

THE COMPETITION RULES



1.4.2025

Definitions

Association: Finnish Hockey Association

(<https://hockeyliitto.com>)

Competition Committee Email:

(kilpailu@hockeyliitto.com)

EHF: EuroHockey

(<https://eurohockey.org>)

FIH: International Hockey Federation

(<https://www.fih.hockey>)

Inclement Weather Procedure: See material bank at

(<https://hockeyliitto.com>)

Suomisport Service:

(<https://suomisport.fi>)

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General

1. These are the competition rules of the Finnish Hockey Association. These rules are applied in the activities of the Finnish Hockey Association and its member associations.
2. In these rules, the Association means the Finnish Hockey Association, the EHF the eurohockey, and the FIH the International Hockey Federation.
3. In the competition, the Association's competition and game rules, and the ideals of fair play approved by the 2018 Olympic Committee, are followed. The condition for participating in the competitions is that the athletes comply with the doping rules approved by the Finnish Anti-Doping Commission and the EHF and FIH.
4. Depending on the tournament, the rules and regulations of the EHF and/or FIH are followed in international competition activities.
5. Each club is responsible for the activities of its teams, officials, and players. Each club nominates a responsible person for each of its teams and provides their contact information to the Association when registering for leagues organised by the Association.
6. Everyone participating in the Association's competition activities must have a valid official or player licence. The player licence applies to players and the official licence applies to umpires, coaches, physios, doctors, administrators and other non-players.
7. The Association separately appoints the necessary committees, institutions, and persons to handle different tasks and informs the clubs about them.
8. Broadcasting agreements related to the sport and related to the competition must be approved by the Association. The Association holds the rights to all such activity. When broadcasting contracts are in conflict, the following order of execution is followed:
 - a. Contracts made by the FIH
 - b. Contracts made by the EHF
 - c. Contracts made by the Association
 - d. Contracts of the organising club
 - e. Contracts of the participating clubs

9. Playing Fields

Field hockey and hockey5 matches should be organised primarily on artificial turf, sand, or artificial grass fields. Indoor hockey matches should be primarily held in a hall with wooden or plastic floors.

10. The Ideals and Goals of Fair Play

The Association's competition activities apply the ideals and goals of the Fair Game of Sport and ethical values approved by the Olympic Committee in 2018. When participating in the Association's competitive activities, a person undertakes to follow the ethical values of sports and the ideals and goals of Fair Play, which are respect for other people and equal treatment, honesty, openness, justice, democracy, promotion of health and well-being, responsible education and sustainable development, and respect for nature.

11. Responsible Financial Management

A club that participates in the Association's competitive activities undertakes to handle its financial management responsibly in accordance with the law and regulations as well as other regulations and instructions.

Organisation of Competition Activities

12. Competitions of the Association

The Association confirms the organised series and other competitions separately for each competition season.

13. Series Format

Series can be played as individual matches or in a tournament format. The Association confirms the format for each series before the start of each season. If more than one final match is played, they must be played within 1-8 days of each other.

14. Series Ranking Order

The ranking is determined based on the total points achieved. Teams receive three points for a win, one for a draw, and zero for a loss. In the event of a tie, it is resolved in the following order:

1. Points achieved in mutual matches.
2. Goal difference in mutual matches.
3. Goals scored in mutual matches.

4. Goal difference of the entire series.
5. Goals scored in the entire series.
6. Penalty shootout competition. This takes place immediately on the last day of the series after the last match. However, only in the case of promotion, relegation, qualifiers, or medal places.

If the goal difference at the end of the series is important in terms of the series ranking, a team that has surrendered any matches automatically loses any ties with teams that have the same number of points as them.

Finals

1. If one match is played and there is a tie at the end of playing time, the winner will be decided by a penalty shootout competition.
2. If two matches are played, the winner is the team with the most points (three points for a win, one for a draw, and zero for a loss) from the two matches. If there is a tie, the winner will be decided by a penalty shootout competition.
3. If three matches are played, the winner is the first team to achieve two wins. Tied matches will be decided by a penalty shootout competition.
4. If more than one match is played, the team that won the regular season first chooses its home match day from the final days determined in advance by the Association.

15. Penalty Shootout Competition

FIH rules are followed.

16. Medals

The Association awards medals to the three best teams in the Championship series when there are at least four teams in the series. In the case of fewer teams, and all other series, medals are only awarded to the gold-placed team.

