

# **BARBADOS HOCKEY FEDERATION INC. RULES & REGULATIONS**

**Made by the Board of Directors on May 6, 2006 under paragraph 2.9 of the Barbados Hockey Federation Inc. By-Law 2005.**

- 1. These Rules & Regulations may be cited as the Barbados Hockey Federation Rules and Regulations.**
- 2. Amended and Approved by the Board 2008**

## **INTERPRETATION**

**In these presents unless there is something in subject or contest inconsistent herewith word importing the masculine gender shall include the feminine gender and vice versa.**

## **RULES**

### **1. MANAGEMENT OF COMPETITIONS**

- 1.1 The fixtures and competitions committee hereafter referred to as the “ the committee” shall have the responsibility for all competitions unless otherwise specified.

### **2. CONDUCT**

- 2.1 Clubs, associations and schools are responsible for the proper conduct of their players, supporters and club members at the hockey astro turf facility at the Garfield Sobers Sports Complex and their grounds. Members must give their full support to the Board in its efforts to maintain satisfactory standards of conduct. The Board shall have the power to sanction including suspending any member who behaves in a manner which is likely to bring hockey into disrepute from participating in any competitions or other activities organize directly or indirectly by the Federation pending a hearing and decision by the disciplinary committee.
  - 2.1(a) The Board shall have the power to suspend any player who has been given a red card during any game in any competition organize by the Federation pending a hearing and decision by the Disciplinary committee. The Board shall also have the power to lift the suspension at anytime prior to the hearing and decision of the Disciplinary Committee.
  - 2.1(b) The Executive Committee shall have the power to act in accordance with paragraphs 2.1 and 2.1(a) until the Board either ratifies or reverses the decision of the committee.

- 2.2 No one except the players and umpires engaged in a match may enter the field of play during a match unless invited to do so by an umpire. Designated coaches and managers may be allowed to do so at the interval.
- 2.3 Clubs, associations or schools affiliated to the Federation are liable to disciplinary action in breach of any rules pertaining to their manner of conduct at matches.
- 2.4 Umpires must report players for misconduct on and off the field of play either at half time or after matches. Umpires and judges must also ensure that players are properly attired. Players have no right to even discuss umpiring incidents with umpires after the match unless the umpires wish to do so.

### **3. PROVISIONS FOR MATCHES**

- 3.1 Each team must provide two balls and give them to the umpires before the match. Balls must meet the specifications set out in Rule 7 of the Rules of the Game of Hockey.
- 3.2 Players and officials must make all efforts to ensure that matches start punctually. Teams not having the required minimum number of players at the scheduled time for the start of the game or within 30 minutes after may be considered as having defaulted the game.
- 3.3 The minimum number of players comprising a team is eight.
- 3.4 If, during the course of the match, a team declines to continue to play or to take up play where it was left off, or if at any time during the match the number of its players is less than eight, this team will lose the match.
- 3.5 If a match is abandoned for inclement weather (including fading light) and more than 65 minutes of the game have been played, the final score will be the score when the match was abandoned. If less than 65 minutes of the game have been completed then a replay may be awarded at the discretion of the Board.
- 3.6 At the start of a match, if in the umpires' opinion, 65 minutes of play is not possible, they may agree to play a full 60 minutes.
- 3.7 The umpires before a match can determine whether the astro turf is unfit for play for whatever reason.

#### **4. POSTPONEMENT**

- 4.1 Matches are to be postponed only under exceptional circumstances. Forty eight (48) hours notice should be given. All requests should be made in writing to the chairperson of the fixtures and competitions committee through the Honorary Secretary. A postponement under this rule is valid only on oral or written notification by the Honorary Secretary on approval by the chairperson.
- 4.2. Any Club will be entitled to a postponement of a League Fixture if in the opinion of the fixtures and competitions Committee players participating in the tournaments listed below, will adversely affect its performance.
- (a) International hockey tournaments as representatives of their country
  - (b) Club playing in the Pan American Club Championships
  - (c) International festivals recognized by the Barbados Hockey Federation
- 4.3. A minimum of 72 hours notice of re-scheduled games must be given to all clubs except when the clubs at the point of postponement both agree in conjunction with the committee to replay the game inside the mandated notice period.
- 4.4. If, at the time set for the start of a match, only one assigned umpire is present, he shall have the power to appoint a substitute umpire. In the event that recognised, competent umpires, (other than those assigned to the game) are available, a team does NOT have the right to refuse to play. Persons who are not recognized umpires may be asked to substitute only with the agreement of the captains. Captains may agree to play the match with two substitutes where both assigned umpires are absent. Captains are asked to notify the Umpires Committee in writing within 48 hours, of non-appearance or unsatisfactory conduct by an umpire. All clubs are requested to ensure that a person is on hand who is capable of officiating in the event that an assigned umpire is absent.

