



# Rules for Outdoor Hockey Season

*As approved by Council on 18 April 2018*

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## **1 RESPONSIBILITY**

- 1.1 As prescribed in the Bye-Laws of the Association, the Council has appointed the Executive Committee to, amongst others, manage the Outdoor Leagues on its behalf and to report to it in that regard.
- 1.2 As prescribed in the Bye-Laws of the Association, the Executive Committee may appoint a person or sub-committee to perform any of its responsibilities and to report to it in that regard. In particular, with regard to league matters, the Registrar shall be responsible for all matters pertaining to the scheduling of matches and the recording and processing of match results. Hereinafter, reference is made to “Executive Committee” or to “Registrar” respectively to differentiate between general powers exercised by the Executive Committee, whether delegated to any individual or not, and those specifically delegated to the Registrar in terms of these Rules.

## **2 INTERPRETATION**

- 2.1 In the event of it being found that any of the Rules described herein are in conflict with the Association’s Constitution or Bye-Laws, the latter shall prevail and it shall be incumbent on the Executive Committee to correct the conflict without delay.
- 2.2 In the event of circumstances arising that are not covered by any provisions of these Rules, Bye-Laws or Constitution, or where there is ambiguity or lack of clarity, the Registrar shall decide on the matter.
- 2.3 For purposes of these Rules, any actions that are required to be taken “in writing” or “written” may be effected via e-mail. Messages sent via instant messaging applications will not be considered “written” or “in writing”.

## **3 METHOD OF COMPETITION**

- 3.1 The season shall consist of two distinct and consecutive competitions, each composed of a number of leagues, with a mid-season break between the two competitions to coincide with the government schools holiday in June / July.
- 3.2 Separate but concurrent competitions will be held for men’s teams and for women’s teams.
- 3.3 All teams entered will be allocated to specific leagues for both competitions based on their ranking at the end of the previous competition in order to ensure, as far as is possible, matches between teams of similar strengths.
- 3.4 Unless explicitly specified otherwise in these Rules, all matches will be played according to the official rules of outdoor hockey as published in the official FIH rule book under the auspices of SAHA. Should any official rule changes be published after commencement of the league the Executive Committee shall determine the implementation date thereof.

## **4 COMPOSITION OF LEAGUES**

- 4.1 At the commencement of the first competition the composition of the respective leagues for each gender will be done as follows:
  - 4.1.1 All teams entered are ranked according to their final positions at the end of the previous season with all teams from higher leagues ranked above all teams from lower leagues.
  - 4.1.2 Teams that did not take part in the previous season are ranked below all teams referred to in paragraph 4.1.1 in the order that their entries are received by the Registrar.
  - 4.1.3 The eight highest ranked teams will be allocated to the premier league. The next eight teams will be allocated to the second league, the next eight to the third league, and this process will continue until all teams have been allocated. Depending on the total number of teams entered the Registrar may allocate a number of teams greater or smaller than eight to the lowest one or two leagues.
- 4.2 The first competition will consist of a single round-robin in each league. In the event of a league being contested by fewer than eight teams the Registrar may elect to implement a double round-robin in that league.
- 4.3 The composition of leagues for the second competition will be based upon the rankings of all teams at the end of the first competition, as follows:
  - 4.3.1 The four highest ranked teams in the premier league remain in that league.
  - 4.3.2 The four lowest ranked teams from the premier league and the four highest ranked teams from the second league are combined to form the reserve league, the four lowest ranked teams from the second league and the four highest ranked teams from the third league are combined to form the second league, and this process continues until only the lowest league and the four lowest ranked teams from the league above it remain.
  - 4.3.3 The remaining teams are then combined into two equivalent pools in the manner prescribed by FIH tournament regulations.
- 4.4 In the second competition the leagues will be contested as follows:
  - 4.4.1 The premier league will consist of a double round-robin to be played over three weekends (not necessarily consecutively) where teams are required to play two matches per weekend, with a weekend understood to start on the Friday evening and ending on the Sunday afternoon.
  - 4.4.2 The lowest league will initially consist of a round-robin within each of the two pools. Thereafter teams will play for final rankings by means of cross-over and finals matches, in the manner prescribed by FIH tournament regulations.
  - 4.4.3 All other leagues will consist of a single round-robin only.

## **5 POINTS AND RANKING**

- 5.1 For all matches played match points will be awarded to the participating teams as follows:
  - 5.1.1 Three points for the winning team.
  - 5.1.2 One point for each team in the event of a draw.
  - 5.1.3 Zero points for the losing team.

