

# Competition Rules

Issued: 1 May 2017

|            |   |    |
|------------|---|----|
| 1          | Competitions .....                                    | 2  |
| 2          | Rules of Entry .....                                  | 2  |
| 3          | Venues.....   | 2  |
| 4          | Players & Coaches.....                                | 2  |
| 5          | Teams.....  | 2  |
| 6          | Team Uniforms.....                                    | 3  |
| 7          | Matches .....   | 3  |
| 8          | Match Balls .....                                     | 3  |
| 9          | Match Report Forms & Notification Of Results .....    | 3  |
| 10         | Expenses .....  | 4  |
| 11         | Match Officials.....                                  | 4  |
| 12         | Match Formalities, Punctuality & Non Attendance ..... | 4  |
| 13         | Protests & Complaints .....                           | 5  |
| 14         | Discipline & Disputes.....                            | 5  |
| 15         | Register of Red Cards and Suspensions .....           | 6  |
| 16         | Trophies.....   | 6  |
| Schedule 1 | National League.....                                  | 7  |
| Schedule 2 | National Cups .....                                   | 9  |
| Schedule 3 | Inter-Region Championships .....                      | 10 |
| Schedule 4 | National League Cup .....                             | 11 |
| Schedule 5 | Lennards Cup .....                                    | 12 |
| Schedule 6 | Peter Wimble Cup.....                                 | 13 |

## **1 Competitions**

- 1.1 All competitions organised in England are subject to these rules and all matches must be played in accordance with the CIRH Rules of the Game, except as provided for herein.
- (1) In the event of a conflict between these Rules and the CIRH Rules of the Game, these rules shall prevail.
- 1.2 Each season the NRHA shall organise the competitions defined in the Schedules to these Competition Rules.
- 1.3 The points system and rules for determining placings for all competitions, excluding elimination cups, shall be per the CIRH Rules of the Game, which includes;
- |     |      |          |
|-----|------|----------|
| (1) | Win  | 3 Points |
| (2) | Draw | 1 Point  |
| (3) | Lose | 0 Points |

## **2 Rules of Entry**

- 2.1 Each season entry forms and a schedule of fees shall be sent to affiliated Clubs and Regions by the General Secretary.
- (1) Fully completed applications, on the prescribed form, must be received by the General Secretary with the appropriate fees, before 31 July each year.
- (2) Applications will be rejected if they are incomplete or fail to meet NRHA requirements.
- 2.2 It is a requirement of entry to all competitions that each team register 2 Referees, of at least the minimum required Grade, to share in the collective responsibility of providing referees for competitions a Club or Region participate in.
- (1) Teams may use additional suitably qualified referees during competition to meet commitments.
- 2.3 All applicants will be notified of inclusion or otherwise, including the competition draw and dates, by 15 August each year.
- 2.4 In the interest of ensuring competitions take place, the association may at its sole discretion solicit and accept late entries.

## **3 Venues**

- 3.1 Competition matches, Regional or National, may only be contested on Registered Rinks.
- 3.2 Hosts of matches or tournaments are responsible for ensuring the rink is available for the competition, paid for and on the Registered Rinks list: including correct markings, goal cages, protective netting, suitable time clock/scoreboard.

## **4 Players & Coaches**

- 4.1 Association competitions are open only to registered players that represent affiliated clubs or regions, and international teams invited to participate in accordance with CIRH Rules.
- 4.2 All Team Officials on the Reserve Bench must have their name entered on any Match Sheet or the referees must exclude them from the area.
- (1) Only Team Officials registered with the Association may be on the Reserve Bench during matches.
- 4.3 Additional registered players may be added to a team at anytime during a competition, so long as they are members of the affiliate they represent when they contest a match.
- 4.4 Any player named on a Match Sheet in a competition is thereafter 'tied' to that team and may play only for that team for the remainder of that competition, unless the association has approved their transfer or loan.
- (1) No player or coach may have their name entered on any Match Sheet or participate in any match without, prior to commencement of the match, presenting their Registration Card, or digital copy.

## **5 Teams**

- 5.1 Teams must present themselves for a match with a minimum of five (5) players, one of which must be a goalkeeper.

## Competition Rules

- (1) Where the teams list names ten (10) players, this number must include two (2) goalkeepers.
- 5.2 In exceptional cases, the referee at their discretion may commence a match where a team has only four (4) players.
  - (1) One (1) of these players must be equipped and act as a goalkeeper.

## 6 Team Uniforms

- 6.1 During a match, players must wear identical shirts, shorts and socks in the colours of the team they represent, with the exception of the goalkeeper whose shirt must be a different colour from the ones of all other players.
  - (1) Any player not complying must be excluded from the game by the referee until such time as they are correctly attired.
- 6.2 All Shirts must display identification numbers, which may range from 1 to 99 with the numbers 1,10, 20 and further multiples of 10 being exclusively used by goalkeepers.
- 6.3 Should, in the opinion of the match referee, the uniforms of opposing teams clash in colour, the Away team shall always be required to change.
  - (1) For the avoidance of doubt, the Away team shall be the team mentioned second on the schedule.

## 7 Matches

- 7.1 Matches shall be held on either Saturdays or Sundays and must be scheduled as follows;
  - (1) Saturdays - Start no earlier than 09:00 and finish no later than 21:00
  - (2) Sundays - Start no earlier than 09:00 and finish no later than 18:00
- 7.2 The organisation and administration of matches shall in all cases be the responsibility of the Host team.
- 7.3 Matches shall be held at the venue, date and time advised to the association prior to the commencement of the competition and advised in the competition draw, unless the association issues alternative notice.
- 7.4 The 15 minutes 'grace' period provided for within the International Rules of the Game shall only to be applicable for the first match of a tournament and for Home & Away leagues.
- 7.5 All national competition matches must run as follows;
  - (1) Seniors: 25 minutes each way in duration (stopping clock) with 5 minutes half time and one (1) timeout per team per half.
  - (2) Under 20's: 20 minutes each way in duration (running clock) with 5 minutes half time and one (1) timeout per team per half.
  - (3) Women: 20 minutes each way in duration (running clock) with 5 minutes half time and one (1) timeout per team per half.
  - (4) Under 17's: 15 minutes each way in duration (running clock) with 5 minutes half time and one (1) timeout per team per half.
  - (5) Under 15's: 15 minutes each way in duration (running clock) with 5 minutes half time and one (1) timeout per team per half.
  - (6) Under 13's: 15 minutes each way in duration (running clock) with 5 minutes half time and one (1) timeout per team per half.

