



**HOCKEY INDIA**

**REGULATIONS RELATING TO**

**SANCTIONED AND UNSANCTIONED**

**EVENTS**

## REGULATIONS RELATING TO UNSANCTIONED EVENTS AND TO NO-OBJECTION CERTIFICATES FOR SANCTIONED EVENTS

### **A**     Introduction

1.     HOCKEY INDIA has adopted these regulations to implement and give effect to the FIH Regulations on Sanctioned and Unsanctioned Events within HOCKEY INDIA 's jurisdiction. These *Regulations* therefore:
  - 1.1     establish a procedure for an *Event* organiser to apply to HOCKEY INDIA to sanction that *Event*;
  - 1.2     prohibit *Athletes* and other organisations and individuals under the jurisdiction of **HOCKEY INDIA** participating in *Unsanctioned Events*;
  - 1.3     establish a procedure for an *Athlete* whose *Home National Association* is HOCKEY INDIA to apply to HOCKEY INDIA for a *No-Objection Certificate* confirming that HOCKEY INDIA has no objection to the *Athlete* participating in an *Event* organised or sanctioned by another *National Association*;
  - 1.4     prohibit an *Athlete* whose *Home National Association* is **HOCKEY INDIA** participating in an *Event* organised or sanctioned by another *National Association* unless the *Athlete* has first obtained a *No-Objection Certificate* from HOCKEY INDIA ; and
  - 1.5     prohibit participation in an *Event* organised or sanctioned by HOCKEY INDIA by an *Athlete* whose *Home National Association* is not HOCKEY INDIA unless that *Athlete* has first obtained a *No-Objection Certificate* from his/her *Home National Association*.
2.     Words appearing in italics bear the meaning given to them in the appendix to these regulations. The purpose and object of these regulations is to protect and advance the fundamental sporting imperatives set out in the FIH Regulations on Sanctioned and Unsanctioned Events. In the interpretation and application of these regulations, an interpretation/application that promotes the purpose and object of these regulations is to be preferred to an interpretation/application that does not promote that purpose and object. Words and phrases in italicised text are defined terms that have the meaning set out in the Appendix to these *Regulations*.
3.     This version of these *Regulations* comes into force as of 31 March 2011 the *Effective Date*) and replace the previous version of these *Regulations* as from that date. These *Regulations* shall not have retrospective effect. Instead, the regulations that were in effect prior to the *Effective Date* shall apply in respect of any acts or omissions occurring prior to the *Effective Date*.
4.     These *Regulations* may be amended and/or supplemented from time to time by the HOCKEY INDIA Executive Board, and/or it may issue further guidance as to their operation and implementation, as it sees fit.

**B. Sanctioned and Unsanctioned Events**

1. Prohibition on participating in *Unsanctioned Events*:

1.1 Organisations or individuals (including *Athletes*, technical officials, umpires, coaching or management staff) under HOCKEY INDIA jurisdiction may not participate in any manner in any *Unsanctioned Event*.

1.2 Any *Athlete* or other individual under HOCKEY INDIA jurisdiction who is found to have participated in an *Unsanctioned Event*:

1.2.1 is automatically ineligible for twelve months thereafter to participate in any capacity in any *International Event*:

a. Such *Athlete* or other individual may apply to the *FIH Disciplinary Commissioner* for a waiver of all or part of this period of ineligibility for good cause shown, provided that the circumstances will have to be exceptional to justify such waiver. The *FIH Disciplinary Commissioner's* decision may be appealed by the *Athlete*/other individual or the *FIH* to the *Judicial Commission*;

b. During the period of ineligibility, the *Athlete*/other individual may not be selected to participate in any capacity in an *International Event*, and any selection made despite this prohibition may be declined by the *FIH* or other event organiser.

1.2.2. may have disciplinary consequences imposed upon him or her under the Hockey India Disputes and Grievance Redressal Committee for such breach of clause B.1.1, including (if seen fit) being ruled ineligible to participate in any capacity in *Sanctioned Events* for a period of up to 12 months (first offence) or more (subsequent offences).