#### **5. DISCIPLINE**

- 5.1. After a player has received THREE yellow cards he shall miss the next match in which he would have played after the third suspension. Players who receive a fourth yellow card during the course of one season are subject to be disciplined by the disciplinary committee. The decision of the Disciplinary Committee will then be passed on to the player, who has the right to appeal to the Appeal Committee within seven days. Decisions of the Committees will also be copied to the club.

- 5.2 A player who receives a red card in a match shall be suspended for the next match in that division and/or in accordance with paragraphs 2.1 to 2.1(b). Clubs which allow players to play in matches in breach of paragraphs 2.1 to 2.1(b) and 5.1 and 5.2 of these rules are subject to be disciplined by the Board in any manner it deems fit.

## **6. REGISTRATION**

- 6.1 Before a club plays any matches under the auspices of the Federation, all financial obligations (including arrears) must be settled. Failure to do this before the stipulated deadline may result in the imposition of a penalty of \$50 and the club may be prevented from participating in competitions.
- 6.2 All players representing a club must be bona fide members of the club and they must also be registered with the Federation accordingly. In addition, any club with more than one team which finishes in the top four positions of the premier league must nominate EIGHT of its best players for special registration in this league. Clubs finishing lower than fourth position must nominate FIVE of its best players for special registration in the premier league. Whereas it is difficult to lay down hard and fast rules governing special registration, the following general principles should be observed:
- 6.3 Players who are clearly superior should be specially registered unless there is a good reason for not doing so (e.g. the only goal keeper in a club);
- 6.4 The committee will monitor the situation concerning registration of players and if it is not satisfied about any cases, will discuss them with the clubs concerned and if necessary will request the club to alter their lists of specially registered players. Abuses of the rules concerning registration or special registration can also lead to the forfeiture of games. Requests for additions or changes to lists of registered or specially registered players **MUST BE MADE IN WRITING TO THE HONORARY SECRETARY** for the information of the committee.
- 6.5 Clubs should make every effort to play all matches. Non-appearance of complete teams for matches is a very serious offence; since the resulting forfeiture of points does not solve the problem of the team's opponents being granted points they might not otherwise merit, and which can give them an unfair advantage over their rivals. The Board will take whatever action it deems fit in such cases but teams are requested to co-operate in maintaining the integrity of the competitions by fielding complete and the strongest possible combinations at all times. Where the Board declares a match forfeit, full points and 5 goals will normally be awarded to the winning team.

- 6.6. In addition to any other sanction imposed by the Board, clubs that forfeit any match will face an AUTOMATIC fine of \$200 to be paid to the Honorary Treasurer before the club is allowed to participate in any other match.

## **7. LEAGUE COMPETITIONS**

- 7.1 There shall be two divisions for both male and female. The divisions shall be called the Premier league and Division 1. The divisions shall operate on a promotion and demotion basis.
- 7.2 The team in the Premier League which finishes on the least number of points will be demoted and the winner of Division 1 promoted if they are not teams from the same club. The highest placed team to 3<sup>rd</sup> position in the Division one not represented in the premier league will be eligible for promotion through the procedure of a two best of three play off against the last placed team from the premier league.
- 7.3 The committee shall have primary responsibility for scheduling and rescheduling games.
- 7.4 In the league competitions three points will be awarded to the winner of a match, one point to each team in a drawn match, and no point to the Loser of the match.
- 7.5 If two or more teams have an equality of points at the end of a competition, they will be ranked according to their respective goal difference (meaning "goals for" less "goals against"). A positive goal difference always takes precedence over a negative goal difference.
- 7.6 If there is a tie on goal difference, then teams will be ranked according to their respective "goals for".
- 7.7 If there is a tie on "goals for" then the result(s) of League matches between the teams involved will be taken into consideration to rank them. The team with the most wins against the other team shall be deemed to place higher.
- 7.8 Should there remain a tie between the teams, then the teams will be ranked in some other way at the sole discretion of the Board.

