

ISBHF

COMPETITION REGULATIONS

NATIONAL TEAMS

§ 1 GENERAL

1.1 ISBHF Championships (Championship) shall be conducted in accordance with ISBHF Organizers Regulations, ISBHF Competition Regulations, ISBHF Juridical Regulations and ISBHF Rules of the Game.

1.2 All ISBHF member associations are entitled to apply to organize ISBHF Championships.

1.3 The organizers of ISBHF Championships are appointed by the Conference upon proposal from ISBHF Technical Committee (TC).

1.4 The responsibilities of the organizers are laid down in the ISBHF Organizers Regulations.

§ 2 PARTICIPATION

2.1 ISBHF shall stage a World, Continental (European, American, etc.) and Junior Championship for national representative teams in principal in June every year, in odd years World and in even years European Championships for seniors and vice-versa for juniors.

2.2 All ISBHF member associations may apply to participate in a Championship, subject to the rules as outlined in the *ISBHF WC, WJC, & CC Qualification Regulations*. ISBHF may invite other nations with street/ball hockey.

2.3 The registration shall be made on the official ISBHF Tournament Application Form.

Application form and payment of the participation fee, 800 Euro for the AAA-category, and 650 Euro for Junior, shall be forwarded to ISBHF latest on September 30th the year before the Championship.

2.4 A registered team that withdraws from the championship shall be fined according to the ISBHF Juridical Regulations.

2.5 Costs for travel to and from the arrival city and board and lodging shall be borne by each participating team.

2.6 The host shall pay, if agreed by ISBHF Conference, for no more than 32 persons (25 players and 7 officials) for travelling from the airport, harbour or railway station in the Arrival city to their respective hotel. The host shall also pay for the participating teams to travel from their hotel to the official venues, to training sessions according to the official program of each team and to the airport, harbour or railway station in the departure city. The responsibility for the organizer to transport the teams starts two days before the first match and ceases the day after the last match of each team.

2.7 Participants shall be responsible for taking out the appropriate insurance to cover their delegations.

§ 3 QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS AND OFFICIALS

3.1 Objective

The following rules would apply for all ISBHF members as well as nations which are not or not yet ISBHF members but participate with a national team at a tournament organised by the ISBHF or play an international match against a nation which is an ISBHF member.

3.2 Area of applications

As national team games are concerned:

International Championships (World Cup / Continental Cup)

(ii) International Tournaments

(iii) Official national team games

International Matches which are well defined as exhibition games for development, do not fall under the player Eligibility rule. International Matches between two LM Category Nations (see below) are only exhibition games, when the location, where the game takes place, is not in a LM Category Nation.

3.3 Nationality

As long as a country has its own national team, this country applies to be a member nation of its own, and players may have its citizenship. A nationality of a confederation of nations is not considered in this case. Example: Scotland has its own National Team but the players are UK citizen.

3.4 Country allocation

All member nations will be allocated into one of two categories

(i) LM-Large Memberships (Countries where the sport is well developed and have a large number of participants)

(ii) GM-Growing Memberships (Countries where there are fewer participants and the sport is still in an early growth stage)

Each year at the annual ISBHF Congress the categories will be reviewed and redefined for the next year, and subject to article 11.

New Countries are automatically placed in GM Category in their first year, and shall be permitted this status for a maximum period of three years from the first WC/WJC they attend.

The country allocation is only valid for their active players.

3.5 Player recognition

A player, whether he plays or not, is officially recognized as a National Team player if he is named on the match sheet.

3.6 Active Players

Definition: Active players are players who are, according to the ISBHF age guidelines, no longer eligible to play for a U20 national team, and players who are eligible to play for a U20 national team but have played for a senior national team.

Players who play for a Nation are not eligible to play for any other Nation, unless they reside in this new nation and receive citizenship or similar document*. For such a change of Nation to be valid for international competition, the players must wait a period of three years from the last world championship before being eligible for the new Nation. Players making a change of Nation cannot in the future return to play for the originating Nation.

3.7 U20 Players

Definition: U20 players are players who are, according to the ISBHF age guidelines, eligible to play for a U20 national team.

Once a U20 player has played for a senior national team, regardless of his age, the article 6. "Active Players" shall apply to him.

By way of transfer from a U20 Player to an Active Player, their history will be deleted and the rules under article 6 "Active Players" apply to him without bias. (Except article 8 "Active and U20 Players").

A player can either play for his home country (i.e. place of residence) or the country of his citizenship. For the determination of the country of his citizenship only the nationality of the player is crucial. The parental citizenry is irrelevant. Therefore, a player can play for several nations in his history as a U20 Player if he changes country of residence. However, players who have played for a nation are not eligible to play for another nation in same year.

3.8 Active and U20 Players

Players who played for a nation are, even if they transfer from U20 to Active Players, not eligible to play for another nation in same year.

