

RULES FOR THE LANCASHIRE MENS CUP AND TROPHY KNOCKOUT COMPETITIONS

1 The Rules of Hockey shall be observed except as herein provided.

2 a) The Competitions shall be open to all affiliated member clubs of the County Association who will be automatically entered. Any club not wishing to enter must notify the Cup Secretary in writing by 30th April.

b) County Cup. This shall be contested by the top 15 clubs on League position plus the Trophy winners all based on the previous seasons competitions after promotion and relegation has been taken into account.

c) County Trophy. This shall be contested by all clubs not eligible to enter the County Cup.

d) The County Committee reserve the right to remove from the competition any club which has not paid its affiliation fees by 30th November.

3 DRAW

a) For the County Cup the top four clubs on league position shall be seeded.

b) For the County Trophy the top four clubs on league position will be seeded.

c) In the event of a preliminary round being necessary the ties shall be contested by the lowest placed clubs.

4 a) The first named club in each tie shall be the Home team. They shall provide a suitable Artificial Grass Pitch, Match Balls and make arrange for the appointment of Umpires by the North West Hockey Umpiring Association.

b) The venue for the finals of the two competitions shall be fixed by the County Committee who will also arrange for the appointment of umpires by the North West Hockey Umpiring Association. **EACH FINALIST SHALL PROVIDE THREE MATCH BALLS UNLESS ADVISED.**

c) In the event of a clash of colours, the County Committee or its representative shall indicate which team is the 'away' team and which must therefore change. If this is necessary, it will be done once the teams contesting the final are known.

5 a) Ties shall be played on the dates fixed by the Cup Secretary. A request for postponement will only be considered if :

i) A club has 2 or more players involved in representative matches or training weekends at any level including and above Under 18.

ii) A club has no pitch available due to it being used for representative/nationally organised events or other events which are beyond their control.

b) Ties must start at least 30 minutes before normal league starting times and no tie may be played under floodlights without the permission of the Cup Secretary. Except in exceptional circumstances any team not ready to start 15 minutes after the agreed start time shall forfeit the tie.

- c) If the scores are level at full time the rules set out in Appendix 1 shall apply,
- d) The result of the tie shall be sent via SMS text message to the FixturesLiveSMS Results Service within three hours of the end of the tie. A result card should also be sent to the Cup Secretary. In the event of postponement the Cup Secretary must be advised as soon as possible so that the tie can be rearranged.
- e) In the event of a club failing to fulfil a tie the club shall be fined up to a maximum of £50 and will be responsible for reasonable expenses of the tie. The club will be banned from entering either competition for 2 seasons.
- 6 a) All players must be bona fide playing members of the club and must not have played for another club in any County organised knock-out competition during the season which is defined as running from 1st September to 30th April.
- b) All players must wear numbered shirts and Goalkeepers must wear different coloured shirts to those worn by both teams.
- 7 All entrants agree to be bound by the rules of the Competitions. In the event of any dispute concerning these rules then the decision of the County Committee or its appointed Sub Committee shall be final.

APPENDIX 1 – EXTRA TIME & PENALTY STROKE PROCEDURE

- 1 The captains shall toss for ends and after an interval of 5 minutes, extra time shall be played. It shall consist of two 7½ minute periods, separated by a 3 minute interval during which the teams shall change ends. The extra time shall cease once a team has been awarded a goal. That team shall be the winner of the match.
- 2 If the scores are still level after extra time, the outcome of the match shall be determined by a series of penalty strokes.
- 3 The Match Official and the Umpires shall together choose the goal to be used and the Captains shall toss to decide which team shall take the first penalty stroke.
- 4 Five different players from each of the teams, chosen from the players listed on the team sheet, but excluding any player who has been permanently suspended from the game (Red Card), shall take a penalty stroke alternately against one and the same goalkeeper of the other team. Only if that goalkeeper is, in the opinion of the Umpires, incapacitated through injury, or is suspended, shall a team be permitted to substitute the goalkeeper during the course of a particular series in the stroke competition. The team, which has been awarded the higher number of goals, shall be the winner.
- 5 In the event of an equal number of goals having been awarded, another series of penalty strokes shall be taken under the above conditions and with the same five players (subject to any incapacitated player being replaced or a suspended goalkeeper being substituted) but on a sudden death basis, that is, the team having been awarded the most goals after an equal number of strokes have been taken shall be the winner.
- 6 The sequence in which the players take the strokes for their team need not be the same as in the previous series. The team manager has freedom of choice at the time

of each stroke as to which of the five nominated players will take the stroke although must use all five nominated players per round.

7 The team that has taken the first penalty stroke of a series shall not take the first penalty stroke of the following series (if any).”

(Extract from National Club Competition Rules 2006-07 – England Hockey)”

July 2011