## 8 Match Balls

- 8.1 The match/tournament Host must supply regulation balls for the match.
- 8.2 The match ball must be returned to the referee at timeouts, half time and again at full-time in each match.
  - (1) In the event that a match ball is not returned at the end of a match, the Away team shall be responsible for its replacement.

## 9 Match Report Forms & Notification Of Results

- 9.1 Official association Match Report Forms must be used for all matches.

## Competition Rules

- (1) The Home team's name must be entered in the left most space provided for it on the form.
- 9.2 It is the responsibility of the Match Host to, within five (5) hours of the conclusion of the match or tournament;
- (1) SMS or enter online the match result into the FixtureLive system.
  - (2) Email the organising Competition Secretary with a clear PDF of the completed Match Report/s.
- 9.3 Failure to observe these rules shall result in the Home Team / Match Host being penalised with;
- (1) Their forfeit of each affected match
  - (2) Deduction of three (3) competition points
  - (3) A fine of £50

## 10 Expenses

- 10.1 The Host is responsible for all costs, including but not limited to rink hire, but is not responsible for the expenses of Away teams or their officials, excluding in the event of their forfeit.
- 10.2 Unless advised otherwise in these rules, the association shall not pay traveling expenses to match officials or teams competing in competitions.

## 11 Match Officials

- 11.1 Only CRHR accredited referees may officiate in competitions conducted in England.
- (1) The CRHR may invite or authorise Guest referees from other FIRS registered Associations to officiate in England.
- 11.2 All Matches shall be presided over by;
- (1) 2 Referees, per clause 2
  - (2) 1 Assistant Referee
  - (3) 1 Timekeeper
- 11.3 The minimum required CRHR accreditation required to referee a national competition is;
- |     |          |   |         |
|-----|----------|---|---------|
| (1) | Senior   | - | Grade 3 |
| (2) | Under 20 | - | Grade 3 |
| (3) | Under 17 | - | Grade 3 |
| (4) | Under 15 | - | Grade 4 |
| (5) | Under 13 | - | Grade 4 |
| (6) | Under 11 | - | Grade 4 |
| (7) | Under 9  | - | Grade 4 |
- 11.4 In the event that at least one Timekeeper fails to be available to assist the Referee for the period of the match, the Home/Host Team shall forfeit the match.

## 12 Match Formalities, Punctuality & Non Attendance

- 12.1 Representatives of both teams, home and away, must report to the match timekeeper with their registrations cards and team lists at least 15 minutes before the advertised time of their match, or first match of a tournament.
- 12.2 Failure of a team to take the floor on time, declared at the discretion of the referee, will result in;
- (1) Forfeiture of the match
  - (2) Deduction of three (3) additional competition points
  - (3) A fine of £50
- 12.3 Failure of a team to keep an engagement shall result in;
- (1) Forfeiture of the effected matches
  - (2) Deduction of three (3) additional competition points per affected match
  - (3) A fine of £100
- 12.4 Withdrawal from a competition without providing at least 21 days written notice to opponents and the Competitions Secretary, shall result in;
- (1) A fine of £200



## Competition Rules

- 12.5 In addition to fines, a defaulting team shall be responsible for meeting the out of pocket expenses of their opponents in connection with their default.
- (1) These out of pocket expenses will be paid to the association, who will reimburse their opponents.
- 12.6 In order to change a fixture, an affiliate must make a written request, that includes proposed alternative arrangements, to the organising Competitions Secretary, whom after due consideration shall respond in writing.
- (1) No request shall be deemed approved unless the Competitions Secretary provides written approval.
  - (2) A team having a CERH or CERS cup match or more than one player involved in a National team fixture will have the right to a re-arrangement of any NRHA fixture which conflicts with that obligation, but must still make written application to the Competitions Secretary in a timely manner.
- 12.7 A team that forfeits a fixture shall;
- (1) Home & Away competition: have a score of 10-0 recorded against it.
  - (2) Tournament based competition: have a score equal to the highest score of the round recorded against it, or 10-0 which ever is greater.
  - (3) Face immediate expulsion from the competition in the event of a further offence that season, with all their matches being expunged from the record, as well as being subject to further disciplinary action.

### **13 Protests & Complaints**

- 13.1 Matches will not be played "under protest".
- 13.2 If a team wishes to protest a matter regarding the conditions of a match, it must raise the matter with the referee before the match commences and the referee will decide to put matter right or not; the referee's decision is final.
- (1) Should a team refuse to play after the referee has made a decision then the match will be abandoned by the referee and the association will consider the team that refused to play as defaulting through non-attendance.
- 13.3 Should a team wish to protest following a match, it may do so in accordance with the Bye-Laws.
- (1) Protests or complaints may not be written on match report sheets.
- 13.4 Clubs and Regions may lodge a protest regarding the conduct of match officials by notifying the CRHR in writing, whom shall then refer the matter to the Discipline and Disputes Sub-Committee.
- (1) All Protests and Complaints must be in writing and include;
    - (a) A specific accusation
    - (b) A request detailing the judgment sought
    - (c) Witness statements
    - (d) Other evidence, including but not limited to videos, photos, receipts, emails, letters etc, that may support the claim