3.9 Players of Heritage

As many as 8 players, whose parents or grandparents are/were citizens of that nation, can be used by a GM nation, only after a minimum of 17 players of citizenship* or former citizenship have been named to the official national team roster. Players of Heritage must provide copy of legal document establishing citizenship or former citizenship of parent or grandparent, example: birth certificate, old passport, citizenship certificate, or marriage certificate from that nation.

3.10 Sanctions

Infringements against these rules will be penalised as follows:

Team: Game forfeit by 5:0 plus
Fine of CHF 500.— per game by infringements during Championships
Fine of CHF 250.— per game by infringement during an international tournament
Fine of CHF 100.—per game by infringement during a national team game

Player: Blocked for all national team games for a period of one year

3.11 Development targets for new nations

GM nations will lose their eligibility to participate in WC, WJC, and CC events if they do not meet the following development conditions:

- (i) Establish a fully functioning league in the nation, with a minimum of 50 players, within three years of first participation in WC or WJC.
- (ii) Establish youth programs in the nation, with a minimum of 50 players U-20, within five years of first participation in WC/WJC.
- (iii) Mandatory participation in Continental Championships at Senior level, if such exist, in the off years of WC, effective 2008.
- (iv) Mandatory participation in Continental Championships at U-16 or U-18 level, if such exist, in the off years of WJC, within seven years of first participation in WC or WJC.

3.12 Development surcharge fee

Any nation with less than 500 registered youth players in the nation are subject to a development tax of 125 Euros per player used at WC who resides in a foreign nation.

100 Euros of each fee shall be held in escrow and directed by the ISBHF towards youth development in the home nation, and the balance of 25 Euros will be placed in the ISBHF Development Fund to be used in youth development in other countries at the discretion of the ISBHF

** For the purposes of this regulation article, due to the differing government citizenship rules from nation to nation, the following other valid documents may be accepted:*

- *Work visa, with proof of residency in the nation*

- *Student visa, with proof of residency in the nation*
- *Landed immigrant certificate*
- *Birth certificate*
- *Person of Origin certificate*
- *Proof of citizenship*
- *National I.D. Card*

3.13 Teams participating are entitled to use a maximum of 25 players and a maximum of 7 officials in the Championship. A preliminary list of the players and the goalkeepers must be submitted, together with the passports, confirming the state citizenship, and with the eligibility forms completely and properly filled in with correct family and given names, to the directorate for controlling the registration, by the respective directorate member, on the eve of the tournament, latest by midnight local time, with a minimum number of 15 players and 2 goalkeepers. The minimum 15 players plus 2 goalkeepers must be present at the championship venue. A final list shall be submitted latest 1 hour before the first match of the championship, if not submitted the preliminary list becomes final. The remaining players shall be submitted for registration in the same way during the tournament, latest two hours before the respective game.

The official eligibility form is only accepted if signed by the player and his National Association (NA).

3.14 30 days before the first day of the Championship a preliminary list of the team delegation, completed on the official ISBHF form and signed by the national Association, shall be sent to ISBHF Office and the organizer. This list may consist of up to 30 players and 10 officials from which the final delegation shall be selected. Only those persons included in the final list are entitled to participate in the Championship. Persons in the final list may, due to unforeseen circumstances, be substituted after an application to the ISBHF TC. Passports shall be checked before the first match.

3.15 A maximum of 20+2 players and 5 officials are allowed to participate in a match.

A list of players and officials who are taking part in a match shall be handed in to the match secretariat no later than 30 minutes before the match. No other than those mentioned on the list are allowed to be in the substitution zone.

3.16 The ISBHF Board is entitled to approve an exception of qualification of players and officials if this is not in conflict with the ISBHF Articles.

§ 4 PLAYING SYSTEM OF THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

4.1 The Championship shall be played, in principal, in two divisions.

Division into further divisions may be decided after deadline for registration. ISBHF technical committee may be entitled by ISBHF Conference to modify the playing system if necessary.

4.2 The A-division shall consist of the seven best teams of the previous Championship of the same category and the winner of the B-division of the previous Championship of the same category.

4.2.1 The A-division shall be played in two groups of 4 teams each. The constitution of the groups shall be based on the final rankings of the previous Championship of the same category as follows:

Group 1

World/European Champion

4th placed team

5th placed team

B-division winner of the previous Championship

Group 2

2nd placed team

3rd placed team

6th placed team

7th placed team

4.2.2 The order of play within each group in the A-division shall be defined by technical committee. The local circumstances and media (TV) conditions are to be considered.

4.2.3 The groups are decided by each team playing each other once within the group, where 2 points are awarded for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a loss.