- 5.2 The following criteria will be used to determine the ranking positions of teams with the process ceasing as soon as inequality is achieved:
- 5.2.1 Highest number of points awarded in accordance with paragraph 5.1, after deduction of penalty points as may have been awarded in terms of these Rules.
  - 5.2.2 Highest number of matches won.
  - 5.2.3 Highest goal difference (which means goals scored less goals conceded).
  - 5.2.4 Highest number of goals scored.
  - 5.2.5 Least number of red cards awarded during the season.
  - 5.2.6 Least number of yellow cards awarded during the season.
  - 5.2.7 Least number of green cards awarded during the season.
  - 5.2.8 The ranking of the respective teams at the commencement of the competition.
- 5.3 The four teams allocated to the second competition's premier league will carry over league points awarded to them for matches played against each other during the first competition. No league points are carried over from the first competition to the second for any other leagues.

## **6 LEAGUE WINNERS AND PROMOTION / RELEGATION**

- 6.1 The highest ranked team in each league at the end of the second competition will be considered "League Winners".
- 6.2 There will be no promotion / relegation matches at the end of the season. Teams will have the opportunity of promoting to a higher league in the following season by ending amongst the top four teams in their leagues.

## **7 TEAM ENTRIES**

- 7.1 The competition is open to teams from all member clubs, in good standing, of the Association.
- 7.2 The Executive Committee may, at its discretion, permit the entry of teams that do not comply with paragraph 7.1, provided it considers such entry to be in the best interest of the sport and the other participants.
- 7.3 The Executive Committee shall annually determine the final date for entries to be submitted to the Registrar. Clubs wishing to enter teams must do so before such date, simultaneously submitting to the Registrar any additional information as requested in advance by the Executive Committee.
- 7.4 It is the responsibility of each club's management to ensure that they have a sufficient number of players to enable participation in all league fixtures prior to entering.

## **8 COLOURS AND CLOTHING**

- 8.1 All teams will be required to submit the colours of their playing attire when registering for the league. Any team wishing to change its colours from those that were submitted with its entry, must obtain the approval of the Executive Committee prior to using the new colours for the first time.
- 8.2 All players must appear on the field in the official attire of their club. Furthermore:
  - 8.2.1 Cycle shorts may be worn but must be the same colour as the shorts/skirts.
  - 8.2.2 Appropriate underwear must be worn.
  - 8.2.3 Women must wear skirts.
  - 8.2.4 No players may wear long tights unless for medical or religious reasons, in which event written permission must be obtained from the Registrar in advance.
- 8.3 In the event of a clash of colours at a match, the away side is required to wear different colours for the match in question.
- 8.4 All players in premier league teams must wear numbered shirts. Teams in other leagues are encouraged to also wear numbered shirts, but are not compelled to do so. Where numbered shirts are worn, no number may be duplicated in any one team.
- 8.5 Any team breaching the above rules may be disciplined at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

## **9 PLAYER REGISTRATION**

- 9.1 As required by the Bye-Laws of the Association, all clubs are required to maintain a register of their players, which they must submit to the Executive Committee when requested to do so, and only players so registered shall be eligible to take part in matches for the club.
- 9.2 Only players who will become fourteen years old or older during the calendar year, and who are not at a primary school, shall be allowed to play in any match.
  - 9.2.1 Clubs are required to obtain written permission from the parents or legal guardians of all school-going players, as well as players under the age of 18, before they may represent the club.
  - 9.2.2 Where school-going players also represent their schools or official schools' representative teams, these teams will at all times have first call on such players.

## **10 PLAYER TRANSFERS BETWEEN CLUBS**

- 10.1 A player who wishes to transfer between clubs may do so before the season's matches commence and needs to obtain official clearance from the transferring club before being allowed to compete for the new club. A copy of such clearance must be sent to the Registrar.

- 10.2 A player who wishes to transfer between clubs after the commencement of the season's matches is required to obtain written permission from the Executive Committee before being allowed to compete for the new club, in addition to obtaining clearance from the transferring club.
- 10.3 The requirements in paragraphs 10.1 and 10.2 also apply to players transferring from clubs outside of the Association's area of jurisdiction. Such players are furthermore also required to obtain clearance from their former provincial association. It is incumbent on clubs accepting new players to ensure that clearance is obtained prior to using such players in matches.
- 10.4 In the event that a club disbands or is suspended from taking part in the league while still indebted to the Association, the registered players of the club will remain proportionally liable for the accumulated debt of that club and will only be permitted to transfer to another club once this amount has been paid to the Association.
- 10.5 No club may withhold a transfer clearance if a player is in good standing with the club.