## **8. KNOCK OUT COMPETITION**

- 8.1 In all competitions, played on a knock out basis, if the result at the end of regulation time is a draw, sudden death extra time consisting of two periods of 7 minutes and 30 seconds shall be played. The game will end after the first goal is scored and the team scoring that goal shall be the winner. If there is equality at the end of sudden death extra time, then the winner shall be decided by a penalty stroke competition.
- 8.2 A penalty stroke competition shall involve 5 players from each of the two teams, to be chosen by the captains from the players listed for the match, but excluding any player who has been permanently suspended from the match. Each player shall take a penalty stroke alternately against one and the same goalkeeper of the other team, unless he has been incapacitated, and replaced. Strokes shall be taken in a sequence indicated to the umpires by the captain before the start of the strokes. Umpires shall choose the goal to be used, and the winner of a toss of a coin will decide which team shall take the first stroke.
- 8.3 In the event of an equal number of goals having been awarded at the end of a penalty stroke competition, the winner shall be decided by a "sudden death" competition. This will consist of a further series of strokes taken alternately by the same sequence. The team scoring the higher number of goals at the end of any pair of strokes shall be the winner. The team of which a player has taken the first penalty stroke in the first series of strokes shall not take the first penalty stroke in the sudden death series.
- 8.4 In any match, the home team shall be required to change in the event of a clash of colours. The team named first on the official fixture list shall be deemed to be the home team.
- 8.5 For veterans competitions players should have reached the age of 35 on or before 30th April of the year of competition. Players in veterans' competitions may be allowed to play in other competitions organised by the Federation. They may also be given permission to play for clubs other than the one for which they play in veterans' competition, but must, in the event, be bona fide members of both clubs.

## **9. TECHNICAL AND UMPIRE**

- 9.1 One Technical Officer and a Judge will be appointed to each match. He/She is empowered to interpret the Regulations to his/her discretion and the ruling on any matter shall be final. Should there be a need for a protest to be made, it shall be made in writing to the Technical Officer by the Captain or Team Manager within ten minutes of the completion of the game. A deposit of \$150.00 is required. The Technical Officer has the

authority to remove any player or official from the team benches in the event of ill discipline. This will involve the person leaving the area for the remainder of the match. This is not a Red Card offence, but such instances will be reported to the Disciplinary Committee, who is empowered to impose further penalties.

- 9.2 The Technical Committee will appoint umpires for all games. If, at the time set for the start of a match, only one assigned umpire is present, the League Delegates shall have the right to appoint a substitute umpire. In the event that registered, competent umpires (other than those assigned to the game) are available, a team does NOT have the right to refuse to play. Persons who are not registered umpires may be asked to substitute only with the agreement of the captains. Captains may agree to play the match with two non registered where both assigned umpires are absent. The Technical Officer is asked to notify the Chairman of the Technical Committee in writing within 48 hours, of non-appearance or unsatisfactory conduct by any umpire. All clubs are requested to ensure that a person is on hand who is capable of officiating in the event that an assigned umpire is absent.
- 9.3 Not less than 15 minutes before the start of a league match, the manager, nominated team official of each team shall hand to the League delegates a list of his/her players showing their shirt number and the name of three officials entitled to occupy the team bench ( Manager, Coach, Registered Physio). If a registered Medical Doctor is in attendance, he/she may also sit on the team bench as long as their name appears on the team sheet. A team shall be entitled to nominate up to 16 players in its squad for each match and only those listed may sit on the team bench.
- 9.4 Each team must pay a match fee as agreed to by the Barbados Hockey Federation to the Technical Officer BEFORE the start of a match. The Technical Officer reserves the right to call off a match for non- payment of said fees.
- 9.5 At the end of all matches, the Technical Officer should ensure that the match sheets are completed and signed by team managers and all officials participating in a match. These forms must then be passed on to the Honorary Secretary. Umpires should check that all information on the match sheets is correct before signing.