17. Registration

Clubs must register their teams for the Association's competitions each year, according to the deadlines and Series Regulations separately announced by the Association. The Association determines participation fees and their due dates separately.

The Association has the right to refuse the participation of teams that sign up past the deadline and fill vacant spaces as needed. If a Club has any outstanding Association dues and/or fines, the Association

has the right to deny the participation of its team(s) and fill vacant spaces as needed. The Club undertakes to comply with the competition rules of the Association when registering for any series.

18. Cancellation of Participation

Clubs must notify the Association of the cancellation in writing to the Competition Committee by email. Cancellations must be received by the first Monday before the start of the series at 16:00 Helsinki time.

For cancellations, the Association has the right to charge withdrawing Clubs a cancellation fee of €150. Cancellations beyond the deadline are treated as Surrendering from the Series per rule 19.

19. Surrendering Matches and Surrendering or Banning from Series

When a team surrenders a match, the opponent is considered the winner with a result of 1-0 in Outdoor, 2-0 in Hockey5, and 5-0 in Indoor. A team that surrenders more than one individual match or more than one tournament day, will be banned from the series unless the Association decides otherwise.

Teams that surrender a match must pay the Association a penalty of €150.

Matches already played by a team that has been banned, or withdrawn, from a series are voided. If a team is banned, or withdraws, on, or later than, the final match day of the series, their match results remain valid.

If the goal difference at the end of the series is important in terms of the series ranking, a team that has surrendered any matches automatically loses any ties with teams that have the same number of points as them.

Teams that are banned from the series must still pay the series fee in full.

Action in Matches

20. General

Matches under the FIH, EHF, or Association are official matches. In the case of overlaps, the order of importance in descending order is: FIH matches, EHF matches, Association matches.

21. Match Schedule and Match Transfers

The Association confirms the times and venues of official matches. Matches must be played according to the approved schedule. The Association can postpone a series match upon request if more than one participating player is instead representing the Association in another official match or duty. The Association can also postpone a series match for another special reason upon request from a participating club, in which case the requesting club will be responsible for all expenses of the postponed match.

A match transfer must be requested from the Association by a participating club, in writing, no later than 14 days before the match in question, or within 3 days of receiving the schedule of the match in question. The application must be accompanied by a statement from the opponent, or an explanation as to why the statement has not been obtained.

22. Match Organisation

The Association names a responsible team for each tournament day. A tournament day is an event where the Competition Committee has defined it to be a tournament day. In individual matches, the home team acts as the responsible team. The responsible team must have a designated responsible person, as defined under rule 27, who is known to the Association. The responsible team is responsible for the match arrangements as defined below:

1. Confirm the venue reservation and time in writing to the Association by e-mail, unless the Association has made such reservations itself.
2. Provide the participating teams with information about the venue, e.g., it's location, unless this has been stated by the Association in the match schedule.
3. Ensure the correct positioning and condition of the goals.
4. Ensure the correct positioning and condition of the boards in Hockey5 and Indoor hockey.
5. Clearly mark the scoring zones/circle, the goal line, the centre point, and the centre line, if they are not permanent features of the field. If the field boundaries are covered with sand, they must be brushed to make them visible.
6. Clearly indicate the changing room and shower room assignments for teams and umpires.
7. Clearly indicate the audience stands for spectators.
8. Ensure seating for each team and for temporarily suspended players. Additionally, ensure there is a table and chairs for the Officials.
9. Ensure the Officials have means to access the Torneopal results system (preferably a laptop or a tablet), a stopwatch, writing instruments, and a rule book. In addition, in

Indoor hockey a scoreboard and a game clock must be provided. In Outdoor hockey and Hockey5, a scoreboard if possible.

10. Ensure at least three game balls are available for each match. Where possible, arrange ball people in Outdoor or Hockey5 to ensure that balls leaving the playing field do not result in a long break in play.
11. Arrange for match Officials to handle duties defined under rule 23 and any corresponding Official personnel costs.
12. Ensure that public order is maintained at the venue.
13. Announce the match results in SM leagues immediately after the match (no later than 2200 on the day of the match) by email to: tekstiv.urheilu@yle.fi, toimitus@stt.fi, the main local newspaper, and the Competition Committee. The announcement must include, for each match played: the teams of the match, the halftime result, the final result, the goal scorers and assists (surname, name), goal times, penalties, and umpires.