### **14 Discipline & Disputes**

- 14.1 Should a player or team official receive a red card in a match, including through accumulation of blue cards, the;
- (1) Player/Team official will immediately be suspended for the next match of any National competition.
  - (2) Referee shall submit a written report on the prescribed form to the Chairman of the CRHR within 24 hours of the incident (i.e. emailing the form is acceptable).
  - (3) The Chairman of the CRHR shall refer the matter to the Discipline and Disputes Sub-Committee.
- 14.2 Suspensions that are the subject of an appeal may be carried forward to the following season's competition and may be increased or decreased at the discretion of the NRHA Executive.
- 14.3 Any Player or Team Official that does not immediately serve a suspension shall cause their team to concede each match they then participate in as a forfeit, with that team subject to all additional penalties associated with Forfeits, and be subject to further disciplinary action.

## Competition Rules

14.4 Players are required to maintain their registered status with the NRHA throughout any period of suspension and should this registration lapse, it will be deemed the suspension has not been served.

### **15 Register of Red Cards and Suspensions**

15.1 A register of Red Cards issued during all matches and subsequent disciplinary suspensions will be published on the Association website, disclosing the following information;

- (1) Match Date
- (2) Competition
- (3) Recipient
- (4) Role (Player, Coach, etc.)
- (5) Club
- (6) Opposing Club
- (7) Offence
- (8) Suspension Period
- (9) Status (In-progress/Served/Under Appeal)

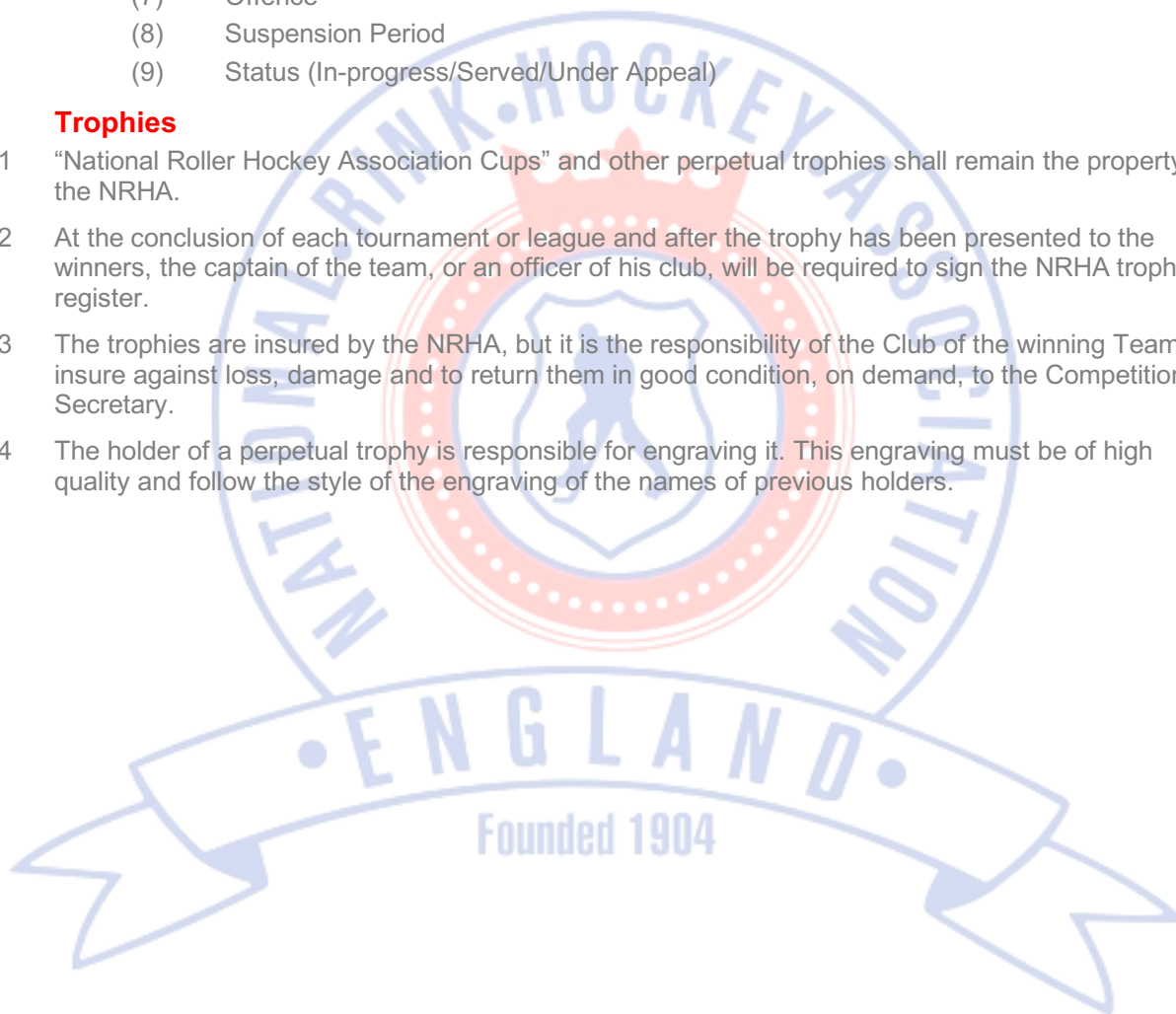
### **16 Trophies**

16.1 "National Roller Hockey Association Cups" and other perpetual trophies shall remain the property of the NRHA.

16.2 At the conclusion of each tournament or league and after the trophy has been presented to the winners, the captain of the team, or an officer of his club, will be required to sign the NRHA trophy register.

16.3 The trophies are insured by the NRHA, but it is the responsibility of the Club of the winning Team to insure against loss, damage and to return them in good condition, on demand, to the Competitions Secretary.