4.2.4 The ranking within a group shall be decided in the following order:

a) The total number of points.

b) If two or more teams have the same number of points the internal matches of the teams concerned, the internal goal difference included if necessary, shall be decisive.

c) If the internal matches according to b) are not decisive, most scored goals internally shall be decisive.

d) If the ranking can not be decided by the internal matches the total goal difference of the teams concerned shall be decisive.

e) If the total goal difference is not decisive most scored goals of the teams concerned shall be decisive.

f) If two teams are definitely clear equal after their last mutual game in the group then this game shall be prolonged according to the regulation for play-off

games.

4.2.5 Continued play after the group matches shall be as follows:

Semi-final 1 Winner of group 1 – 2nd of group 2

Semi-final 2 Winner of group 2 – 2nd of group 1

Match for 3rd Place Loser of Semi-final 1 – Loser of Semi-final 2

Final Winners of Semi-final 1 and 2

Ranking matches for 5th and 7th place shall be played as follows:

Match for 7th Place 4th of group 2 – 4th of group 1

Match for 5th Place 3rd of group 1 – 3rd of group 2

The loser of the 7th place match shall be relegated to the B-division.

The above mentioned matches shall, when ending with a draw, be settled according to the ISBHF Rules of the Game concerning extra-time and, if necessary, penalty shots.

TC is entitled to modify the system for each championship.

4.3 The B-division shall consist of the last placed team of the A-division of the previous Championship of the same category and the remaining teams registered for participation, the teams qualified for the A-division excepted.

4.3.1 The number of groups, playing system and order of play may be decided after deadline for registration. The constitution of groups, if more than one group, shall follow the principles of the A-division, and be based on the final rankings of the previous Championship of the same category.

4.4 The ISBHF technical committee prepares the game schedule for the Championship according to the ISBHF regulations. The organizers will propose the dates and places of the games.

The team listed first is the home team having the choice of sweater colour and players bench. When the teams play each other in the final round again, the home team will be reversed. The match schedule of a Championship shall be done such that there is least 2 1/2 hours between the start of matches being played on the same rink and that there is, in principal, at least 4 hours between the start of two consecutive matches of any team. Whenever possible a team that has played the last match on one day should not play the first match of the following day.

4.5 The organizers are entitled to request the ISBHF technical committee for changes in the timetable for reasons of television coverage, if the teams are informed at a justified time before the start of the match concerned.

4.6 Teams are entitled to warm up on the rink before start of a match.

§ 5 PLAYER'S UNIFORMS

5.1 Each participating team must have two sets of sweaters and socks, one of light colour and one of dark colour. Both sets must be approved by the ISBHF. The colours of the sweaters and socks must be the same. The player's uniforms shall be according to the ISBHF Rules of the Game.

All helmets of players in one team must be of the same colour, except goalkeepers. Each player must play the whole tournament under the same player number.

ISBHF may, when inviting to an ISBHF Championship or tournament, decide about further regulations regarding numbering, colours and advertisements of the player's uniforms, other outfit and equipment and the team official's outfit and equipment, to be in charge during the ISBHF Championship or tournament.

5.2 If two teams have the same main-colour on their uniforms the prepared ISBHF list regarding team's uniforms in the matches shall be applicable.

§ 6 ADVERTISEMENT RIGHTS

6.1 A team is entitled to have advertisements on the player's uniforms unless uniforms supplied by the organizers.

The main colour of the uniform must be dominating.

6.2 ISBHF is entitled to have advertisements on the player's uniforms.

§ 7 REFEREES

7.1 All matters concerning referees in ISBHF Championships shall be dealt with by the ISBHF Referee Committee and Referee regulations according to valid regulations and decisions.

§ 8. PROTESTS

8.1 When taking decisions the valid ISBHF regulations are applicable.

8.2 The intention to protest shall be noted in the Match Record directly after the match and the protest shall be handed in to Directorate within 60 minutes from the end of the match concerned.

8.3 Protests concerning qualification of players shall be handed in before the start of the match concerned.

8.4 A protest must be written, signed and followed by the amount of 200 CHF, which will be returned only if the protest is approved.

§ 9 DOPING

9.1 When taking decisions the valid ISBHF regulations and the IOC Doping regulations are applicable.

9.2 All players registered for competition of ISBHF agree to undergo doping control test. Refusal of player to submit to doping test shall be considered as equivalent to positive result. The player is entitled to

be accompanied by an official or other of the team during the test.

9.3 In case of a positive doping test the player concerned shall be suspended during investigation. Decision about punishment shall be taken after the ISBHF Championship or tournament.

§ 10 CUPS AND MEDALS IN THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

10.1 A challenge cup shall be presented to the winning team for the time between two Championships. The holder shall be responsible for the loss or damage to the cup and shall return it to the ISBHF office in perfect condition, one month before the next Championship. ISBHF shall be responsible for engraving the name of the winning team. A replica of the cup shall be awarded to the winning team together with 32 ISBHF Gold medals. Additional medals may not be produced. The challenge cup shall become the final property of the team which wins the trophy three times in succession or a total of five times.