23. Officials

Officials are responsible for:

1. Torneopal or manual alternative where necessary.
2. The game clock (if in use).
3. The scoreboard (if in use).
4. The game balls.
5. Ensuring that Team Managers fulfil their duties under rule 24.
6. Ensuring that match umpires confirm that the match record in Torneopal is correct before closing the match.
7. Implementing the Inclement Weather Procedure.

24. Player List / Team Composition

Team managers must check that their team has been properly entered into Torneopal at least 10 minutes before the start of the match. The following must be checked:

1. The team name.
2. Team staff and their duties.

- a. If no manager is designated, the team Captain is considered the manager for the match in question.
3. Players' names and numbers.
4. The team Captain.
5. The team goalkeeper(s).

The match cannot be started until both teams have approved their entries.

25. Match Protocol

The Torneopal results service as approved by the Association is used in official matches. If Torneopal is not available, a paper record of the results must be made and submitted to the Association within 24 hours of the match finishing. The following match details must be recorded in the protocol:

1. Match, league level, venue, date, start time, and match number.
2. The team details per rule 24.
3. Officials and umpires.
4. Goals, goal scorers, goal assists, and goal scoring time in match minutes.
5. Player penalties (cards: Green, Yellow, Red).
6. The half-time result, the final result, and the winner. If the match ends in a tie, mark 'tie' in the corresponding section of the protocol.
7. Objections/protests filed regarding the match.

26. Player in the Protocol

A player who is entered into the Match Protocol is always considered to have participated in the match.

A player who is not entered, or not entered correctly, in the Match Protocol may not play. If a player who is not entered, or not marked correctly, in the Match Protocol plays in the match they must be removed from the field and bench as soon as they are noticed. Any goals scored by such a player are voided.

1. In Outdoor hockey, the team continues the match with 1 less field player for the duration.
2. In Indoor hockey, the team suffers a 10-minute suspension of 1 player of their choice.

3. In Hockey5, the team suffers a 5-minute suspension of 1 player of their choice.

After each match, the umpires check the Match Protocol with the Officials. If there is any ambiguity regarding the goal scorers or assists the umpires confer with the team managers. After the result is confirmed, no further changes are accepted.

27. Responsible Person

The home team in a single match, or the organising team for a tournament, must have at least one person who is at least 18 years old responsible for their duties under rule 22. If an umpire or other Association representative has to perform any duties under rule 22 due to the responsible team not fulfilling their obligations, the Association may charge the responsible team an appropriate fee. The Association determines the amount of the payment on a case-by-case basis depending on which tasks are performed. The minimum amount is €15 per match.

28. Equipment

In official matches, only sticks, balls, goals, and goalkeeper equipment that are approved by the Association, and are generally available, may be used.

The use of shin guards for field players is mandatory. They must be fully covered by socks.

The use of mouthguards is mandatory for field players under the age of 16, and recommended for adult players. A player under the age of 16 may participate without a mouthguard if there are health reasons and a doctor's prescription.

The use of protective hockey goggles is also recommended for those under the age of 16.

Cycling/compression shorts or other similar items of clothing worn under shorts or skorts should be primarily the same colour as the short or skort.

The use of face masks is mandatory for all field players defending a penalty corner.

If a player's equipment is not in order, the umpires are obligated to prevent their participation in the game until it is corrected.

29. Uniforms

Teams must have uniforms. If two teams cannot be clearly told apart by the umpires, the umpires have the right to require the away team to change their uniform. If the away team is unable to provide a suitably distinguishing uniform, the Competition Committee can impose a penalty.

Umpires can also prevent individual players from participating in games if their uniforms are not in order, until it is corrected.

30. Playing Time

In official matches, the playing times are:

	Outdoor	Indoor	Hockey5
Individual Matches	4x15 minutes Breaks: 2m, 5m, 2m	4x10 minutes Breaks: 1m, 3m 1m	2x10 minutes Break: 2m
Tournament-Style Matches	Defined in the series regulations by the Competition Committee.	Defined in the series regulations by the Competition Committee.	Defined in the series regulations by the Competition Committee.

There are no timeouts in Outdoor, Indoor, or Hockey5.

31. Automatic Surrender

Teams are considered to have surrendered if they have too few players when 15 minutes have passed from the scheduled start time of the match which would otherwise be ready to start.

