

## HOCKEY IRELAND (HI) CLUB OUTDOOR COMPETITION ELIGIBILITY RULES

### 1 GENERAL

- 1.1. No player may play for more than one club in HI **Cup** Competitions in one season.
- 1.2 Every member of each competing team in all HI **Club** Competitions must be a bona fide member of the club, i.e. registered with their branch and on E-Sports Manager in the current season (for indoor hockey – please refer to specific indoor hockey rules).
- 1.3 **In order to be allowed play for a club in HI Competitions** every bona fide member of a club wishing to play in an HI Competition must have played for their club by (and including) 15<sup>th</sup> January in the current season or have played for their club in the preceding season, provided that they have not played competitive hockey\* elsewhere in the intervening period (in which case they are deemed to be a new member – see 1.4).
- 1.4 Any new member to a club wishing to play in any HI competition must have **played** for the club prior to and including December 31<sup>st</sup> in the current season.
- 1.5 Any new member to a club coming from outside of Hockey Ireland must provide a No Objection release form from their last club or National Association. The No Objection release form must contain the player details (Name and DOB), the last club name and release date and be signed by an Official. The No Objection release form needs to be provided to the HI Office before registration can be deemed complete and the player considered a bona fide member of their new club.
- 1.6 In the event of an exceptional circumstance clubs must write to the HI Chair of Competitions for consideration to be given to an exemption. Exemptions will only be considered in cases such as genuine error leading to a delayed registration or in the case of injury preventing play, with satisfactory medical evidence being furnished to support the exemption request.
- 1.7 Players must be registered on E-Sports Manager to their club to play in any HI Club Competition (refer to HI Player Registration Rules for further details).
- 1.8 No current international (as defined by Senior National Coach) may play for a team lower than the club 1<sup>st</sup> team in HI Club Competition.
- 1.9 The HI Competitions Working Group shall have the right to restrict a player from playing below their Clubs' 1st team.
- 1.10 Queries relating to player eligibility should be emailed to the HI Office by the latest time of 5pm on the Tuesday in advance of a weekend competition. Queries must be from the Club Secretary, Match Secretary or the Team Manager. Clubs are encouraged to seek clarification on eligibility queries in advance of a player taking the field.

## **2 AGE LIMIT**

- 2.1** No player may play in an HI Competition until they attain their 15<sup>th</sup> Birthday.
- 2.2** If the 15<sup>th</sup> birthday occurs after 31<sup>st</sup> December, the club must write to the HI to seek confirmation to play in an HI Competition, if the player has not played for the club due to an age restriction.

## **3 EUROPEAN COMPETITION & REPRESENTATION**

- 3.1** Any club participating in European competition need to familiarise themselves with player eligibility rules, particularly if they are new members within the season.
- 3.2** The Winner and Runner Up of the EY Irish Hockey Champions Trophy shall represent Ireland in Europe in the following year.
- 3.3** Where a prize fund is made available for the EY Irish Hockey Champions Trophy in the year of competition, the prize fund will be split equally between the 4 representatives who will represent Ireland in the Euro Club Competitions in the following season. The representatives are determined by 3.2 above.

\*Competitive Hockey definition:

- Any competitive hockey league (sanctioned or un-sanctioned), run by a National Association anywhere in the world or any regional administration below the NA
- Closed university only competitions, whether social or competitive, are excluded from the definition of Competitive Hockey and players playing in such competitions, can continue to be registered to their club and play in HI competition, providing they fulfil other eligibility criteria.