

NATIONAL SCHOOLS IN2HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIPS 2015-16

Regulations

1. General

The U13 In2Hockey National Schools Championship for boys and girls will operate with qualifying rounds initially at county level with the top two teams from each round progressing to regional and national finals.

The U11 & U12 (where organised) In2Hockey Inter Schools Championship for boys and girls will operate with qualifying rounds initially at county level with the top two teams from each round progressing to the regional finals. There are no national finals for these age groups.

2. Regional and County Rounds

The county/regional organiser will be responsible for the method of operation, venue, timing and any necessary local regulations, in line with the guidance distributed by England Hockey (EH).

Regional competitions will operate in the East, Midlands, North, South and West of England.

3. Team Eligibility

All schools within the county are entitled to take part in the Championships at each age group. Schools may (and are encouraged to) enter more than one team per age group.

Two schools qualify from the county round to the regional round. At U13 level, two schools qualify from regional level to national level.

Only one team per school may qualify from the county to regional round

4. Player Eligibility

For the 2015-16 Championship players must be Under 11, Under 12 or Under 13 for the relevant competition on the 31st August 2015.

Throughout any EH competition, no player may play for more than one age group for their school per season, other than the U13 and U14 competitions where players can play in both.

Where a school fields more than one team in an age group in the In2Hockey championships, a player may play for one team in one round and the other team in subsequent rounds. Team managers are reminded that in signing the team sheet they accept responsibility for ensuring the eligibility of players on that sheet.

Players may only represent one school per hockey season.

5. Rules of the Game

All rounds will be played in accordance with the Rules of In2Hockey, copies of which may be obtained from the EH website.

6. Playing Surface

All matches must be played on artificial turf suitable for competitive hockey in line with EH guidance (visit www.englishockey.co.uk/facilities for more information). Matches should be played on half a pitch.

7. Squad Size

Squads will comprise a maximum of 10 players with 7 players on the pitch at any one time. Girls teams at Under 11, Under 12 and Under 13 must consist of girls only. Boys teams at Under 13 and Under 12 must consist of boys only. In the Boys U11 competition a maximum of two girls will be permitted to form part of the squad, however she may not play for her school in both the U11 girls and U11 boys competitions.

8. Registration

Teams should register with the Tournament Director at least 30 minutes before the start of the tournament or as directed.

9. Team Sheets

The names and dates of birth of squad members must be given to the Tournament Director at least 30 minutes before the first game has been played or as directed.

10. Balls

In National Finals full weight (not In2Hockey) hockey balls will be used. At Regional and County level if all teams agree a lighter ball (113g/4oz In2Hockey ball) may be used. The first named team will provide the balls for each match.

11. Dress

All players must wear numbered shirts and uniform kit. In the event of a colour clash the second named team will change. Girls may play in shorts. Players must wear knee length socks.

It is strongly recommended that shin-protectors and mouth-guards are worn by all outfield players.

All goalkeepers must be fully kitted as per the rules of In2Hockey (page 14). Please note this includes abdominal guards, gloves and an over shirt.

12. Duration of Games

Matches should be between 12 minutes one way and 12 minutes each way in duration.

13. Scoring in Pools

Where pools operate points will be awarded as follows -

3 for a win, 1 for a draw and 0 for a loss.

14. Pool Positions

If on completion of a pool leading teams are equal on points, their positions will be determined as follows:

1. Goal difference
2. Goals scored
3. Winner of match between the tied teams
4. Barrage of 3 penalty strokes
5. Sudden death penalty strokes

NB// In the U11 competition, penalty strokes can be taken 5m from the goal line rather than 7m.

15. Umpires

At the National Finals the Umpires will be appointed by EH. Regional and County Organisers should liaise with the appropriate Umpiring Organisation.

16. Tournament Director

In any dispute the decision of the Tournament Director is final.