1. In Outdoor, there must be at least 8 players on the field when the game format is hockey11, and at least 7 players when the game format is hockey9.
2. In Indoor, there must be at least 3 players on the field.
3. In Hockey5, there must be at least a goalkeeper and 3 other players on the field.

In the case of force majeure the umpire can postpone the start time for longer.

A surrender is handled as in rule 19.

32. Match Interruption

An umpire has the right to stop a match if, in their opinion, there are no conditions for continuing the match according to the rules. In this case, the result will be either the result at the time of suspension, or another result determined by the Competition Committee. Alternatively, the Competition Committee can, if necessary, order the match to be played again.

In all tournament-style match days, a match is suspended if a goal difference of 10 is reached. The result will be the result at the time of suspension.

If a team has too many simultaneous player suspensions, the match is suspended and they are considered to have lost unless they have the minimum field presence defined under rule 31.

33. Team

In Outdoor, a team can enter a maximum of 18 players to the Match Protocol, of which a maximum of 16 can be field players and a maximum of 2 can be goalkeepers.

In Indoor, a team can enter a maximum of 12 players to the Match Protocol, of which a maximum of 2 can be goalkeepers.

In Hockey5, a team can enter a maximum of 12 players to the Match Protocol, of which a maximum of 10 can be field players and a maximum of 2 can be goalkeepers.

For non-SM leagues, these numbers may be separately defined by the Competition Committee in the Series Regulations.

34. Team Benches

Only the players and staff named in the Match Protocol may be at the team bench during a match. All such persons are under the umpires' jurisdiction during the match.

35. Team Behaviour

The team manager is responsible for the behaviour of people on their team bench during the match.

The team Captain is responsible for the behaviour of their players on the field during the match.

The use of improper language towards any member of the opponent's team, the umpires, or match officials is prohibited and punishable.

The umpire(s) define what is considered improper behaviour.

Umpiring

36. General

The Association certifies who has the right to umpire official matches of the Association. Umpires are accountable to the Association for their actions.

37. Umpire Assignment

A body or person (i.e., a series manager), appointed by the Association, appoints the umpires for all official matches of the Association. All matches should have two umpires assigned. Matches can have one or three umpires assigned in special cases with approval of the Umpiring and Officiating Committee.

38. Umpire Absence

If none of the umpires arrive for an assigned match, alternative arrangements are made in the following order:

1. An on-site umpire, certified per rule 36, umpires the match with a partner of their choice.
2. The team Captains of the match select the umpires for the match.

A single umpire can be used if necessary.

The absence of one or more umpires, and their replacement(s) if any, must be marked in the Match Protocol.

39. Umpiring Fees

Umpires are entitled to reimbursement for travel expenses as defined by the umpire travel regulations separately confirmed by the Association. Said regulations are confirmed by the Association prior to the start of each competition season.

Disciplinary Matters, Rule Violations, Objections

40. Player Penalties

The following match penalties are used:

	Outdoor	Indoor	Hockey5
Green Card	2 min. Suspension	At least 1 min. Suspension	At least 1 min. Suspension
Yellow Card	At least 5 min. Suspension	At least 2 min. Suspension	At least 2 min. Suspension
Red Card	Must exit the field and the team bench	Must exit the field and the team bench	Must exit the field and the team bench

A player who receives a Red Card is automatically suspended for the next match of their team's remaining matches in the same competition season.

Umpires must report all Red Card incidents to the Disciplinary Committee and send a copy to the Competition Committee.

The Disciplinary Committee reviews all Red Card incidents and determines whether a longer suspension is warranted within 14 days of the incident. Decisions are communicated to their team manager, or other team official listed in Torneopal, via e-mail.

Suspensions carry over to the next season of their respective series if extant.

41. Player Without a Right of Representation

Where a player without a Right of Representation has been fielded by a team or entered into the Match Protocol, the team(s) will be penalised as follows:

If one team has used a player without a right of representation, it will be declared to have lost with a result of 0-1 in Outdoor, 0-2 in Hockey5, and 0-5 in Indoor, or by another result determined by the Association such that the offending team does not benefit.

If both teams have used a player without a Right of Representation the match result will be declared 0-0.

If the goal difference at the end of the series is important in terms of the series ranking, a team that has used a player without a Right of Representation automatically loses any ties with teams that have the same number of points as them.

Offending teams will be issued a €100 punitive fine by the Association.