## **11 TEAM MEMBERSHIP**

- 11.1 No player will be permitted to play for any team of the opposite gender.
- 11.2 For purposes of rules governing player movement between two teams from one club, the team ranked highest at the commencement of the competition shall be deemed the "higher" team and the other the "lower" team.
- 11.3 Any player having played in two successive matches for a team shall be deemed a member of that team and may not move to a lower team unless the Registrar is advised in advance and is satisfied that the proposed change is in good faith, for valid team selection reasons and is not being made for any ulterior motive of loading the lower team for any specific match.
- 11.4 Any player moved to a lower team in accordance with the aforementioned will be required to play a minimum of two matches in the lower team before being eligible for promotion back to the higher team. Deviation from this ruling will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances and with the prior permission of the Registrar.
- 11.5 Any player absent from two successive matches from the team of which he/she was a member as per paragraph 11.3 will cease to be a member of that team and the club shall be free to demote such player to the team immediately lower than the player's original team.
- 11.6 No player shall be eligible to play for more than one team in any one week of league fixtures, unless that player plays only as "goalkeeper" for one team and only as "field player" for one other team, as defined in the official rule book. For purposes of this rule a week is deemed to start on a Monday, before any matches are played on that day, and end on a Sunday, after all matches scheduled for that day have been played. Teams forced to field players for more than one team in one week due to unavailability of players in one of the teams may apply for permission to do so in writing to the Registrar.

11.7 In the event that a team is found to have fielded an unregistered or otherwise ineligible player for a match as determined by these Rules, the match will be deemed to have been forfeited by the offending team and rules with regard to forfeiting matches will apply.

## **12 FIXTURES**

12.1 The Executive Committee shall, at its discretion, determine due dates for the following in respect of each competition:

12.1.1 Publication of draft fixtures.

12.1.2 Comments from clubs with regard to draft fixtures.

12.1.3 Publication of final fixtures.

12.2 All matches will be played on artificial surfaces in the Greater Tshwane area. However, notwithstanding this rule, teams may agree to play at venues outside of the aforementioned area, provided that the Executive Committee is notified at least fourteen days before such matches take place.

12.3 Matches will, throughout the season, be scheduled on a home and away basis, as follows:

12.3.1 All teams will be required to specify the venues to be used as their home venues when they enter.

12.3.2 Teams based outside of the area specified in paragraph 12.2, or clubs that do not have their own home venues, are required to nominate venues within the area that are to be used as their home venues, together with written confirmation of the arrangement by the operators of the venue.

12.3.3 For the first competition fixtures shall be drawn up in such a manner that the difference between the number of home matches and away matches for all teams shall be no more than one.

12.3.4 If, during the second competition, two teams are scheduled to play against each other for the second time in the season, it shall be played at the home venue of the away team at the first match.

12.3.5 If, during the second competition, two teams are scheduled to play against each other for the first or third time in the season, the Registrar shall decide upon the venue in such a manner that the number of home and away matches allocated to all teams are as balanced as logistically possible.

12.3.6 In the event that a match is to be played between two teams from the same club, or between two teams from different clubs that share a home venue, the team listed first on the fixtures shall be the home team.

## **13 MATCH PARTICIPATION**

13.1 Prior to the commencement of a match each team is required to submit to the judge on duty a list, preferably printed, of all its players' names and surnames, as well as the names and surnames of the coach, manager and medical officer, where applicable.

13.2 During a match only the listed manager, coach, medical officer and substitutes are permitted in the designated team area.

- 13.3 Before, during and after a match, only the listed manager, coach, medical officer and suspended players may enter the designated technical area.
- 13.4 Notwithstanding the aforementioned, the judge on duty may, at own discretion, permit persons otherwise not permitted, to enter the team and/or technical area for specific purposes.
- 13.5 In the event of a team commencing a match short of a player or players, such player or players shall be allowed to join their team provided that their names had been recorded on the match report prior to them taking the field.
- 13.6 The total number of players that may be utilised by a team during a match may not be fewer than eight and may not be more than eighteen, subject to the following:
- 13.6.1 No team may at any time take part in a match with fewer than eight players on the field of play. If, for any reason and at any time during the match, the number of players on the playing field, excluding suspended players, should decrease to fewer than eight, the match will immediately be abandoned, will be deemed to have been forfeited by the offending team and rules with regard to forfeiting matches will apply.
- 13.6.2 A team playing with no more than sixteen players may utilise any number of goalkeepers, or none, and may allow any goalkeeper to take part in any portion of the match as a field player or as a field player with goalkeeping privileges.
- 13.6.3 A team playing with seventeen or eighteen players is required to have at least two fully kitted goalkeepers in the team at all times and may not utilise either of these as field players with or without goalkeeping privileges.
- 13.7 If any team objects to the composition of their opposing team, the match must first be played as an official match and only thereafter may they lodge an official objection within forty-eight hours, in writing, to the Registrar for a ruling.