1.3 HOCKEY INDIA will recognise and give effect within its own jurisdiction to any restriction, exclusion or ineligibility imposed by another *National Association* on an organisation or individual under that *National Association's* jurisdiction for participating in an *Unsanctioned Event*.

1.4 It is a condition of eligibility for any organisation or individual from another *National Association* wishing to participate in any *Event* under HOCKEY INDIA jurisdiction that the organisation or individual in question has not participated in any *Unsanctioned Event* in the twelve months prior to the *Event* in question.

2. Applying to HOCKEY INDIA to sanction an *Event*:

2.1 In accordance with the *FIH Regulations on Sanctioned and Unsanctioned Events*, any *Event* that is open only to teams in membership of or affiliated to HOCKEY INDIA and that would be staged entirely within **India**, must be either organised or sanctioned by HOCKEY INDIA

2.2 Anyone wishing to organise an *Event* that falls within the scope of Article B.2.1 and therefore requires the express sanction of HOCKEY INDIA must submit a written application by hand or by post [or by email] to the following address:

## **HOCKEY INDIA**

For attention of: SECRETARY GENERAL  
B1/E3, Ground Floor  
Mohan Co-operative Industrial Estate  
(1 km Ahead of Mohan Estate Metro Station)  
Mathura Road  
New Delhi - 110044  
Email: hockeyindia@hockeyindia.org

- 2.3 The application must be submitted as soon as possible after the details of the proposed *Event* are known and must include the following information:
- 2.3.1 The name and address and (if applicable) company registration number of the applicant (which must be the organiser of the proposed *Event*).
- 2.3.2 The proposed name, venue(s), date(s) and format of, the proposed participants in, and the proposed technical officials and umpires for, the proposed *Event*.
- 2.3.3 A binding, unqualified and unconditional commitment by the organiser to stage the *Event* in accordance with and subject to all applicable regulations of the FIH and HOCKEY INDIA , and to be accountable to HOCKEY INDIA for applying and enforcing those regulations in relation to all participants in the *Event*.
- 2.3.4 A detailed explanation of:
- a. The extent to which the proposed *Event* will contribute to the maintenance and promotion of the health, safety and welfare of *Athletes*, including by the prevention of overplaying (*Athletes* must have adequate time to rest and recover, as well as train, between *Events*).
  - b. How the organiser will ensure the safety and suitability of the venue(s) intended to be used for the proposed *Event*.
  - c. The extent to which the proposed *Event* may be accommodated within the existing calendar of *Events* without conflicting with or otherwise compromising (i) *Events* already in the calendar, and/or (ii) any commitments that HOCKEY INDIA has made to any commercial partner(s).
  - d. The extent to which the proposed *Event* would have any meaningful role in the promotion and development of the sport or any other charitable or benevolent purpose.
  - h. Any other factor that the organiser would like HOCKEY INDIA to take into consideration.
- 2.4 HOCKEY INDIA may ask the applicant for any further information about the proposed *Event* that it considers relevant, and may delay further consideration of the application until that information is received.
- 2.5 HOCKEY INDIA will send written notice of its decision in relation to the application to the organiser at the address specified in the application. The application may be granted or denied, or granted conditionally. In particular (but without limitation), HOCKEY INDIA may specify that particular *Events* must be played in accordance with and subject to HOCKEY INDIA - compliant codes of conduct, anti-corruption rules, anti-doping rules and/or

other rules or regulations. Where an application is granted conditionally, the proposed *Event* shall not be deemed sanctioned unless and until HOCKEY INDIA confirms in writing that the organiser has demonstrated to the satisfaction of HOCKEY INDIA that all of the conditions have been met.