If the offending player is violating a match suspension, the Disciplinary Committee will impose a punitive fine on their team and a longer-term suspension on the player.

42. Initiation and Handling of a Disciplinary Case

Disciplinary matters are under the jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Committee and handled according to their disciplinary regulations.

43. Umpire's Report

An umpire's report is an explanation regarding the events of a match, made by a match umpire alone or together with their fellow match umpire(s), submitted to the Competition Committee. The umpire(s) must inform the match officials within 30 minutes of the final whistle. The objection must be noted in the Match Protocol, which the official will certify.

The report must state the reason for making the report and their justification.

The report must be impartial and truthful, detailing the matter concerned and their understanding of the surrounding events.

The report must not take a position on possible disciplinary sanctions or otherwise attempt to influence the relevant decision-making body in the matter.

An umpire is obligated to make a report in the cases defined in these Competition Rules, in the Series Regulations, and in other cases specified in the Association's rules or instructions.

An umpire must make a report where there are deficiencies, breakdowns, or irregularities related to the match, and in those cases where the umpire considers it necessary for events to be investigated by the Association or Disciplinary Committee.

When an umpire announces in the Match Protocol that they are making a report, the person(s) and their club(s) have the right to note their response(s) to the matter. The umpire report must be submitted to the Competition Committee via email within 2 business days by 1600. After receiving a copy of the report from the Competition Committee by email, responses must be submitted to the Competition Committee via email within 3 business days by 1600.

44. Objections

The application of these Competition Rules, the Rules of Hockey, violations, or other match-related matters or disagreements can be objected to. Only the parties of the match have the right to object.

An objection due to events that occurred during the match must be reported to the umpires, the opponents, and the match officials within 30 minutes of the final whistle. The objection must be noted in the Match Protocol, which the official will certify. If this entry is missing, the objection will not be processed.

An objection due to the circumstances of the match must be reported to the umpires and the match officials before the start of the match.

All objections must be accompanied by a €150 objection fee paid to the Association within two business days of the match at 1600. The objection will not be processed if this is unpaid. The fee will be returned if the objection is accepted, or if the objection is received late.

All objections must be submitted to the Competition Committee via email within two business days following the match at 1600. Objections regarding the right of representation must be made within five business days following the match at 1600. The objection must be accompanied by proof of payment of the objection fee. The objection will not be processed if it arrives late or incomplete.

45. Objection Resolution

The final match result remains valid until any objections are resolved. Due to an objection, the Association can order the match to be replayed, or they can declare the objecting team to have won

1-0 in Outdoor, 5-0 in Indoor, or 2-0 in Hockey5. The Association can also accept the objection of the losing, or tied, and leave the final match result unchanged.

If the objection of the originally winning team is accepted, the final match result remains valid.

If an objection concerning the right of representation is accepted, the offending club will be penalised as defined under rule 41.

46. Fees and Fines

Any fines levied by the Association must be paid within 7 business days of the notification being issued. However, they must be paid by 1 business day at 1600 prior to the next match day where the club (if a club fine) or player (if a player fine) will be playing. Payments not made by the deadline are automatically doubled.

1. If a Club has participation fees or fines outstanding, they receive 0 points from any match played.
2. If a Player has participation fees or fines outstanding, they have no Right of Representation until the fines are paid.
3. In both Club and Player cases, the Association can modify the above as necessary.

Players and Right of Representation

47. New Player

A new player is defined as a player who did not have an Association playing licence in the previous season. A player who, in the current or previous season, had the right of representation in a eurohockey member country or league of the Association is not considered a new player. Note that player status is considered separately for Outdoor, Indoor, and Hockey5.

Players who played for a Club in a eurohockey member country in the preceding year must obtain a No Objection Certificate from the relevant authority.

48. Right of Representation

The Right of Representation refers to a player's right to represent a certain team in an official match. Each Club is responsible for ensuring its players have a valid right of representation. A player may represent a different club for Outdoor, Indoor, and Hockey5, they are considered separately.

The right of representation is by default the club for which the player has a valid Association player licence.

A player has a Right of Representation when:

1. They have a valid Association player licence.
2. They are not suspended from competition.
3. They have joined the Club, via transfer or otherwise, according to these Competition Rules.