10.2 The 2nd ranked team shall be presented a cup and 32 ISBHF Silver medals.

10.3 The 3rd ranked team shall be presented a cup and 32 ISBHF Bronze medals.

10.4 The winner of the B-pool shall be presented a cup and 32 ISBHF B-pool Gold medals.

10.5 The team with the lowest penalty minus points will obtain Fair Play Cup. In case of equality of points the number of penalty minutes for misconduct and unsportmanlike conduct, then the number of major penalties will be decisive. If equality still exist then the team in higher standing position will take precedence.

10.6 A player with a match penalty, gross misconduct penalty, game misconduct penalty or positive doping test is not eligible for any award and his team is not eligible for the Fair Play Cup competition.

10.7 The following individual awards will be awarded in the Championship: best goalkeeper, best defender, best forward, all stars team.

10.8 Each team participating in the Championship will be awarded by a cup.

§ 11 THE SITE AND SERVICES

11.1 The arena and the rink shall be according to the ISBHF Rules of the Game.

11.2 The organizer is responsible for the sufficient supply of approved balls.

§ 12 PRACTISE SESSIONS DURING CHAMPIONSHIPS

12.1 Teams are entitled to at least one practice in the official tournament venue before their first match in that venue, on the day before an official match. Practice may not be free of charge.

12.2 Practice sessions shall be conducted according to the official practice schedule. A team which played the last match one day should not, if possible, be scheduled to the first practice session on the following day.

12.3 Teams shall bring their own balls and other equipment to practice sessions.

§ 13 DIRECTORATE

13.1 The Directorate is a temporary executive body of the ISBHF with responsibility for conducting the ISBHF Championships.

13.2 The Directorate shall be responsible for:

- a) controlling of eligibility of the players
- b) control of the organizer's responsibility
- c) ruling on all disciplinary and technical matters during the tournament
- d) doping control
- e) awarding cups, medals, diplomas
- f) confirming the nominations of best three players of each team
- g) selecting the best goalkeeper, defenceman and forward of the tournament
- h) sanctioning any other awards

13.3 The directorate of the AAA and AA pool will be under the chairmanship of the ISBHF President or his deputy plus all other ISBHF Board members plus one member representing the organizing committee. If the Board member does not represent the national team, such NA is to nominate a member of the Directorate as well. The chairman and the representatives of the organizing committee cannot represent his own country.

13.4 In all directorates every member has one vote. In the case of equality of votes the chairman must exercise the casting vote.

13.5 The first directorate meeting will be held on the eve of the relevant tournament. The agenda should comprise the following:

- a) A short welcome by the host
- b) Addresses, e-mail, telephone and fax numbers of the Head office of the competition, the venues, the teams, officials and referee hotels
- c) Transportation arrangements to and from the matches and practice arenas
- d) Opening and closing ceremonies, formalities, place and time
- e) Places reserved for teams in the spectator's areas
- f) Press conferences and times
- g) Briefing for the officials and referees
- h) The procedure before and after each match
- i) A complete list of the Directorate, organizing committee, referee committee and team members
- j) The ISBHF list of team's uniforms in the matches (each team shall have two sets of jerseys, one dark and one light)
- k) ISBHF advertisement strips

13.6 If necessary other meetings may be held. Chairman or his deputy are responsible for call of the meeting.

13.7 The organizers are responsible for arranging the meeting rooms.

13.8 The heads of delegations or their representatives are obliged to attend other meetings scheduled by the Directorate.

13.9 The Chairman of the Directorate will send a written report to the ISBHF Office within 2 weeks after the completion of the championship.

§ 14 TICKETS, ENTRY AND VIP CARDS

14.1 Each participating team is entitled to a maximum of 30 tickets valid for the entire Championships, free of charge, for the players and officials of the team.

14.2 Each participating member Association is entitled to a maximum of 10 tickets valid for the entire Championships, free of charge.

14.3 Each participating member Association is entitled to purchase tickets.

The ticket quota of each participating member Association shall be fixed by ISBHF TC in consultation with the organizer.

14.4 Each member of the team and ISBHF staff will be provided with Entra Card, which must be displayed on visible place by entering the arena.

14.5 All accredited reporters and media staff will be provided with Press Entry Card.

14.6 All official guests will be provided with VIP Card which entitles them to enter rooms with restricted access.

§ 15 UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

15.1 The ISBHF TC shall take decisions on all matters not provided for in these Regulations, as well as in cases of "force majeure". Such decisions shall not be subject to appeal.

The COMPETITION REGULATIONS took effect with their approval by ISBHF Conference on 23rd January 1999, modified on 25th January 2002, 31st January 2004, 22nd January 2005, and most recently 21st January 2006.