARDS

22. The Umpires is responsible for the collection and return of the fixture card.
23. Each game shall be recorded on the official record card as supplied by the Assn. Such cards shall be in the hands of the Record Officer NO LATER than forty eight (48) hours after the match is played.

The Records Officer shall check these figures weekly and keep a tabular record. These records shall be submitted to the Committee for confirmation and shall be final evidence of the results of matches and the positions of the teams.

These cards shall be signed by both captains and umpires.

24. Provided the names have appeared on the result card players shall be considered to have played in the match in the event of the opposition team forfeiting it.

POINTS SYSTEM FOR PLAYER INFRINGEMENTS

25. All issued yellow and red cards to be recorded on the Match Card.

Issue of a YELLOW CARD to receive 2 points and a RED CARD 4 points.

Umpires issuing a SECOND YELLOW card in a game to the same player should record this as a 2 point infringement, i.e. show the SECOND YELLOW card and then convert this as a cumulative penalty to a RED CARD.

Any player accumulating 7 points or more within a 10 fixture period, regardless of grade played, to be automatically suspended for the next fixture.

Upon serving a suspension, 4 points to be credited to that player against the oldest points in the 10 fixture cycle.

Records Officer to be responsible for maintaining a record of penalty points.

The record to be confidential and only available to:

- (a) The player personally
- (b) His/her club's senior coach
- (c) The Protests and Disputes Tribunal

In the event of a player infringing this Rule, the Record Keeper will contact the player concerned and the Club Contact Person.

WITHDRAWAL

26. When a team is withdrawn after the commencement of the season, all points and goals scored in fixtures involving the team prior to its withdrawal are to be cancelled.

COMPLAINTS OR REPORTS

27. Any complaints, reports or claims shall be sent to the Assn Secretary in writing (and in duplicate) within forty eight (48) hours.

Immediately upon receipt of the complaint, report or claim, a copy thereof shall be forwarded by the Assn Secretary to the party against whom the complaint, report or claim is made and to the Board of Management.

The Board of Management shall determine whether the matter is referred to the Protests and Disputes Committee Chairperson.

Any such referral shall be dealt with within seven (7) days of its referral from the Board of Management.

The Secretary shall advise all relevant parties of the date, time and venue of the Tribunal.

REPLAYS

28. In all cases where a replay of any fixture is necessary, it shall be replayed at such venue and at such time and date as ordered.

The teams playing a replayed fixture shall consist of the same players as originally selected for the fixtures unless in special circumstances the Committee allows a change.

A replayed fixture shall, for the purpose of By-Law 13, be deemed to have been played on the day originally appointed.

TIE BREAKERS

29. In the event of a Challenge Cup Final, a semi-final, final or Grand Final fixture resulting in a draw at the conclusion of normal playing time, then the fixture shall be concluded as determined by the Board of Management at the commencement of each season.

SUBSTITUTION AND INTERCHANGEABLE RESERVES

30. A team shall be identified on the written team list and will consist of as many players as are allowed under current International rules. In Junior grades, teams are allowed one more player than the current International rules permit. Substitution may take place at any time permitted in the current rule book.
The substitution of field players is to be made through the Ground Controller, if one has been appointed, or at the centre line on the side of the field controlled by the umpire with the Match Card.

UMPIRING

31. The Committee shall have the power to allocate, or ratify the allocation, umpiring commitments to teams, for both Senior and Junior competitions. For each player or member of a club designated to umpire who fails to umpire the penalty shall be to play one player short per offence in a subsequent fixture.

The procedure shall be:

- (a) All match cards shall be checked by the Record Keeper/Umpires' Co-Ordinator or his/her appointee.
- (b) Any REPORTED non-attendance of umpires written on the match card shall be noted.
- (c) The Record Keeper/Umpires' Co-Ordinator (or his/her appointee) shall mark the match card of the offending team's next fixture with the number of players allowed on the ground.
- (d) The umpires of that fixture shall enforce the penalty.
- (e) The offending team captain shall be allowed to substitute players in the usual way, providing that only the relevant number are on the ground at any one time

DETERMINING PREMIERSHIP

32. For the purpose of computing, points shall be awarded as follows:
 - (a) For a win: three (3) points;
 - (b) For a draw: one (1) point;
 - (c) For a forfeit: to count as a three (3) goal win.
 - (d) For playing an ineligible player, the offending team shall lose any points gained for that match, plus two (2) points penalty. The offended team shall be awarded two (2) points plus retain all their goals scored. The offending team shall lose any goals scored in that match.
 - (e) In the event of an ineligible player playing a Challenge Cup, Semi Final or Grand Final fixture, the penalty shall be forfeiture of the fixture, in which the breach occurred.
 - (f) In the event of a false recording of a name on a score card, in addition to playing and ineligible player (see By-Law 32d), the player who plays under the name on the score card, and the player (if any) under whose name they played, shall be deemed not to have played during that week at all. This is for the purpose of qualifying for Challenge Cup, Semi Finals or Grand Finals fixtures.

PREMIERSHIP TABLES

33. Where two (2) teams have played in an equal number of fixtures and have an equal number of premiership points, the relative positions on the premiership table shall be decided on goal difference. Goal difference is arrived at by subtracting the goals scored against a team from the goals scored by it (e.g. forty (40) goals scored by the team and twenty (20) conceded by the team give a goal difference of twenty (20).) Should teams have equal premiership points and identical goal differences, priority shall be attained by the team with:
 - (a) The most number of wins, then if still equal

- (b) The most number of goals, then if still equal
- (c) The highest total of goals scored when the teams played each other during the season, then if still equal
- (d) The tossing of a coin.

FINALS

34. The semi-finals shall be played by the top four (4) teams:

1 versus 2 - Winner to Grand Final

3 versus 4 - Winner to Final, Loser eliminated

Winner of 3 versus 4 plays loser of 1 versus 2, winner to Grand Final.

In the event of a competition of four (4) teams, the team finishing first(1 st) shall automatically progress to the grand final. The teams finishing second(2 nd) and third(3 rd), will play off. The winner will progress to the Grand Final.

CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

35. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - the following business shall be transacted:

- (a) Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting plus those of any Special Meetings held during the previous twelve (12) months.
- (b) Business arising from minutes. Correspondence and business arising therefrom.
- (c) Admission of new Clubs.
- (d) Annual report embodying reports of sub-committees.
- (e) Finance Manager's report and balance sheet.
- (f) Election of Board of Management Officers, Special positions and Sub-Committees.
- (g) Appointment of Assn Team coaches and Assn Team managers.
- (h) Determination of number of Committee meetings for the following year.
- (i) Notices of motion.
- (j) Agenda items of which requisite notice has been given.

All present at an Annual General Meeting be allowed to vote

36. ORDINARY MEETING - the following business shall be transacted:

- (a) Minutes of previous Ordinary Meeting and any intervening Special Meetings.
- (b) Business arising from the minutes.
- (c) Interim Board of Management Committee report and business arising therefrom.
- (d) Board of Management minutes and business arising therefrom
- (e) Correspondence and business arising therefrom
- (f) Finance Manager's report
- (g) Reports from Sub-Committees
- (h) Notices of motion
- (i) General business

37. SPECIAL MEETING - the order of business shall be:

- (a) Reading the notice convening the meeting.
- (b) Special Business for which the meeting was summoned.