16.4 The holder of a perpetual trophy is responsible for engraving it. This engraving must be of high quality and follow the style of the engraving of the names of previous holders.



## Schedule 1 National League

### 1.1 Eligibility

- (1) The competition is open to Club teams of Players eligible to register in the associations Senior Grade.
  - (a) Players under the age of 20 years playing in Senior National Division 1 may play in up to three (3) Senior Premier League matches for their Club, before being required to play only in the Premier League for the remainder of the season.
  - (b) The NRHA Executive may allow England representative squads to participate in the competition.
    - (i) These England selected players shall remain entitled to participate with their registered clubs in other divisions of the competition, but not in the same division as the England team they are representing.
- (2) New Teams: All teams that did not compete in the competition the season prior to entering may only join the competition from the lowest division.

### 1.2 Playing Divisions

- (1) The League shall consist of;
  - (i) Senior - Premier Division.
  - (ii) Further additional Grades and Divisions as deemed appropriate by the Competitions Secretary.

### 1.3 Senior - Premier League

- (1) Eligibility
  - (a) The competition, shall be contested by (a minimum of) the best eight (8) to a maximum of ten (10) Teams in England on a Home and Away basis, with each team playing the other twice.
- (2) Competition Format
  - (a) The competition will be conducted on a Home and Away basis, with each team playing the other twice on a round robin basis.
  - (b) Upon notification by the Competitions Secretary of fixture dates, the teams involved in the competition are required to agree to the fixture date or mutually agree an alternative date with the Away club within 30 days.
    - (i) Where teams fail to reach agreement, the Competition Secretary shall issue a determination.
    - (ii) Alteration to fixture dates will only be allowed by the Competitions Secretary in situations of 'Force Majeure' and exceptional circumstances.
  - (c) At the conclusion of the League the;
    - (i) Competition winners shall be proclaimed "Champions Of England" and be eligible to enter the European League Competition.
    - (ii) Teams in 2nd, 3rd and 4th positions are eligible to enter the European CERS Competition.
    - (iii) Teams in last and second last position shall contest 'Play-Offs' and face relegation to Division 1.
- (3) Referees
  - (a) The CRHR Referee Appointment Officer shall allocated match referees on the following basis;
    - (i) Referees from within the Region of the Home Club.
    - (ii) Referees from outside the Region of the Home Club.
  - (b) The Home team shall be responsible for providing a Timekeeper and Assistant Referee of appropriate accreditation.
  - (c) The Home team shall be responsible for all expenses, including venue and share of referee costs, which will be advised by the association Treasurer in December and June of each year.
    - (i) Clubs from within the same Region will equally share the costs of referees that officiate the Home matches of Teams within that Region only.