A new player gains the right of representation for a given Club at any point in a season by purchasing a player licence from the Association for that Club. The right of representation comes into effect at the moment of payment. However, a new player may not gain the Right of Representation for a team for a given season after the regular season matches, i.e., the non-final/medal matches.

A player's right of representation can only be rented or transferred to another Club through the rental or transfer conditions of these Competition Rules. However, if a player does not play for one whole season they are considered to be a New Player.

A player cannot simultaneously have the right of representation in a Club under the Association and in a Club in another eurohockey member country.

49. Rental of the Right of Representation

A player who has held a valid right of representation in the previous or current season can be rented to another Club by the Club who holds the right to the player. The rental can be for a fixed period and the same player can be rented more than once during the same season.

Rentals require a completed rental form, available from the Association website, and proof of payment of the rental fee, to be submitted to the Competition Committee via email. The receiving Club gains the right to field the player once the Competition Committee approves the rental.

The Club that gains a rental player cannot rent that player to a third Club.

Rentals cannot be made for a given season after the regular season matches, i.e., the non-final/medal matches.

Following the rental period, the right of representation returns to the original Club who rented out the player.

50. Determination of the Right of Representation

In cases of doubt, a player or involved Club can make a written request to the Competition Committee via email. The Competition Committee can then decide, in a binding manner, for which Club the player has a right of representation according to these Competition Rules.

A party who asserts a claim over a player's right of representation must submit proof to the Competition Committee via email.

The Association charges a processing fee to those who make such requests. These fees are defined on the transfer/rental form.

The Competition Committee can choose to suspend the player concerned until the matter is resolved.

51. Transfer of the Right of Representation

A player who wishes to transfer their right of representation to another Club must request this from the Club who holds their right of representation using the form available on the Association website.

The current Club must complete and return the form to the requesting player within 5 business days. If the player has outstanding membership obligations, the Club must provide proof within 5 business days. If the player then fulfils said obligations, the Club has 5 business days to complete the form.

If the player disputes the obligations, or the deadlines are not met, they must submit proof to the Competition Committee via email for arbitration. The Committee can request details from any party within a set deadline and make a binding resolution without said details if not provided by the deadline.

The player must then provide the form to the new Club, who must complete and return it to the Competition Committee via email. The form must be accompanied by proof of payment of the transfer fee. This fee is defined on the transfer/rental form.

The Competition Committee can reject any transfer application that contains false information and issue penalties as appropriate. Incomplete applications are not processed. Applications not in accordance with these Competition Rules can be rejected. Applications can be conditionally accepted.

All decisions are considered binding as soon as the Competition Committee informs the player and Clubs concerned of the result via email. Appeals must be made within 7 business days.

52. Player Licences

In all official matches of the Association, players must have an Association player licence. An Indoor licence is required for Indoor, and an Outdoor licence is required for Outdoor and Hockey5.

The Association may specify exceptions when confirming match schedules.

Licences must be purchased through the Suomisport service. If licences are purchased on the day of the match, the Club must be prepared to show proof of payment upon request at the venue.

Umpires, coaches, and other non-playing officials must purchase an officiant licence.

53. Player Insurance

In all official matches of the Association, players under the age of 21 must have insurance. This must be purchased through the Suomisport Service, or if they possess personal insurance the details must be provided through the same Suomisport Service.

The Association is not liable for any injuries or damages that occur as a result of participation in Association activities. It advises all participants to obtain insurance.

54. Transfer Periods

The completed transfer form, per rule 51, must be submitted:

1. In Outdoor transfers, 5 business days before the first match of the series.
2. In Indoor transfers, 5 business days before the first match of the series.
3. In Hockey5 transfers, 5 business days before the first match of the series.

If one Club is participating in a series with more than one team, the players can be freely transferred between the teams without transfer forms according to the same deadlines as above.

55. Right of Representation when Club Activity Changes

If a club stops participating in the sport or otherwise surrenders from series, in either Outdoor, Indoor, or Hockey5, per rules 18 or 19, all players whose right of representation it currently holds in that discipline are able to transfer per rule 51, even outside of the transfer periods defined in rule 54.

56. Players

A player can only represent one Club in the same series in the same competition season with the following restrictions, unless their right of representation is rented or transferred:

1. If the Club has more than one team in the same series, a player can only represent one team in that series.
2. A female player can also participate in the male series.

3. Players over the age of 15 can participate in adult SM series and I-Division. Exemptions can be granted by the Competition Committee upon application by the Club. The application must state the reason for the exemption and be signed by the relevant team manager and the player's guardian(s).