- 2.6 An application for sanction made pursuant to this clause B.2 may not be deemed approved unless and until written notice is received from HOCKEY INDIA that the *Event* is sanctioned and (if applicable) that any relevant conditions have been satisfied. The *Event* organiser should not issue any formal invitations to participate in the *Event* until such notice is received.
- 2.7 Any sanction granted by HOCKEY INDIA pursuant to this clause B.2 shall amount solely to recognition of the *Event* as a *Sanctioned Event*, and shall not amount to or be construed as approval by HOCKEY INDIA of any of the safety or security or other arrangements for the *Event*. Instead, those arrangements shall remain the sole responsibility of the *Event* organiser.
- 2.8 If a proposed *Event* requires HOCKEY INDIA's sanction under clause B.2.1[, falls outside the scope of clause B.2.2,] and the *Event* organiser fails to obtain HOCKEY INDIA's sanction for the *Event* in accordance with clause B.2.7, then for purposes of these regulations and the FIH Regulations on Sanctioned and Unsanctioned Events the *Event* shall be an *Unsanctioned Event*.
- 2.9 HOCKEY INDIA will include details of all *Events* that it has sanctioned in its official fixture calendar posted on its official website, and will update that calendar regularly to ensure that it includes details of all *Sanctioned Events*. In the event of any uncertainty as to whether or not an *Event* is a *Sanctioned Event* or an *Unsanctioned Event*, clarification should be sought from HOCKEY INDIA at the address set out at clause B.2.3.
- 2.10 Subject only to the right of review reserved by the *FIH* to itself under the *FIH Regulations on Sanctioned and Unsanctioned Events*, HOCKEY INDIA's decision on an application for sanction of a proposed *Event* pursuant to these regulations shall be final and binding on all parties.

### C. No-Objection Certificates

1. Prohibition on participating in certain *Events* without a *No-Objection Certificate*:
  - 1.1 An *Athlete* whose *Home National Association* is not HOCKEY INDIA may not participate in an *Event* organised or sanctioned by HOCKEY INDIA unless such *Athlete* holds a valid *No-Objection Certificate* from his/her *Home National Association* for that *Event*.
  - 1.2 An organiser of an *Event* sanctioned by HOCKEY INDIA may not permit an *Athlete* whose *Home National Association* is not HOCKEY INDIA to play in that *Event* without a *No-Objection Certificate*.
  - 1.3 An *Athlete* whose *Home National Association* is HOCKEY INDIA who wishes to participate in an *Event* organised or sanctioned by another *National Association* must obtain a *No-Objection Certificate* from HOCKEY INDIA in respect of that *Event*.
  - 1.4 An *Athlete* who fails to comply with clause C.1.3 may not participate in the *Event* in question.
  - 1.5 A failure to comply with this clause may result in the bringing of disciplinary proceedings and the imposition of disciplinary consequences on the *Athlete*

in question under Hockey India Disputes and Grievance Redressal Committee

2. Obtaining a *No-Objection Certificate* from HOCKEY INDIA
  - 2.1 HOCKEY INDIA may from time to time issue a notice identifying *Athletes* and/or categories of *Athletes* who are deemed to have been given a *No-Objection Certificate* by HOCKEY INDIA to participate in some or all *Events* organised or sanctioned by other *National Associations*.
  - 2.2 Any other *Athlete* whose *Home National Association* is HOCKEY INDIA who wishes to participate in one or more *Events* organised or sanctioned by another *National Association* must submit a written application for a *No-Objection Certificate* by hand or by post [or by email] to the following address:

**HOCKEY INDIA**  
For attention of: SECRETARY GENERAL  
B1/E3, Ground Floor  
Mohan Co-operative Industrial Estate  
(1 km Ahead of Mohan Estate Metro Station)  
New Delhi - 110044  
Email: [hockeyindia@hockeyindia.org](mailto:hockeyindia@hockeyindia.org)
  - 2.3 The written application must be submitted as soon as possible and must include the following information:
    - 2.3.1 The name and address and contact details (phone number, email address) of the *Athlete*.
    - 2.3.2 The name, date(s) and format of each *Event* organised or sanctioned by another *National Association* in which the *Athlete* wishes to participate.
    - 2.3.3 Details of the team(s) on whose behalf the *Athlete* would be participating in the *Event(s)*, including the name of and contact details of the team manager/coach.
    - 2.3.4 Confirmation that as far as the *Athlete* is aware, his/her participation in the *Event(s)* would not clash with any commitments that he/she has made to any *National Representative Team*.
  - 2.4 HOCKEY INDIA may ask the *Athlete* for any further information about the proposed *Event* that it considers relevant, and may delay further consideration of the *Athlete's* application until that information is received.
  - 2.5 HOCKEY INDIA will send written notice of its decision in relation to the application to the *Athlete* at the address specified in the application. The application may be granted or denied, or granted conditionally. In particular (but without limitation), HOCKEY INDIA may agree to the *Athlete's* participation in parts of an *Event* as long as he/she is released from other parts of the *Event* for specified periods so that he/she can train/prepare for and/or participate in other *Events* as part of his/her *National Representative Team*.
  - 2.6 An application for a *No-Objection Certificate* made pursuant to this clause C.2 may not be deemed granted unless and until written notice is received from HOCKEY INDIA to that effect.
  - 2.7 Subject only to the right of review reserved by the *FIH* to itself under the *FIH Regulations on Sanctioned and Unsanctioned Events*, HOCKEY INDIA's

