

UniSport Australia Guideline

Hockey

Men and Women

UniSport Australia (UniSport) hockey competitions are conducted in accordance with the rules of hockey from the [International Hockey Federation \(FIH\)](#), except where these differ from UniSport competition guidelines; in which case the latter shall take precedence. In the case of a penalty shoot-out, refer to the [Hockey Australia tournament regulations](#). Reference should also be made to the UniSport *Breach of Competition Requirements* guideline for penalties related to breaches.

1. Team/squad size

- Minimum registered players – 14
- Maximum registered players – 18
- Maximum cross registrations – 3
- Minimum number of players that can take the field without incurring a forfeit – 7

2. Competition rules

2.1. Game duration

All games will be played in four x 12-minute quarters in duration, with a two minute interval at quarter time, five minutes for half time, and a two minute interval at three quarter time.

2.2. Pool points scoring

Points for each match shall be awarded as follows;

- a) Winning team: 3 points
- b) Drawn match: 2 points per team
- c) Losing team: 1 point
- d) Forfeited team: 0 points

2.3. Pool tiebreakers

In the event that two or more teams finish equal on points at the conclusion of the pool stage, the following criteria will be used to separate the teams:

- a) Highest number of matches won
- b) Highest goal difference
- c) Highest number of goals scored
- d) Head to head result(s) between the teams concerned
- e) Shoot-out competition between the teams concerned

2.4. Drawn matches

- a) If preliminary matches are drawn at full time, both teams will be awarded two points as per section 2.2.b.
- b) If progression or medal matches are drawn at the completion of normal time a best of five shoot-out will take place.
- c) In the event that both teams score the same number of goals, a "sudden death" shoot-out will apply.

2.5 Team bench allocations and starting the game

- a) Teams named first on the draw will be allocated the left bench and the team listed second will go to the right side of the bench.
- b) A coin toss will occur at the start of the match. The team that wins the coin toss will choose which end they would like to start with *or* whether they start the match with possession of the ball.
- c) The team who starts the first quarter with possession of the ball will also start the second quarter with possession of the ball. At half time, the opposing team will start the third and fourth quarters with possession of the ball.

3. Misconduct

- 3.1. All misconduct by players or team staff that occurs during the normal proceedings of a game will be actioned as according to the [FIH Rules of Hockey](#).
- 3.2. The competition manager will maintain a daily record of green, yellow and red cards awarded to players throughout the tournament, along with the reason for the card and which umpire awarded it.
- 3.3. If a player amasses two yellow cards, the competition manager will notify this player and their team manager that a subsequent card could result in match suspensions.
- 3.4. If a player amasses a third yellow card or receives a red card, it will be the competition manager's discretion as to whether this player will be suspended for one or more subsequent games.
- 3.5. Players are strictly prohibited from spitting and snorting on the field whilst participating in any matches. Any player caught doing this during the game, will be given an automatic red card and will be asked to leave the playing field.

4. Team duties

- 4.1. Team duty requirements for hockey are:
 - a) One person from each team competing in the current match will be required to assist with timing and scoring.
- 4.2. The person fulfilling the team duty requirements can be any competent person associated with that team or university and does not necessarily have to be a player e.g. team manager.
- 4.3. Teams that do not fulfil team duties will be fined as per the UniSport guideline *Breach of Competition Requirements*.

5. Uniform requirements

- 5.1. In addition to the requirements outlined by the [FIH Rules of Hockey](#) (Rule 4), the following items are required:
 - a) Players are required to wear shirt, shorts/skirt, socks, shin-pads, mouthguards (compulsory)
 - b) Numbers are compulsory on the back of the shirt and optional for shorts/skirt
 - c) Teams are required to have a nominated captain that is clearly identifiable (must have a captain's ribbon or band).

6. Forfeits, delays & abandonments

- 6.1. Hockey teams are subject to penalties under the UniSport guideline *Breach of Competition Requirements*.
- 6.2. A forfeit will be declared 10 minutes after the scheduled start of play where either team is unable to commence play.
- 6.3. The forfeit score is five goals to nil (0).
- 6.4. In the event of a game being abandoned, the UniSport *Abandonment of Sporting Competitions* guideline will be implemented.

Previous amendments

August 2000 | July 2004 | August 2005 | March 2010 | May 2012 | May 2013 | June 2015 | April 2017 | June 2017 | October 2017 | February 2018 | March 2018 | May 2019 | June 2021 | July 2022 | July 2023

*All competitions will be held in accordance with the UniSport competition guidelines.