## **14 MATCH RULES**

- 14.1 The result of a match shall only be recorded and match points be allocated upon receipt, by the Registrar, of a properly completed match report which has been signed by both teams, as well as other parties required to sign it. Requirements for the completion of match reports will be communicated to judges during their training.
- 14.2 In the event of any team not being able to commence a match within fifteen minutes of the time set down, the opposing team may refuse to play the match for points, in which case:
- 14.2.1 The match will be deemed to have been forfeited by the offending team and rules with regard to forfeiting matches will apply, provided that the opposing team submits their team list, the judge is satisfied that all listed players are present and the team signs the match report.
- 14.2.2 Except where the teams proceed with the match as a “friendly”, the offending team will be liable for the match fees of both teams.
- 14.3 In the event that umpires were allocated to a match but only one or no umpires are present at the fixture:
- 14.3.1 The captains may decide to either postpone the match or to make use of any other person present and agreed to by both captains.

- 14.3.2 If the match is to be postponed the captains shall notify the Registrar without delay.
  - 14.3.3 If the match is played with a replacement umpire no complaints with regard to the suitability and/or performance of a person substituting for an allocated umpire may be lodged by either team.
  - 14.3.4 Irrespective of whether a replacement umpire is used, the fact that an allocated umpire was absent must be recorded on the match result sheet by the judge.
- 14.4 In the event that no approved judge is present at the fixture:
- 14.4.1 The captains may appoint a person to act as judge for the match.
  - 14.4.2 No complaints with regard to the suitability and/or performance of a person substituting for the judge may be lodged by either team.
  - 14.4.3 The fact that there was no approved judge at the match must be recorded on the match report.
  - 14.4.4 It is incumbent on teams to ensure that they have copies of these Rules, the Association's guidelines for completing match reports and match report forms on hand to use when no judge is present.
- 14.5 The home team shall supply the match ball which must be approved by the opposing captain before commencement of the match.
- 14.6 The Executive Committee shall be responsible for appointing contractors to supply suitably qualified medical personnel to all matches at all venues.
- 14.6.1 No match may take place if the contracted medical officer is not at the venue, irrespective of whether suitably qualified persons are in attendance as part of teams or as spectators.
  - 14.6.2 The medical officer will be responsible for on-site medical assistance only. Should a player require further treatment off-site, such treatment and transport thereto will be for the player's own expense.

## **15 CURTAILMENT OF MATCHES**

- 15.1 If, prior to a match or at any stage during a match, and after consulting team captains, the umpires are of the opinion that the field is unplayable or that any other adverse conditions exist that may in any way negatively impact on or endanger players, officials or spectators, the umpires may, at their sole discretion, curtail the match.
- 15.2 Should any match be one of several being played at one venue, an earlier match may, at the sole discretion of the judge or technical official, be curtailed in order to finish at the time at which the later game is due to start or as soon as possible thereafter, provided that at least twenty minutes of the second half had been played. The decision to curtail the match must be made known to both captains during half-time.
- 15.3 In the event of a match having to be curtailed by the umpires, judge or technical official, for any reason:
- 15.3.1 If twenty minutes or more of the second half had been played the match shall be deemed to have been completed and the score at that time will be recorded as the final score;

15.3.2 If less than twenty minutes of the second half had been played the entire match will be rescheduled by the Registrar.

15.4 In the event of a team leaving the field before the end of the match has been indicated by the umpires, it must be recorded on the match report by the judge. The match will be deemed to have been forfeited by the offending team and rules with regard to forfeiting matches will apply.

## **16 POSTPONEMENTS**

16.1 Clubs forced to postpone a match must notify the Registrar and their opponents in writing, providing reasons for the requested postponement.

16.2 If a postponement request is submitted to the Registrar more than seven days prior to the date and time of the scheduled match, and the Registrar approves the postponement, the Registrar shall reschedule the match for a later date, after consulting both teams.