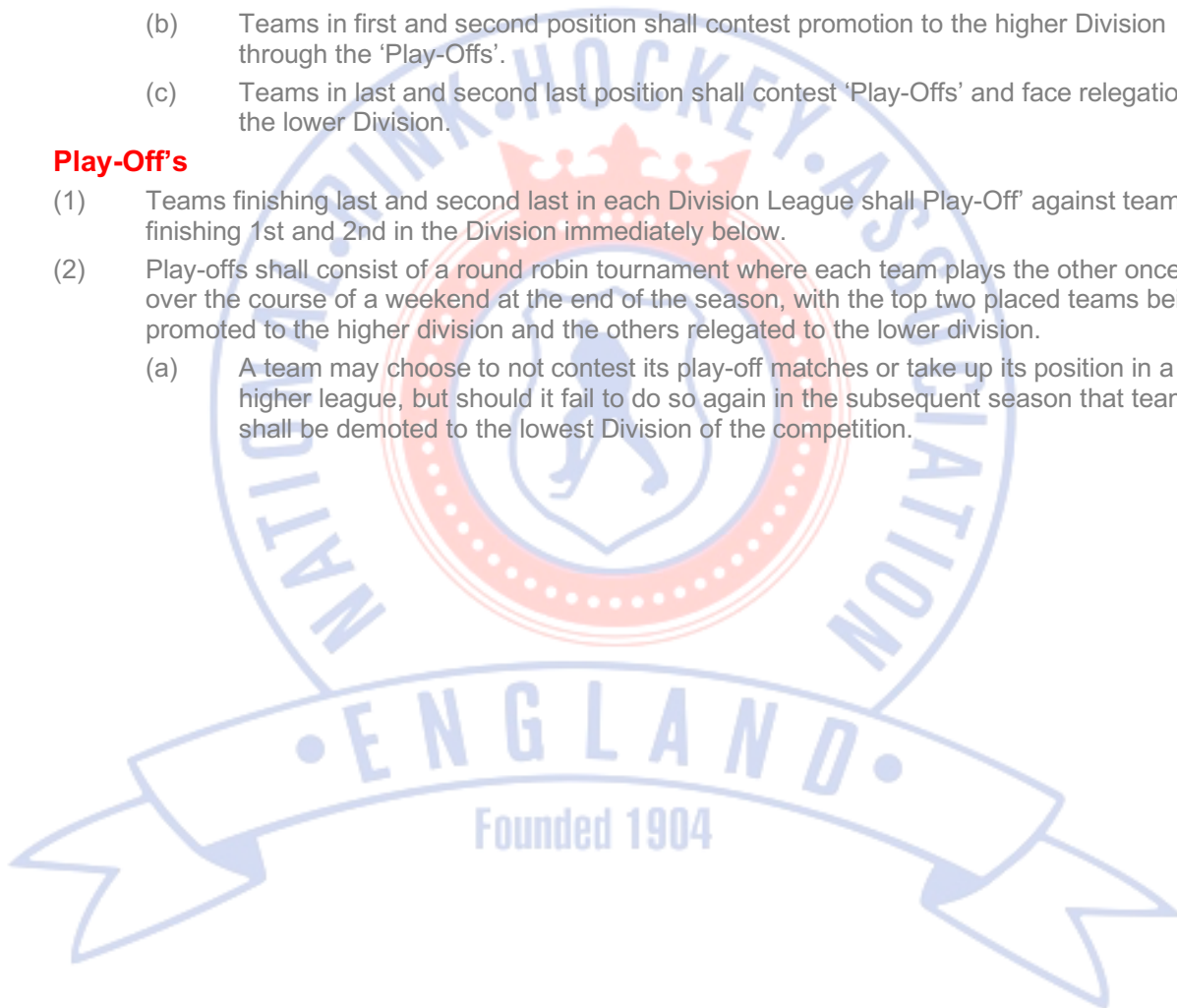
### 1.4 Additional Divisions

## Competition Rules

- (1) Leagues shall ideally be contested by seven (7) Teams, but up to ten (10) will be accepted, on a tournament basis where each team shall play the other twice.
  - (a) If eleven (11) or more teams apply to compete, another division shall be created
- (2) Each Team shall be responsible for hosting one home tournament and paying all associated venue and Head Referee expenses.
  - (a) The Tournament Host shall be responsible for providing a Timekeeper for all matches and the Tournament Head Referee.
- (3) Each Team shall be responsible for providing a Referee of appropriate accreditation to preside over each match immediately following theirs at a tournament.
  - (a) The Home Team shall additionally be responsible for providing two (2) referees to preside over the first match of the day.
- (4) At the conclusion of the League the;
  - (a) Competition winners shall be proclaimed Division Champions
  - (b) Teams in first and second position shall contest promotion to the higher Division through the 'Play-Offs'.
  - (c) Teams in last and second last position shall contest 'Play-Offs' and face relegation to the lower Division.

### 1.5 Play-Off's

- (1) Teams finishing last and second last in each Division League shall Play-Off' against teams finishing 1st and 2nd in the Division immediately below.
- (2) Play-offs shall consist of a round robin tournament where each team plays the other once over the course of a weekend at the end of the season, with the top two placed teams being promoted to the higher division and the others relegated to the lower division.
  - (a) A team may choose to not contest its play-off matches or take up its position in a higher league, but should it fail to do so again in the subsequent season that team shall be demoted to the lowest Division of the competition.





## Schedule 2 National Cups

### 2.1 Eligibility

- (1) The competition is open to each Regions Cup winner and runner up Club.

### 2.2 Playing Divisions

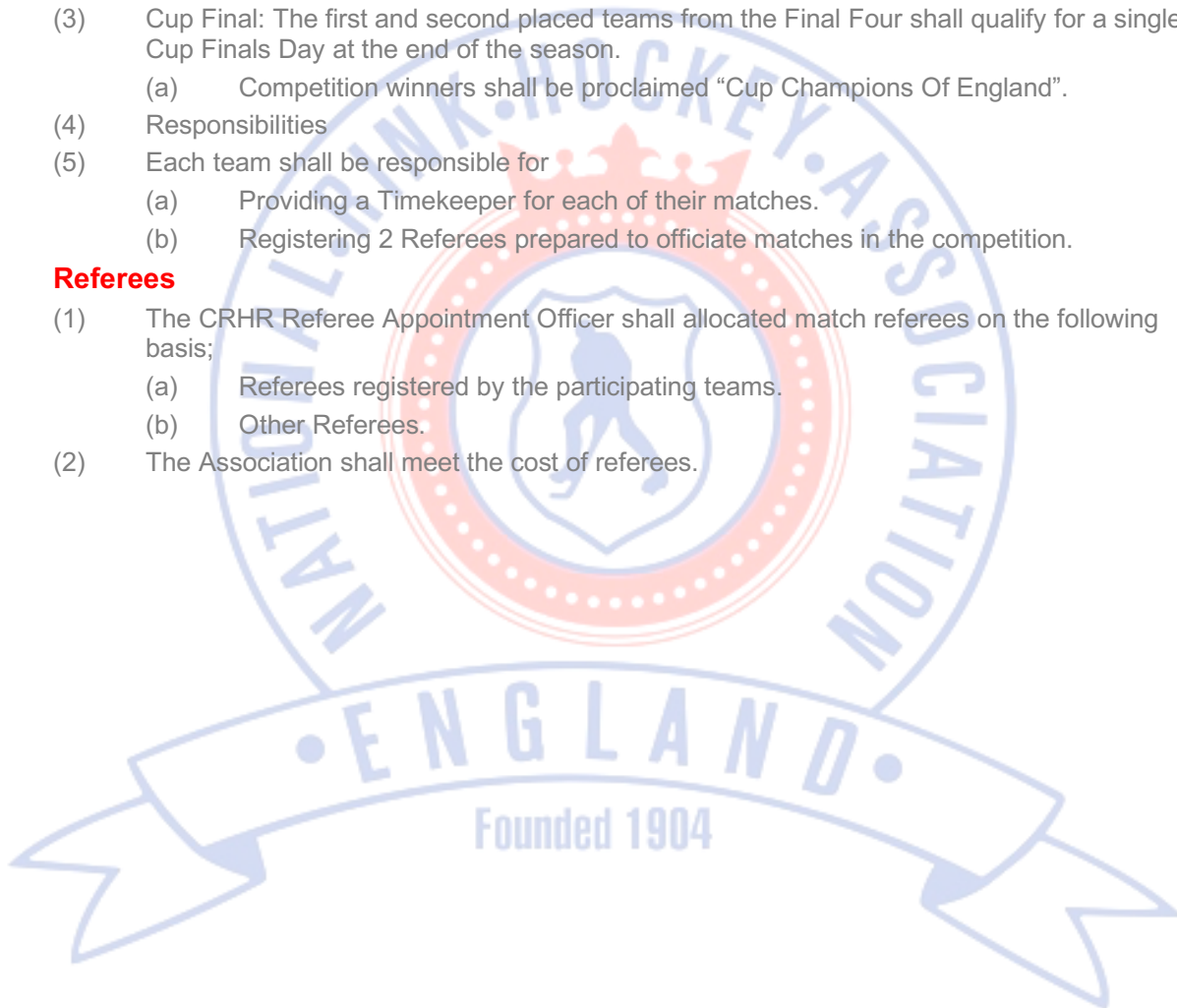
- (1) Competitions shall be organised for all Registration Grades, per Bye-Law Clause 4.2
- (2) Players may participate in more than one Competition Grade, if eligible.

