

ATHERTON TABLELANDS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS AND RESOLUTIONS

(Updated at Special General Meeting – 30th April)

Section 1 Fee Structure

- a) The association shall determine the appropriate nomination fee prior to the commencement of the playing season.
- b) Each player will be required to pay both the ATHA registration fee and the Queensland Hockey registration fee: payment of HQ fees covers player insurance. This is to be done online via the competition portal.
- c) A player wishing to register with ATHA after July 1st is charged a set percentage of the registration fee as determined by the management committee for that year. Each player will also be required to register with Hockey Qld to ensure that they have paid the appropriate insurance fee via the online competition portal.
- d) A player will pay the set fees applicable for the age group that they are playing in. HQ fees and age group are determined from Dec 31st of the playing year. ATHA fees and age group are calculated from Jan 1st of the playing year.

Section 2 Registration

- a) A player shall not participate in any game, including competition preseason games unless they are a registered player. A player is only deemed to be registered once they have completed nomination, paid the prescribed HQ and ATHA nomination fees via the competition portal and have been issued with an official receipt, which they must produce if requested.
- b) Nomination fees and registration forms are to be paid and submitted via the ATHA competition portal.
- c) Dual registration: Upon payment of the set dual registration fee, providing proof of registration with another centre and completing ATHA registration forms a player from another hockey centre is entitled to play in ATHA fixture games.

Section 3 Competition Divisions

- a) Prior to the commencement of the playing season all teams shall submit a team registration form indicating the names and ages of team members plus details of team officials, associate members and names of nominated umpires. Each team regardless of age group will consist of nine (9) core players not affiliated with another team with the exception of those players also competing in any ATHA registered 'Intercity Team'. These nine (9) players must be listed and registered on the submitted team registration form before the team can be allotted competition points.
- b) No player shall be registered with or play with more than one team in the same age/competition division, except for those players also competing in any ATHA registered 'Intercity Teams'. Notwithstanding anything contained within these rules, a player can play in any number of teams in any preseason games to enable organizers to finalize the make-up of teams prior to the commencement of fixture games.
- c) Under age players may, subject to the provision of these by-laws, play in a higher age division (see 3f) only if pursuant to an application made in writing to the committee in that regard.

d) A player may, by completing a Player Release Form seek de-registration from a team as a registered team player or as a quarantined player and re-register with another team. The form must be submitted to the management committee at least one week before the required de-registration. A player shall not be entitled to seek reregistration with a team from which such a player had previously been registered within the same playing season.

e) The provisions of clause 3b & 3c hereof do not apply in the event that a particular team ceases to exist and its members are relocated to other teams.

f) An underage player is entitled to play for only one (1) team in one division higher than their registered age group. Such player shall be “quarantined” to such team and shall not be entitled to play with any other team in the same higher age/competition division.

g) A single gender team shall not allow a lower aged player from the opposite gender to play with that team.

h) A registered player or a quarantined player shall not play in any semi-final or final games unless such player has played in at least seven (7) competition games for that team prior to the commencement of the finals. Upon written application the management committee may allow a registered player or a quarantined player to play in any final games if they have played less than seven games but more than 3 games

i) Not more than three (3) U16 players are allowed on the field at any one (1) time when playing up into the Men’s and Ladies competition. An U16 goal keeper may also play up in the Men’s and ladies competition over and above these three (3) players.

j) All Junior teams are to have a fully padded goal keeper on the field at all times irrespective of the total number of players on the field. All Senior teams are to have a fully padded goal keeper on the field at all times when a team fields ten (10) players plus the goal keeper. A senior team may only play with a kicking fullback when that team is unable to field ten (10) players plus a goal keeper. A kicking fullback must at all times wear a helmet. No substitution of the goal keeper or kicking fullback is permitted during playing time: substitutions are permitted at half time.

k) Quarantined players are still entitled to play up in their quarantined higher age division team when 1) their own age division team has a bye, and 2) their own age division team is not included in the semi-finals or finals.

l) Ten (10) minutes after the game start time the game is declared a forfeit if either team does not have a minimum of seven (7) players. Of these seven (7) players one (1) player must be a goal keeper or for senior teams a kicking full back. These seven (7) players may be registered team players or quarantined players; however senior teams must be mindful of by-law 3i which limits the number of quarantined players on the field at any one (1) time. Once a forfeit has been declared a “scratch match” may take place.

m) Ladies or veteran players are entitled to play for only one (1) team in any other senior division. They will be quarantined to this team and shall not be entitled to play with any other team in the same senior competition division.

