

## WGHA Junior Season 2020

### Variations and Additions to By-Laws

The delayed start to the season as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic means that, subject to further changes to restrictions, the WGHA 2020 winter season for juniors will be run for nine rounds (plus a day of finals) from Saturday 18 July to Saturday 19 September. These variations and additions to the WGHA By-Laws (shown in red) have been approved by the WGHA Committee and relate to the 2020 winter season only.

#### Variations:

### 3. CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES

#### F. CLUB DUTY ON MATCH DAY

Clubs must supply personnel, when rostered as per playing season Match & Fixture schedule to prepare and set up clubrooms and field for game day including time keeping for all Junior games. They are also to assist in the kiosk throughout the whole day's competition, regardless if they have no scheduled games. A complete list of tasks will be advertised by the Committee at the start of each season.

*Clubs are required to undertake spot cleaning/disinfecting of common contact surfaces at the conclusion of training. Additionally, spot cleaning/disinfecting of common contact surfaces should occur at least once during the course of game days and the two clubs scheduled to play in the final game on game days are required to undertake spot cleaning/disinfecting of common contact surfaces at the conclusion of play.*

### 5. WINTER COMPETITION

#### C. FIELDING A TEAM

- (a) If a team cannot field six players at the beginning of a match, the offending team must forfeit the match (subject to By-Law 5.C.(d)). If a team starts short, the missing players may join in at any time subject to the rules of hockey. The umpires must be notified.
- (b) Should a team be reduced to 5 players the match shall be abandoned with the score being resolved according to By-Law 5.E.(a).

*A team must have a minimum of six players for an eleven-a-side full-field game (or must forfeit) or a minimum of five players for a seven-a-side half-field game (or must forfeit).*

#### F. FINALS FIXTURE

The method of playing finals in the Winter Competition shall be as follows:

- (a) **Semi Finals:** First v Fourth & Second v Third
- (b) **Grand Final:** Winners of Semi Finals

*For the 2020 junior season, finals will be played on Saturday 19 September only, as follows:*

- (a) **Third Place Playoff:** Third v Fourth
- (b) **Grand Final:** First v Second

If the season is further impacted by increased restrictions related to COVID-19, or because of any other unavoidable circumstances, the following will apply:

- If less than six rounds are completed during the season, no teams shall be declared to be premiers.
- If six or more rounds are completed during the season but it is not possible to play finals, the teams on top of the ladder shall be declared to be premiers.

## **Additions:**

### **GENERAL RESTRICTIONS**

- Anyone who is unwell at all, even if not considered related to COVID-19, should not attend Bellbird Park for either training or competition.
- Players and officials should take reasonable and sensible precautions, both on and off the field, with high fives, handshakes and other unnecessary contact not permitted.
- Spitting and nose-clearing are not permitted and will result in a player being carded by the umpires.
- Hand hygiene, frequent cleaning/disinfection and use of own equipment are expected.
- Players should not share personal equipment such as sticks, masks, shin pads, clothing, towels, mouthguards.
- Mouthguards should be stored appropriately when not in use and should not be rinsed in public if possible.
- Club masks may be used but each mask must be allocated to a specific player for an entire game and then disinfected. If it becomes necessary for a player to wear a mask that another player has worn during the same game, the umpires will pause play while the mask is disinfected.
- Changing goalkeepers during a game should be avoided where possible. However, should this be necessary due to injury or other unavoidable circumstances, the replacement goalkeeper must wear a different set of gear or the umpires will pause play while the gear is disinfected.
- Players and officials are encouraged to avoid touching balls with their hands as far as practicable.
- Players should bring their own filled and clearly named water bottle that should not be shared.
- Teams should not be offered fruit, confectionary or other food before, during or following a game.

### **HALF-FIELD GAMES**

- All junior games will be played as seven-a-side on half the field unless the two competing teams mutually agree to play a game as eleven-a-side on the full field.
- Should the two teams be unable to agree about whether to play a game as seven-a-side or eleven-a-side, the umpires will determine the format of the game.

### **SPECTATORS**

- All parents and other spectators are expected to abide by physical distancing restrictions for public gatherings, including maintaining a distance of at least 1.5 metres from each other and assembling in groups of no more than ten people.
- All parents and other spectators are expected to maintain good hygiene practices, including by making use of hand sanitiser (either own or provided).
- Only players and officials may enter the field, warm-up area or west (dugout) side of the field.

### **GAME TIMES**

- A gap of at least 15 minutes will be scheduled between each WGHA game to allow sufficient time for the changeover of players, officials and spectators.