### 2.3 Competition Format

- (1) Playoffs: The second placed team in each Region Cup shall play a single match against each other team in a round robin tournament, with the winner advancing to the Final Four.
- (2) Final Four: The first placed team in each Region Cup and the winner of the Playoffs shall play a single match against each other team in a round robin tournament, with first and second place teams advancing to the Cup Final.
- (3) Cup Final: The first and second placed teams from the Final Four shall qualify for a single Cup Finals Day at the end of the season.
  - (a) Competition winners shall be proclaimed "Cup Champions Of England".
- (4) Responsibilities
- (5) Each team shall be responsible for
  - (a) Providing a Timekeeper for each of their matches.
  - (b) Registering 2 Referees prepared to officiate matches in the competition.

### 2.4 Referees

- (1) The CRHR Referee Appointment Officer shall allocated match referees on the following basis;
  - (a) Referees registered by the participating teams.
  - (b) Other Referees.
- (2) The Association shall meet the cost of referees.



### Schedule 3 Inter-Region Championships

#### 3.1 Eligibility

- (1) Affiliated NRHA Regions may enter representative teams into the competition.
  - (a) Team lists must be submitted to the Competitions Secretary by 1 April of each season.

#### 3.2 Playing Divisions

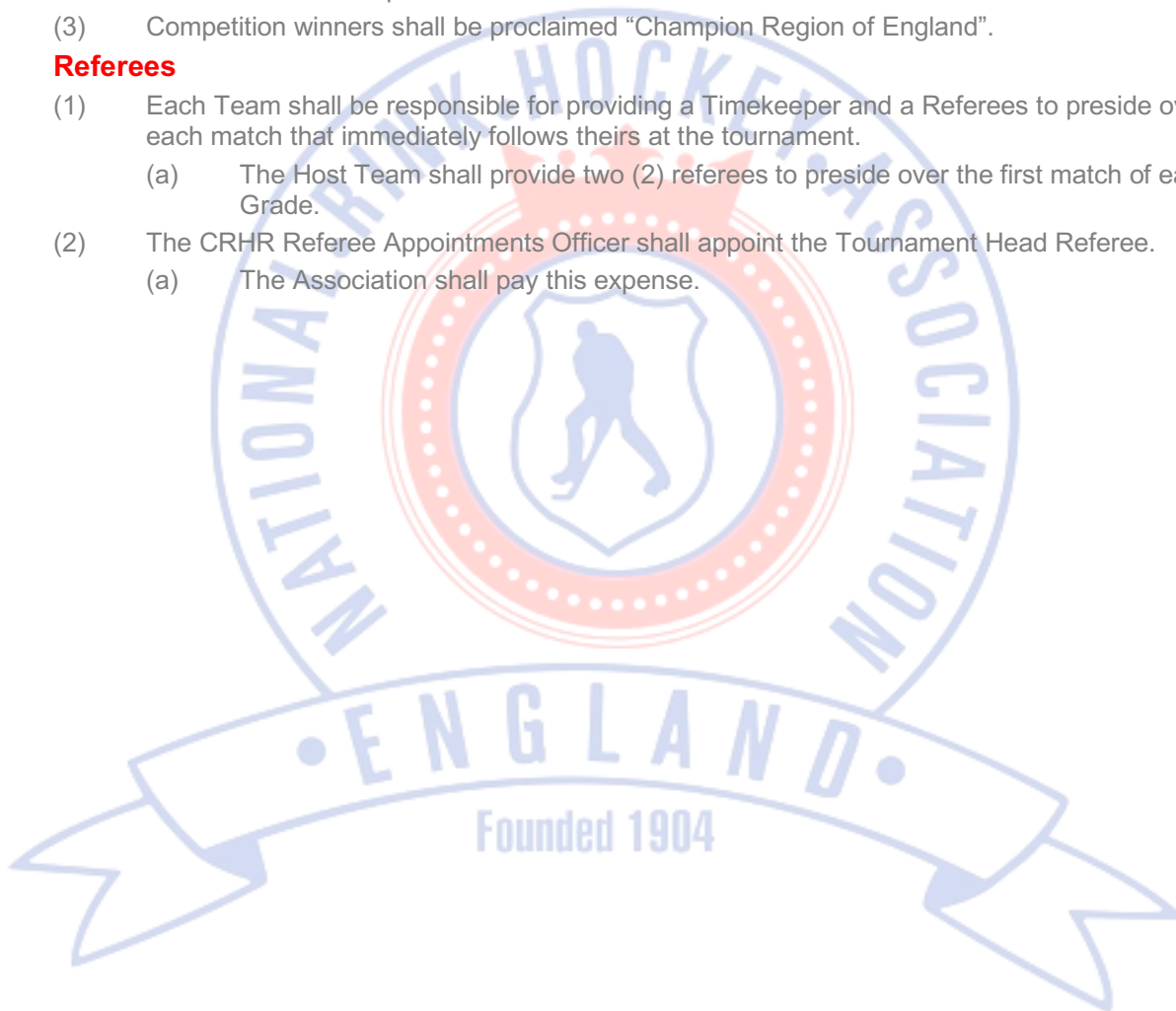
- (1) Competitions shall be organised for all Registration Grades, per Bye-Law Clause 4.2
- (2) Players may participate in more than one Competition Grade.