## **10. TRANSFERS**

- 10.1 Only bona fide members of National League Clubs shall be entitled to play in National League matches, and such players shall be registered with the Barbados Hockey Federation.

- 10.2 Properly and fully completed registration forms must be deposited with the Barbados Hockey Federation by March 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. Forms not completed will not be accepted.
- 10.3 Before a club plays any matches under the auspices of the Federation, all financial obligations (including arrears) must be settled. Failure to do this before the stipulated deadline will result in the imposition of a penalty of \$50.
- 10.4 A player may transfer to another club during the course of a season. The transfer will only be approved if that player has not represented the club from which he/she is seeking the transfer at any time during the season.
- 10.5 Any players, who transfer without settling outstanding debts due to the first club, may not be allowed to participate in any competition organized by the Federation until such debts have been paid. The Board will thoroughly investigate such matters brought to its attention.

## **11. DRESS**

- 11.1. All teams shall wear shirts each bearing a different number contrasting in colour to the shirts. Numbers shall be worn in the centre of the shirt back, front of pants and correspond to the numbers on the team sheet. Please note that for international tournaments, the numbers shall be 1-32.
- 11.2 Goalkeepers of both sides shall wear numbered shirts or jersey different in colour from those of their own team and their opponents. The numbers shall be displayed on both sides of the shirt.
- 11.3. Captains shall wear armbands in a contrasting colour of their shirts.
- 11.4 No white is permitted below the knee.
- 11.5 In any match, the home team shall be required to change in the event of a clash of colours.

## **12. COMMITTEES**

- 12.1 The Executive Committee shall be appointed annually. The Board annually at its meeting immediately following the Annual General Meeting of the members may appoint the following committees.
- (a) Disciplinary
  - (b) Appeal
  - (c) Fund Raising and Finance
  - (d) Competition and fixtures
  - (e) Selection

- (f) Youth and Development
- (g) Umpires
- (h) Technical
- (i) Coaching
- (j) Public relations
- (k) Festivals
- (l) Grounds

- 12.2. Each committee shall consist of at least three persons and shall act on terms of reference determined by the Board.
- 12.3 For a committee with three persons, two shall form a quorum; in any other case, three shall form a quorum.
- 12.4 For any meeting an official notice with agenda shall be circulated to the members concerned. All committees shall submit a report of each meeting to the Board for ratification of decisions.
- 12.5 Decisions taken at any meeting not formally convened are void.

### 13. **COMMITTEES**

#### 13.2 **DISCIPLINARY**

- 13.3 The Disciplinary Committee shall inquire into every report of misconduct or conduct likely to bring into disrepute the game upon such report being submitted to the Disciplinary Committee by the Honorary Secretary. The decision of this Committee shall be subject to appeal to the Appeal Committee within seven days (Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays excluded) from the date on which written notice has been given to the player, association, club or individual concerned. Where an appeal has been lodged, the disciplinary action taken by the committee shall be suspended until the appeal has been adjudicated on by the appeal committee.
- 13.4 Where any allegation of misconduct, breach of rules or of any act prejudicial to the best interest of the Federation is received in writing, the Honorary Secretary shall within seven(7) days of receipt thereof forward all necessary reports to the Disciplinary Committee for the matter to be heard.
- 13.5 The Disciplinary Committee shall have full power to hear and determine every complaint submitted by the Honorary Secretary made against any affiliate member, any player, individual member, officials or Board members