decision on an application for a *No-Objection Certificate* pursuant to these regulations shall be final and binding on all parties.

- 2.8 For the avoidance of doubt, the prohibition on participation in an *Unsanctioned Event* means that a *No-Objection Certificate* will not in any circumstances be issued in respect of participation in an *Unsanctioned Event*.

#### APPENDIX – DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

- A1. For the purpose of these *Regulations* the following words and expressions have the meanings set out opposite them:

<i>Athlete</i>	Any natural person competing in a <i>Hockey</i> event sanctioned by the <i>FIH</i> , a <i>CF</i> and/or a <i>National Association</i> .
<i>Continental Federation / CF</i>	A continental federation established in accordance with the <i>FIH</i> Statutes.
<i>Event</i>	Any indoor or outdoor <i>Hockey</i> match, tournament, competition or other event, at whatever level played, whether international, continental, national or local, and including age-group events such as "Masters" events.
<i>Effective Date</i>	As defined in Article A.3.
<i>Federation / FIH</i>	The International Hockey Federation.
<i>FIH Disciplinary Commissioner</i>	The person with that title appointed under the <i>FIH</i> Statutes.
<i>Hockey</i>	The game of <i>Hockey</i> , including both field and indoor <i>Hockey</i> and other derivatives of the game as decided from time to time by the <i>FIH</i> .
<i>Home National Association</i>	The <i>National Association</i> for whose <i>National Representative Team</i> the <i>Athlete</i> in question plays or last played or (if he/she has not yet played for any <i>National Representative Team</i> ) is qualified to play.

***Explanatory note:*** *If the Athlete is eligible to play for the National Representative Team of more than one National Association, but has not yet played for any of them, he/she must designate one of those National Associations for purposes of these regulations, and that will be the National Association from whom a No-Objection Certificate must be obtained to*

*allow him/her to play in Events organised by another National Association.*

<i>International Event</i>	An <i>Event</i> in which <i>National Representative Teams</i> compete, including (without limitation) <i>Events</i> staged as part of a multi-sport event such as the Olympic Games.
<i>National Association / NA</i>	A national governing body of <i>Hockey</i> that has been admitted as a member of the <i>FIH</i> .
<i>National Representative Team</i>	A team selected to represent a <i>National Association</i> , including age-group teams from Under-16s up to "Masters".
<i>No-Objection Certificate</i>	A document issued by an <i>Athlete's Home National Association</i> , certifying that it has no objection to his/her participation in an <i>Event</i> organised or sanctioned by another <i>National Association</i> .
<i>Regulations</i>	These <i>Regulations</i> on Sanctioned and Unsanctioned Events.
<i>Sanctioned Event</i>	Any <i>Event</i> organised or sanctioned by the relevant <i>Continental Federation(s)</i> , <i>National Association(s)</i> and/or the <i>FIH</i> in accordance with the <i>FIH Regulations</i> on Sanctioned and Unsanctioned Events, including any <i>Event</i> organised or sanctioned by HOCKEY INDIA pursuant to clause B.2.
<i>Unsanctioned Event</i>	Any <i>Event</i> that is not a <i>Sanctioned Event</i> .