#### 3.3 Competition Format

- (1) Competitions shall be organised for all Registration Grades, per Bye-Law Clause 4.2
- (2) Each Grade shall have no more than six (6) teams and each team shall play the other once in a round robin competition.
- (3) Competition winners shall be proclaimed "Champion Region of England".

#### 3.4 Referees

- (1) Each Team shall be responsible for providing a Timekeeper and a Referees to preside over each match that immediately follows theirs at the tournament.
  - (a) The Host Team shall provide two (2) referees to preside over the first match of each Grade.
- (2) The CRHR Referee Appointments Officer shall appoint the Tournament Head Referee.
  - (a) The Association shall pay this expense.



## Schedule 4 National League Cup

### 4.1 Eligibility

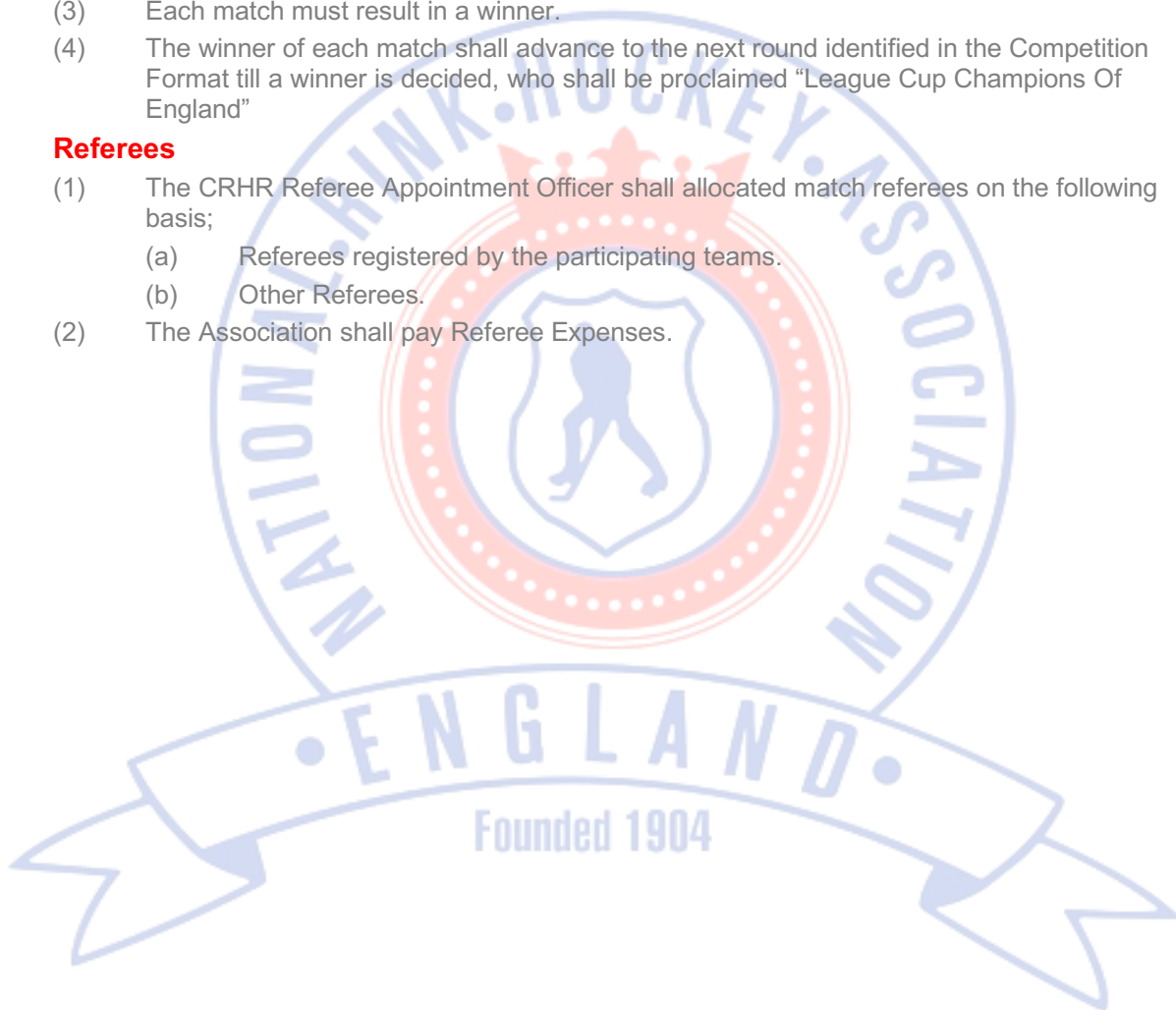
- (1) All teams entered in the Senior National League shall automatically be entered into the competition.
  - (a) Teams may withdraw from the competition if they provide notice in writing prior to the Competitions Secretary by 1 September of each season.

### 4.2 Competition Format

- (1) The Competition Secretary shall publish the Competition Format, based on the number of teams entered.
- (2) The name of each Team shall be 'put in a hat' and a public draw conducted to determine the Teams place on the Competition Format.
  - (a) The first name drawn shall be the Home Team.
- (3) Each match must result in a winner.
- (4) The winner of each match shall advance to the next round identified in the Competition Format till a winner is decided, who shall be proclaimed "League Cup Champions Of England"

### 4.3 Referees

- (1) The CRHR Referee Appointment Officer shall allocated match referees on the following basis;
  - (a) Referees registered by the participating teams.
  - (b) Other Referees.
- (2) The Association shall pay Referee Expenses.