- 13.6 The Disciplinary Committee shall have the power to fine, suspend, censure and/or reprimand any individuals or groups identified at paragraphs 13.3 and 13.5 of these rules found guilty as charged.
- 13.7 The Disciplinary Committee shall notify all persons involved in the complaint within seven (7) days of receipt of the reports from the Honorary Secretary and convene a hearing within seven (7) days of such notification or as soon as practicable thereafter.
- 13.8 The Disciplinary Committee shall submit a report of its findings and decision to the Board who shall give notice to the defendant member or other relevant person within seventy (72) hours of the findings and decision.
- 13.9 The disciplinary committee shall have the power to deal ex-parte with all matters. Such decision to deal ex-parte will only apply where the individual and his club has been properly notified and summoned. Further, that the committee is satisfied in the interest of justice and expediency the matter should be so dealt with.
- 13.10 The disciplinary committee may summon such witnesses as it may require appearing before it to give evidence.
- 13.11 Notes of evidence must be taken and agreed by all members of the disciplinary Committee. Such notes must be forwarded with the decision of the committee to the Board.

#### 14. **APPEAL**

- 14.1 The Appeal Committee shall comprise of persons excluding members of the Board, clubs, schools and associations.
- 14.2 The Appeal Committee shall have the power to hear and determine any appeal against a decision of the Disciplinary Committee
- 14.3 The appeal shall take the form of a revision of the evidence only and no witnesses shall appear or give oral testimony before the committee.
- 14.4 The committee shall the power to confirm, increase, vary, amend or reverse any decision of the Disciplinary Committee.
- 14.5 A member, player, official or Officer may serve notice of Appeal from any decision of the Disciplinary Committee to the Appeal Committee.
- 14.6 The notice of appeal shall be in writing and shall be accompanied by a fee of \$150.00 or such fees as are determined from time to time and shall be served on the Honorary Secretary within seven days (7) days of

receipt of notice of decision. This rule shall be adhered to from an appeal from a decision by any other committee.

- 14.7 The Notice of Appeal shall specify the ground(s) of appeal.
- 14.8 The Secretary shall convene an appeal hearing subject to the decision of the Chairperson of the appeal committee within seven (7) days of receipt of the Notice of Appeal.
- 14.9 The decision of the Appeal Committee on hearing the appeal shall be Final.

15. **FUND RAISING AND FINANCE –**

- 15.1 It shall advise and assist the Honorary Treasury with all matters pertaining to the finances of the Federation. It shall also organise fund raising activities with the primary objective of raising revenue for the Federation.

16. **COMPETITION AND FIXTURES –**

- 16.1 It shall be responsible for organizing all competitions, preparing match schedules and showing teams, venues, dates and times. It shall assist the Hon Secretary and Treasury with registration. It shall also monitor and ensure that proper procedures are followed with respect to registration of teams and players.

17. **SELECTION –**

- 17.1 It shall select all teams to represent the Federation, make recommendations for the granting to players of such awards as may from time to time be determined by the Board, and may make recommendations to the Board on the appointment of captains and vice-captains.

18. **YOUTH AND DEVELOPMENT –**

- 18.1 It shall liaise with schools, advise the Board on all aspects of the control and development of hockey generally, in schools and specific emphasis on the youth. It shall organise schools and age group competitions on behalf of the board.

19. **UMPIRES AND TECHNICAL –**

- 19.1 It shall train, examine, classify, grade, and re-examine umpires and judges whenever it deems desirable. It shall assign umpires and judges to matches, and shall have authority and control over all aspects of umpiring and judging. Complaints against an umpire and/or judge shall be made direct to this Committee, which shall investigate, as it deems appropriate and report its findings and recommendations to the Board.

20. **COACHING –**

20.1 It shall prepare and execute training and coaching programmes, examine, grade, and classify coaches, and advise the Board on all aspects of coaching.

21.1 **PUBLIC RELATIONS –**

21.1 It shall plan and co-ordinate all matters affecting the Federation's Relationships with its affiliates, other associations and organizations, and the public in general; and shall advise the Board on all public relations matters.

22 **FESTIVALS –**

22.1 It shall have responsibility for all aspects of the planning, co-ordination, and implementation of the Federation's annual festival for clubs and any other festival.

23. **GROUNDS–**

23.1 It shall be responsible for the proper maintenance of the turf facility. It shall advise the Board on any arrangements which need to be put in place to ensure that the facility is kept clean at all times.

**Barbados Hockey Federation Inc**