

opposition are willing to play on a Sunday.

5.6 Priority - WHU under-18, under-21 and senior national squads, training and matches and national cup competitions, as published in the calendar of the WHU handbook, have priority over the North Wales League.

5.7 Grounds - All matches will be played on artificial turf, if possible. The home team must ensure that the pitch, its markings, goals etc. conform to the specifications laid down in the "Rules of Hockey". Home teams shall ensure that match balls in a good clean condition are available for each game. Complaints with regard to the condition of any playing or changing facility laid on by a club should be made in writing to the Executive. At its discretion, it may order a club to play home fixtures at a neutral venue or at the venue of the opponents, where it finds such a complaint justified.

5.8 Postponement - A match may be postponed due to adverse weather. It is the Home team's responsibility to the Away team prior to the Away team leaving their home ground, thereafter it is the Umpires' responsibility. A match may be postponed if adverse weather prevents the Away team from travelling. A match may also be postponed if a club has 2 or more players/team officials involved in a higher priority fixture. Any postponements other than the above must be advised to the League Match secretary immediately and will be raised at the Executive Meeting. The guilty party may incur a fine and match expenses

A fixture may be postponed if prior to the start of the season both teams can agree an alternative date that is notified in writing to, and approved by, the Executive.

Postponed games must be played within 15 days. Matches may only be played outside this time scale with the permission of the Executive.

5.9 Conceding - Conceding a game is unacceptable and the offending club will be fined and may incur match expenses.

5.10 Abandonment – umpires' responsibility – before the 60th minute, match to be replayed within 15 days. From the 60th minute the result stands.

5.11 In the event of a postponement or abandoned match, the League Match and Umpires appointments secretaries must be informed by telephone with the date, time and venue of the re-arrangement. (It is important that the fixture be arranged at the time of the postponement and not left in abeyance). Failure to advise the League Match Secretary of these details by 7.00 p.m. on the day of the original fixture may result in the fixture being declared null and void. If any fixture is postponed twice the Executive is entitled to instruct that the fixture be played at an alternative suitable venue. Home team captains are responsible for informing the umpires, without delay, in the event of a postponement.

5.12 The home team shall be required to contact the away team and umpires no later than the Monday evening prior to the fixture to confirm the venue, start time, type of surface and any other relevant details. Any last minute changes which may occur in the week before the game should be notified to all concerned parties including the League Match Secretary immediately.

5.13 In the event of a home team being unable to provide a suitable pitch at a suitable time for either a scheduled or reorganised match the away team shall be entitled, if it has a suitable pitch available and fit to play, to make the home team travel and play on this ground. This is provided that if umpires are appointed they can make suitable arrangements to travel or find replacements.

5.14 The result of the match must be telephoned to the relevant League Match Secretary before 7.00 p.m. on the day of the game including Sundays. The match card must be posted to the league match Secretary to arrive before the Saturday following the match.

5.15 On any occasion when a team fails to fulfil a league match the Executive shall have the power to cause the match to be forfeited by the offending team, deduct three points from their league table, subject the offending team to a fine and recover the expenses of the opposing team. At its discretion the Executive may impose all or any combination of these penalties. A team which fails to fulfil a league fixture on two or more occasions in any one season may be relegated to a lower division or barred from participation in the League, as the Executive may deem fit. If any team that is unable to complete more than four fixtures remaining to the end of the season, for whatever reason, then all its results for that season will be expunged from the records. Teams shall have the right to appeal as described in Rule 10 below.

5.16 All fixtures must be completed by the 1st May in any season

6. Player Eligibility

6.1 All players in Welsh club teams participating in the North Wales League must comply with the WHU Registration Rules and players in participating teams from outside the region must comply with their local registration rules. Players shall only play, in the League, for the club with which they are registered.

6.2 Players shall not play in the League if they have played in any competition in that season for a club that is not affiliated to the WHU, without prior approval of the Executive.

6.3 A player who has played for one club in the League may only play for another club in the League in the same year after an approved transfer.

6.4 No player may play for a team in the League if he has already played or is due to play for another team in his club on the same day. (This rule does not apply to development teams.)

6.5 Clubs are expected to be consistent in their selection policies and to select on merit. Any club that cannot satisfactorily justify an unusual selection shall be deemed to have fielded an ineligible player.

6.6 A team fielding an ineligible player will automatically forfeit three League points and the Executive shall have the power to impose any further penalties it may consider appropriate.

7. League Order, Promotion and Relegation

- 7.1. Three points shall be awarded for a win and one point for a draw in all league matches. In the event of teams being level on points, placings will be decided on goal difference. In the event of goal difference being the same for two or more teams then the team with the highest "goals for" total shall be the highest placed. If still undecided, but only in the case of promotion or relegation, then playoffs shall take place.
- 7.2. Any teams which have to be relegated, or resign or any team that the Executive may decide to relegate or expel shall be deemed to fill the last position in their division and all their results shall be expunged from the records.
- 7.3. Promotion and relegation will normally be awarded on a one up, one down basis between divisions. However the Executive may recommend to the AGM a restructuring of divisions to restore any change of balance.

8. Discipline

- 8.1. When necessary the Executive will administer disciplinary action in accordance with the rules set out in the Disciplinary Code of the WHU. The Executive shall appoint a sub-committee with the responsibility of overseeing the application of the Code.
- 8.2. It is the responsibility of each club to ensure that the appropriate disciplinary action is enforced in accordance with the WHU. Disciplinary Code. Confirmation of this plus any additional actions that a club may have taken must be submitted to the regional Disciplinary Committee.
- 8.3. Rule 8 also applies to fixtures involving Welsh clubs in other competitions, governed by bodies other than the WHU.
- 8.4. The regional Disciplinary Committee will furnish the relevant governing body disciplinary committee with details of disciplinary matters involving clubs affiliated outside the region but playing in the League.

9.0 General

- 9.1 Each club, by its entry into the League shall be deemed to have given its consent to the rules of the League and any amendments that may from time to time be adopted. It shall be deemed to have agreed to abide by the decision of the Executive and any penalty or sanction which it may from time to time see fit to impose.
- 9.2 In all matters concerning the interpretation of these rules or in the organisation of the League the decision of the Executive shall be final except that any club or individual that is unduly aggrieved has the right of appeal. (Rule 10).
- 9.3 The Executive shall have the power to determine any matter not covered by these rules and to impose financial penalties, deduct League points or relegate any team which in its opinion fails to meet the standards demanded for league hockey.
- 9.4 Such penalties shall be those agreed at the WHU(NR) AGM.
- 9.5 The Executive shall summon clubs on a regular basis to general meetings throughout the season to discuss progress of the League on a general basis.
- 9.6 Confirmation of any emergency rules adopted during a season will be sought at the WHU(NR) AGM. Adoption of new rules and amendments to existing rules will be made at the AGM. Any club wishing to propose a change to the Rules for the forthcoming season must put the proposal in writing to the Secretary before 31 March .

10. Appeals

Clubs and individuals have the right of appeal against any decision of the Executive, first by requesting the Executive to reconsider the matter and then to the Competitions Committee of the WHU. Such appeals, outside the region, together with a deposit of fifty pounds must be lodged with the Secretary of the said committee within fourteen days of the disputed decision.