## Schedule 5 Lennards Cup

### 5.1 Eligibility

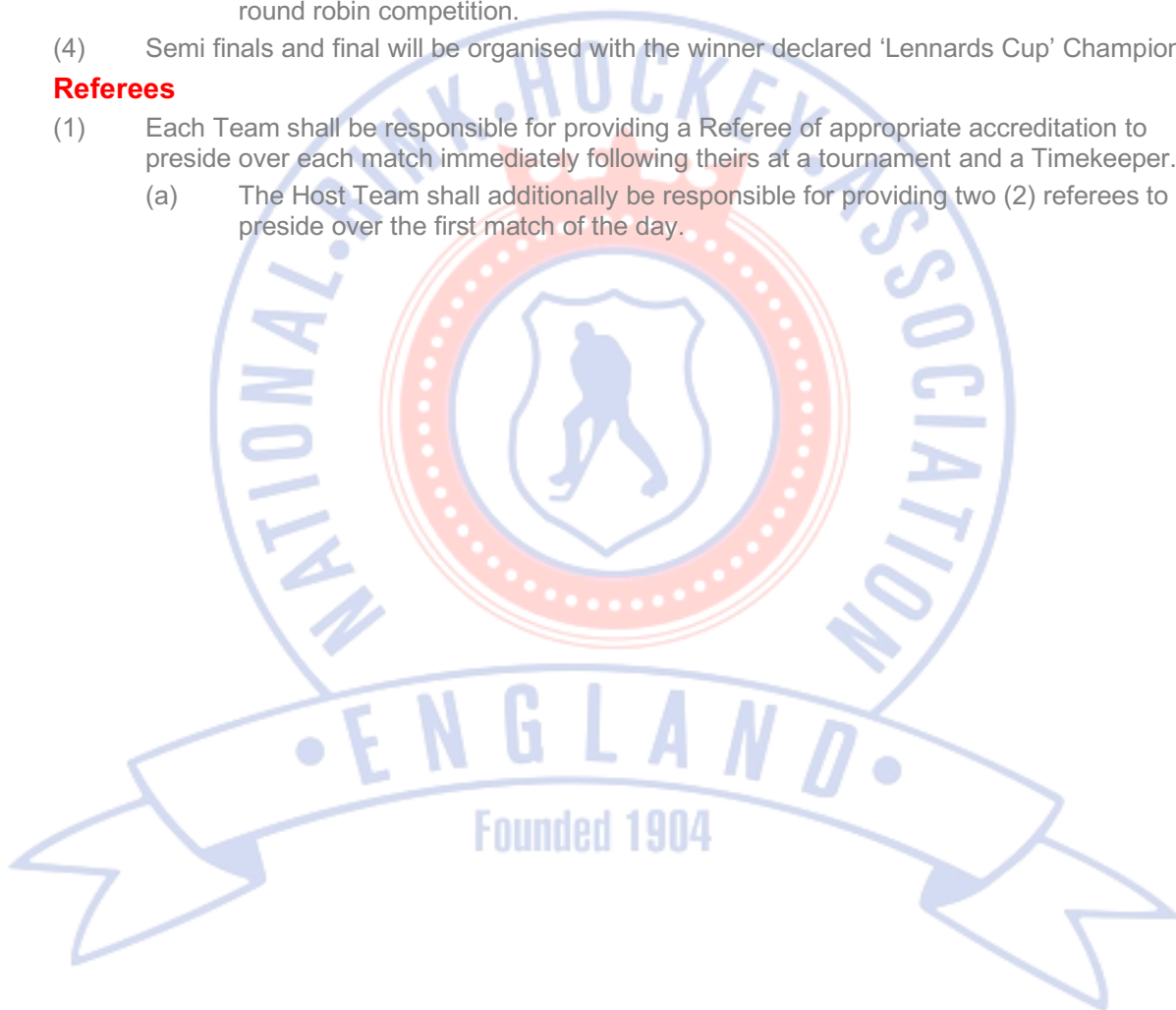
- (1) The competition is open to Club teams of Players eligible to register in the associations Senior Grade.
  - (a) Foreign teams may enter the competition.

### 5.2 Competition Format

- (1) The tournament shall be held over a weekend and will be scheduled to start no earlier than 09:00 hours and no later than 21:00 hours each day.
- (2) Up to ten (10) Teams will be allowed to enter the event, which shall be organised on a tournament basis with teams organised into groups
- (3) Each team will play each other team within their group once.
  - (a) Should insufficient teams register to participate, the event will be run as a single round robin competition.
- (4) Semi finals and final will be organised with the winner declared 'Lennards Cup' Champion.

### 5.3 Referees

- (1) Each Team shall be responsible for providing a Referee of appropriate accreditation to preside over each match immediately following theirs at a tournament and a Timekeeper.
  - (a) The Host Team shall additionally be responsible for providing two (2) referees to preside over the first match of the day.



## Schedule 6 Peter Wimble Cup

### 6.1 Eligibility

- (1) The competition is open to Club teams of Players eligible to register in the associations Veteran Grade.
  - (a) Foreign teams may enter the competition.
  - (b) Goalkeepers may be underage providing they have not played that position in any Senior or Under 20 National Team in the previous 3 seasons.

### 6.2 Competition Format

- (1) The tournament shall be held over a weekend and will be scheduled to start no earlier than 09:00 hours and no later than 21:00 hours each day.
- (2) Up to ten (10) Teams will be allowed to enter the event, which shall be organised on a tournament basis with teams organised into groups
- (3) Each team will play each other team within their group once.
  - (a) Should insufficient teams register to participate, the event will be run as a single round robin competition.
- (4) Semi finals and final will be organised with the winner declared "Peter Wimble Cup' Champion.

### 6.3 Referees

- (1) Each Team shall be responsible for providing a Referee of appropriate accreditation to preside over each match immediately following theirs at a tournament and a Timekeeper.
  - (a) The Host Team shall additionally be responsible for providing two (2) referees to preside over the first match of the day.