Rental players:

1. In SM series, teams must play with 0 substitutes if fielding a rental player.
2. In other series, teams fielding a rental player are permitted a maximum of 1 substitute.
3. Rentals must be approved by the Series Manager before the start of the match.
4. Players rented for the entire season are counted as a regular player of the receiving team and do not incur substitution-restrictions.

Other

57. Cases Subject to Interpretation

In cases subject to interpretation where these Competition Rules do not provide a clear solution, the Competition Committee rules on a case-by-case basis.

Changelog

The numbers are formatted as the old rule number (the new rule number).

1. Definitions page added.
2. Rule 5 (5) slightly reworded.
3. Rule 11 (11), final sentence removed.
4. Rules 12-14 removed. These will be defined separately.
5. Rule 16 (13) reworded, board -> Association.
6. Rule 17, removed.
7. Rule 20 (17), reworded to move certain details to the Series Regulations.
8. Rule 21 (18), reworded to clarify the deadline.
9. Rule 23 (20), final sentence removed.
10. Rule 24 (21), reworded to clarify who may request a match transfer.
11. Rule 25 (22), multiple edits for clarity.
12. Rule 26 (23), considerably reworded to centralise the duties of Officials.
13. Rule 26 (23), added a new inclement weather procedure.
14. Rule 27 (24), 15 minutes has been reduced to 10 minutes.
15. Rule 27 (24), final new sentence relocated from rule 29.
16. Rule 29 (26), added the word 'correctly', clarifying that player names and numbers must be correct or the Umpires must prevent their participation.
17. Rule 29 (26), final paragraph deleted due to repetition of 26.
18. Rule 31 (28), mandatory masks at penalty corners added.
19. Rule 33 (30), condensed.
20. Rule 34 (15), relocated to be closer to the relevant rule.
21. Rule 35 (31), added a reference to rule 22 (19) to clarify the consequences of surrender.
22. Rule 36 (32), added a reference to rule 35 (31) to remove repetition of team sizes.
23. Rule 37 (33), numbers reduced in-line with FIH limits.
24. Rule 37 (33), last sentence reworded and now applies to all non-SM leagues instead of juniors.
25. Rule 39, removed.
26. Rule 40 (35), reworded the final sentence.
27. Rule 41 (36), reworded to remove the annual list. It is changed by the Association at will.
28. Rule 42 (37), reworded to specify the Umpiring and Officiating Committee.
29. Rule 45, removed.
30. Rule 46 (40), sentences regarding multiple yellow cards per season removed.
31. Rule 46 (40), added a requirement for red card reports to also go to the Competition Committee.
32. Rule 47 (41), reworded to include discipline-specific penalties.
33. Rule 47 (41), fine relocated from rule 51 (45).
34. Rule 47 (41), series implications relocated from rule 63.
35. Rule 47 (41), reworded to remove 'Playing Rights' because all covered under the Right of Representation.
36. Rule 48 (42), reworded to refer to the Disciplinary Committee.
37. Rule 49 (43), added time limit.

38. Rule 50 (44), added clarification that the deadline for the objection fee in the case of a right of representation complaint is the same as the deadline for the objection itself instead of the two days for other objections.
39. Rule 51 (45), replaced penalty wording with reference to rule 47 (41).
40. Rule 53, removed.
41. Rule 54 (47), NOC requirements added in line with FIH rules.
42. Rule 55 (48), reworded for clarity.
43. Rule 55 (48), penultimate paragraph relocated from rule 56 (49). Adjusted from two consecutive seasons to one whole season in line with rule 54 (47).
44. Rule 55 (48), final sentence relocated from rule 57 (50).
45. Rule 56 (49), reworded for clarity. Rented players return to the club that rented them.
46. Rule 57 (50), added reference to form.
47. Rule 58 (51), heavily rewritten for clarity and to enable referring from rule 62 (55).
48. Rule 59 (52), reworded for clarity.
49. Rule 60 (53), shortened.
50. Rule 61 (54), reworded to specify transfers for clubs with multiple teams in one series instead of being in the series regulations.
51. Rule 62 (55), heavily rewritten and shortened to primarily refer to other rules. The primary exception granted here is the waiver of the transfer periods.
52. Rule 63, removed.
53. Rule 64 (56) d-e, removed.