

SUSSEX HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
MEN'S KNOCKOUT COMPETITION RULES
2019-2020

1) Entry

Men's Knockout Competitions organised by The Sussex Hockey Association are open to all clubs currently affiliated to the Association. The Competitions will be organised by an Official responsible to the Sussex Hockey Association and elected at the Annual General Meeting.

All Clubs wishing not to enter any competition must inform the Cup Organiser of Club/Team contact details by the 1st July each season.

2) Competitions

All competitions will be played under the rules of England Hockey and the competition rules described herein. Any eventuality not covered by these rules should be raised with the Men's Cup Organiser.

The England Code of Discipline and the Southern Counties H.A. Code of Pitch Side Conduct shall be applied throughout the competitions.

The current competitions are:

- a) First Team Cup, open to the best 8 teams as defined by League positions.
- b) First Team Plate, open to any other first Team qualified to enter the Cup.
- c) Second Team Cup, open to any club second team.
- d) Third Team Cup, open to any club third team.

These competitions are played on a series of published dates with the first drawn team being the home team and the second drawn team being the away team. The 2 semi-final winners will compete for the trophy at the Men's Finals weekend. (See Appendix 1)

- e) Fourth Team Cup, open to any club fourth teams.
- f) Vets Cup, open to any club team composing players who are bona fide club members who meet the age restrictions as published by the Competition Organiser.
- g) Under 21 Cup, open to any club team composing players who are bona fide club members, who meet the age restrictions as published by the Competition Organiser.

These competitions will be each run as a one day round robin tournament of two pools either at one or two venues; the top team in each pool will compete for the trophy at the Men's Finals Weekend. (See Appendix 2)

3) Player Eligibility

Players must be bona fide members of the competing clubs and are expected to play for the club team that they normally represent in League matches. Players from lower level teams may play up at a higher level if required, but players from higher level teams may not play down without written permission of the Cup Organiser.

Any team who does not follow this rule may at the discretion of the Men's Cup Organiser be excluded from taking further part in the competition.

Players may only play for one club in any Cup competition during each season. Players who have moved club prior to the 1st February and have not taken part in any cup competition will be eligible to play for their new club in a Cup Competitions.

Players are limited to one change of club during any season which prevents them returning to their former club for Cup competitions. Club members, including students, who are living away during the season and who are playing competitive hockey for a SATURDAY team, are deemed to have changed club and are therefore not able to represent their original club in any Cup competition for that season.

4) Finance

Entry fees for all Men's knockout competition are collected as part of the Club's affiliation fees to the Sussex Hockey Association.

For one day round robin competitions an additional charge may be made to cover hire of pitches etc.

5) Match Sheets

Will be required for all matches and must be completed by both teams and handed to the Match Officials or Umpires prior to the match starting. For Under 21 & Veterans Cup matches the player's dates of birth must be completed.

Following the completion of the game the Match sheet must be signed by both umpires and both team Captains and then either posted or scanned and emailed to the Men's Cup Organiser by the **Home Team** to arrive no later than the Wednesday after the match was played.

Match sheets will be circulated by the Men's Cup Organiser or can be downloaded from the Sussex Hockey Association website.

6) Disputes

All disputes should in the first instance be referred to the Competition Organiser, who will adjudicate on the matter or refer the decision to the Men's Competition Committee if necessary. The decision of the Men's Competition Committee is final.

7) Accidents

The Association and its Officers accept no liability for personal injury, however occasioned, to team members, officials, organisers or spectators during the competitions. Clubs are strongly recommended to take out insurance.

8) Alterations to Rules

Following discussion at the Annual Men's Competitions Meeting the rules may be altered by the Sussex Hockey Association Management Committee.

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APPENDIX 1

All matches will be played on a date decided by the Men's Cup Organiser subject to any postponements for inclement weather, no other postponements shall be allowed except with the express permission of the Men's Cup Organiser.

All Finals shall be played on a date and venue specified by the Men's Cup Organiser.
Umpires for all finals will be appointed by the Sussex County Hockey Umpires Association.

All matches will be played on artificial pitches

Home teams shall be the first named team in each round and the second named team will be the away team

Home teams will supply the match ball and in the event of a clash of colours including socks the away team will be required to change.

In the eventuality of a draw at the end of normal time a Penalty Stroke competition will be played under the England Hockey rules for penalty stroke competitions in KO tournaments.

Each club shall apply immediately match details are confirmed, to the Sussex County Hockey Umpires' Association for umpires to be appointed to 1st XI and 2nd XI matches and all quarter-finals and semi-finals.

Umpires for all other matches will be provided by the clubs involved, minimum standard is club umpire assessed (level 1)

The winning team are responsible for informing the Men's Cup Organiser of the result by no later than 19:00 on the day of the match, and entering the result on Fixtures Live.

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APPENDIX 2

4th Team Cup

Matches will be played on a specific date, and venue, as specified by the Men's Cup Organiser.

The competition will be run on a round robin basis with two pools at either a single venue or at two venues.

The actual match details, playing time, entry fee, and umpire provision requirements along with the draw will be circulated to clubs taking part prior to the event. The winners of each pool will contest the Final at the Men's Final Weekend.

Players should be regular playing members of the club fourth team or lower within the club.

Veterans Cup

Matches will be played on a specific date, and venue specified by the Men's Cup Organiser.

The competition will be run on a round robin basis with two pools at either a single venue or at two venues.

The actual match details, playing time, entry fee, and umpire provision requirements along with the draw will be circulated to clubs taking part prior to the event. The winners of each pool will contest the Final at the Men's Final Weekend.

Any club member may play in this competition subject to the age requirement.

Only two players are permitted to be between the ages of 35 and 40 years. The remainder of the squad must be aged 40 years of age or over on the 1st January each season.

Under 21 Cup

Matches will be played on a specific date and venue as specified by the Men's Cup Organiser.

The competition will be run on a round robin basis with two pools at either a single venue or at two venues.

Any regular club members may take part providing they are under 21 years of age on the 1st January each season

The actual match details, playing time, entry fee, and umpire provision requirements along with the draw will be circulated to clubs taking part prior to the event. The winners of each pool will contest the Final at the Men's Final Weekend.