16.3 If a postponement request is submitted less than seven days prior to the date and time of the scheduled match, or the Registrar does not approve the postponement, the opposing team may:

16.3.1 Agree to the postponement, provided there is still sufficient time left in the competition to reschedule the match. In this event the Registrar will reschedule the match after consulting both teams and the opposing team may not rescind its decision.

16.3.2 Decline the postponement request. In this event the match must either go ahead or it will be deemed to have been forfeited by the postponing team and rules with regard to forfeiting matches will apply.

16.3.3 The postponing team may, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, be held responsible for costs incurred as a result of the postponement.

## **17 FORFEITS**

17.1 A team forced to forfeit a match for any reason must notify the Registrar without delay.

17.2 In the event of a match being forfeited before it has commenced, whether the forfeiting team chose to do so or it is the result of the application of these Rules, the following will apply:

17.2.1 The opposition will be awarded points for a win.

17.2.2 The forfeiting team will not be awarded any points.

17.2.3 In the event that the forfeit was the result of a team postponing the match with less than seventy-two hours notice the forfeiting team will have three league points deducted.

17.2.4 In the event that the forfeit was the result of a team not being ready to take the field at the scheduled time, the forfeiting team will have three league points deducted.

17.2.5 A score of 5-0 in favour of the opponents will be recorded.

- 17.3 In the event of a match being forfeited in terms of these Rules after it has commenced or has been completed, the following will apply:
- 17.3.1 The opposition will be awarded points for a win.
  - 17.3.2 The forfeiting team will not be awarded any points.
  - 17.3.3 A score of 5-0 in favour of the opponents will be recorded except where the opponents won or were in the lead by a margin greater than 5 goals in which case the actual score will be recorded. If the opponents won or were in the lead by a margin fewer than 5 goals, but they had scored more than 5 goals, the offending team will have a sufficient number of goals deducted in order to ensure a lead of 5 goals by the opponents.
- 17.4 In addition to the aforementioned measures, the Executive Committee may impose further penalties at its discretion.
- 17.5 A team refusing to take part in a match, for any reason, must report this to the Registrar as soon as possible and must submit a written report to the Registrar, providing reasons for their refusal to play. The Executive Committee will then investigate the matter and decide upon actions to be taken and penalties to be imposed, if it considers it appropriate.
- 17.6 Notwithstanding the stipulations of any other rules, where a team forfeits a match against a team from the same club, the score will be recorded as 0-0 and neither team will be awarded league points for a win. Further penalties may be imposed upon either team where deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee.

## **18 WITHDRAWAL FROM LEAGUE**

- 18.1 Any team forced to withdraw from the remainder of the season after the final fixtures for that competition have been published must notify the Executive Committee without delay. In this event:
- 18.1.1 The results of all matches already played in that competition by the withdrawn team will be removed from the log and points awarded to that team or their opponents will be cancelled.
  - 18.1.2 The club in question may, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, be held liable for the match fees with regard to themselves and their opponents for the remainder of the season.
- 18.2 A withdrawing team failing to adhere to these provisions will be subject to disciplinary action by the Executive Committee which may include, but is not limited to, being disqualified or relegated for future competitions.

## **19 UMPIRES AND MATCH OFFICIALS**

- 19.1 The Executive Committee will, at its discretion and manpower-permitting, allocate umpires to all league matches. Umpires must apply to umpire in the league in advance and must be approved by the Executive Committee, represented therein by its member for Rules & Technical, prior to umpiring in league matches.

- 19.2 Allocation of umpires will be done with due consideration of the level of play to be expected, as well as the abilities of the umpires in question. However, in order to ensure the development of umpires, the Executive Committee reserves the right to occasionally allocate umpires to matches with the purpose of ascertaining their ability to officiate at the level of play in question. Where at all possible, such umpires will either be allocated together with a more experienced umpire, or will have a more experienced umpire in attendance.
- 19.3 All approved umpires will be informed with regard to the rules and procedures for being involved in the leagues as umpire and will be expected to adhere to such rules.
- 19.4 If an umpire fails to officiate at his/her allocated match, or fails to adhere to the aforementioned rules, such umpire will be subject to a disciplinary process at the discretion of the Executive Committee which may include suspension or a monetary fine or both.
- 19.5 Clubs are required to provide at least one judge for each home match they take part in. Clubs may optionally provide a judge for their away matches to assist the on-duty judge, but are not compelled to do so. All judges must undergo training, to be provided by the Executive Committee, and be approved as judges before they may be utilised at league matches. The judges will be responsible for all timekeeping and accurate recording of information on match result sheets.
- 19.6 The Registrar will, at own discretion and manpower-permitting, allocate suitably experienced technical officials to selected matches. The technical official will be responsible for supporting the judge(s), for ensuring adherence to league rules by all involved and for ensuring satisfactory conduct of team coaches, managers and spectators.