n) The “quarantined” players may play in another senior division only if they play in their own nominated team division on that same particular day/fixture round. (the only exception is when their own teams division: 1) has a bye or 2) is not included in the semi finals or finals.) If the player contravenes this rule, they will be suspended from all games for one (1) fixture round. Any player

suspended from playing will still be required to attend their team match as per normal fixtures. The player will be required to sit out the match with the teams substitutes but take no part, directly or indirectly in the match. This includes any form of coaching of the player's team. Failure to adhere to this will extend the suspension period by another week.

o) Not more than three (3) quarantined junior or senior players are allowed on the field at any one (1) time when playing in another competition. A quarantined goal keeper may also play up to another competition over and above these three (3) players.

p) This section applies to those players playing in any Atherton registered team competing in any 'Intercity Competition '

(i) Prior to the commencement of the playing season or tournament, all intercity teams must submit a registration form indicating the names and ages of team members plus details of team officials and associate members.

(ii) All players must be registered ATHA players or approved to play for ATHA as per (p(iv)), and comply with the by-laws of both ATHA and the opposing intercity team club or association.

(iii) All intercity players will be responsible for any additional fees or obligations associated with competing in regular inter-town competition/s.

(iv) For ALL intercity teams, preference will be given to the ATHA players that identify ATHA as their primary club. For those players with dual registration, not identifying ATHA as their primary club or those registered with another club and wishing to play for ATHA, consideration to compete in Intercity teams will be at the discretion of the ATHA executive committee and only where a vacant position exists.

(v) All players registered as ATHA players are encouraged to play both locally and as Intercity players and must be fully paid members. All players registered as ATHA players and choosing to play solely as Intercity players must submit in writing to the ATHA executive committee a request for exemption and pay a registration fee of no less than half the annual set fee as per section 1(a). This exemption does not apply for those players who choose to play for another hockey club at times when a local competition is available.

Section 4 Determination of age players

a) The age of any player is determined as, the age as at the first day of January.

b) No player shall participate in any games unless he/she enrolled at a Qld State or Private Educational Facility with a minimum entry of Pre Year 1.

c) New junior players will be required to provide proof of their age by way of birth certificate/birth extract or by any other method approved by the fixtures committee.

Section 5 Composition of teams

a) The association may allow the composition of "under age" teams to be either male or female or a combination of both genders as the circumstance dictate.

b) The composition of other teams (other than under age teams) shall comprise solely of players of one (1) gender.

Section 6 Recording of Competition Points

a) The admin officer shall check details of team cards, points for and against each team and once satisfied shall enter this information into the competition portal each week. Such points shall stand unless as provided in clause 6d hereunder. Game cards are to be kept for future reference and/or disputes.

b) Details shown on team cards shall be used to determine eligibility of a player to participate in finals.

c) Team captains shall be responsible for recording the full names of all registered and quarantined team players (maximum 16) on the game card before commencement of the game. At the end of the game, team captains must cross off any players that did not take the field and sign the team cards verifying that all player details are accurately recorded.

d) The management committee shall be the sole arbitrator in the event of a dispute regarding points or the competition portal or in regard to the player's claims to having played in any particular game and have absolute authority to determine a player's eligibility to participate in any finals. Furthermore, the management committee shall have absolute authority to adjust competition points after investigating any allegations of error, false or misleading details being recorded on team cards.

e) A club/team shall lose/forfeit any competition points gained in any game in which: 1) an unregistered player participates; 2) the team/player contravenes the provisions of section 3 or section 6.

f) Any team who does not supply an allocated umpire for a fixture games may lose two (2) points per umpire, and any team with a negative points total at the end of the last fixture round may be ineligible to play in the finals.

g) Any team that forfeits will be allocated zero (0) points and zero (0) goals and the opposing team shall be awarded three (3) points and three (3) goals.

h) Any team, senior or junior, who does not supply a minimum of two staff for canteen duty will lose two (2) competition points for not performing canteen duty as required on the draw roster.

Section 7 Finals

a) Prior to the commencement of the competition finals, the management committee shall by resolution determine the format and rules relating to the finals. In the event that the teams are on equal points prior to the commencement of the finals, the team with the highest goal average shall be deemed to be the minor premiers.

Section 8 Conduct

a) During the conduct of the game, team coaches and managers shall not be entitled to: 1) question the umpire's decision, 2) Criticize the umpire's decisions. 3) Interfere with the conduct of the game.

b) For serious and/or repeated contravention of the provisions contained in section 8 a) 1, 2 & 3, the umpire at their discretion may either caution the offender or permanently suspend the offender. Such permanent suspended coach/manager shall not remain within the playing facility or its surroundings during the duration of that particular game. Coaches and managers are deemed to be members of the team.