## **20 MISCONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE**

- 20.1 In addition to the provisions of the Association's Bye-Laws regarding misconduct and discipline, the Executive Committee shall have the power to disqualify, penalise or take disciplinary action against any competing club or team, or player or players of any competing club or team who may be proven guilty of any breach of these Rules.
- 20.2 Any temporary suspension of five minutes or more (yellow card) awarded must be indicated on the match report and the umpire that awarded it must briefly state the reason for the suspension before signing the report.
- 20.3 Any player receiving a third yellow card in one season shall immediately and automatically be suspended for the next league match of the team he/she represented.
- 20.4 In the event of a player receiving a fourth or any subsequent yellow card in one season, the Registrar shall report the player to the Executive Committee for a ruling. The player in question may take part in matches until such ruling is issued.

- 20.5 For any permanent suspensions (red cards) awarded, reports describing the circumstances must be submitted to the Registrar, as well as the Hockey Office, by both umpires, the club that the offending player represented, the opposing club and the judge, in writing, within forty-eight hours of the completion of the match. Other parties involved or present may also submit reports in writing. The Registrar shall then report the matter to the Executive Committee for a ruling to be made within ten days of the match at which the most recent card was issued. The player in question may not take part in any matches until such ruling is issued.
- 20.6 In all cases where an individual player is to be suspended from taking part in a match as a result of the application of these Rules:
- 20.6.1 It is incumbent on the player's club to ensure that the suspension is served.
- 20.6.2 The player's name must be indicated on the match report for the match and must clearly be marked 'SUSPENDED' by the judge.
- 20.6.3 The player is not considered a member of the team for purposes of Rule 13.6.
- 20.6.4 The player may not represent any other team of the club while suspended.
- 20.6.5 Failure to adhere to this rule will imply that the team fielded an ineligible player in which case the penalties specified in these Rules will apply.
- 20.7 In addition to the rules regarding the responsibilities of team captains contained in the official rules of hockey, team captains are held responsible for the behaviour of their team coaches, officials and supporters. Umpires are permitted to award suspensions (green, yellow or red cards) to captains failing to exercise such responsibilities.
- 20.8 Umpires are permitted to award suspensions (yellow or red cards) to players guilty of misconduct, for as long as those players are on the field, in the team area or in the technical area, regardless of whether the match is in progress or not. In the event of a player being awarded a yellow card after the completion of a match, the umpire must indicate clearly on the match result sheet that it was awarded after completion of the match and report it to the Registrar. The Registrar will then report the matter to the Executive Committee for a ruling.
- 20.9 The use of foul language which is loud enough for spectators to hear will be considered grounds for an immediate temporary suspension of five minutes or more (yellow card) at the umpire's discretion.
- 20.10 The Executive Committee may, at its discretion, appoint a Disciplinary Committee to investigate any acts of misconduct or breach of these rules, or any other matter reported to it, and to impose an appropriate sanction. Such Disciplinary Committee must report back to the Executive Committee with regard to its procedure, findings and sanctions imposed.

## **21 OBJECTIONS AND APPEALS**

- 21.1 In the event of a club objecting to or disputing any league-related matter, the following procedure is to be followed:
- 21.1.1 An appeal must be lodged, in writing, with the Registrar who will make a decision and inform the club accordingly.

21.1.2 The Registrar's decision may be appealed by submitting written representation to the Executive Committee, via the Administrator, for a decision. Such submission must be accompanied by payment of R1000 which will be refunded if the appeal is successful.

21.1.3 The Executive Committee's decision may be appealed by submitting written representation to the Council, via the Administrator, for a final and binding decision. Such submission must be accompanied by payment of R2000 which will be refunded if the appeal is successful.

21.2 Objections in respect of suspensions (green, yellow or red cards) may only be lodged in the event of mistaken identity of the suspended player and must include the name of the player from the same team who should have been suspended instead.

21.3 No objections or appeals pertaining to on-field decisions made by umpires shall be entertained.

21.4 No objection or appeal which is not put in writing will be entertained.