



**TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS
FOR
THE INTERNATIONAL INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIP**

FEBRUARY 27th to MARCH 1st 2026

AN FIH SANCTIONED EVENT

1. THE RULES OF THE COMPETITION

1.1 This event shall be conducted in accordance with the current FIH Rules of Indoor Hockey (<https://www.fih.hockey/static-assets/pdf/fih-rules-of-indoor-hockey-2023.pdf>) and the FIH Tournament Regulations for Indoor Competitions, dated 27 November 2025 (https://www.fih.hockey/static-assets/pdf/fih_tournament_regulations_indoor_17_november.pdf) except as modified below.

2. TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS

2.1 Tournament Officials are appointed by Big Apple Hockey.

2.2 The Technical Delegates have the full authority in relation to all matters concerning the conduct of the tournament in accordance with the Regulations; appoints the officials to each match; and ensures that all participants abide by the Code of Conduct.

2.3 The Umpires Managers shall appoint the umpires for each match from among those selected to officiate in the tournament.

3. TEAM ENTRY

3.1 Team Entry requirements as described on "BAHF ENTRY FORM" deadline 5 January 2026 and general information provided in "Big Apple Hockey Presents its Annual International Indoor Championship"

4. PRETOURNAMENT BRIEFING MEETINGS

4.1 There are no pretournament briefing meeting requirements. However, Team Manager Briefing and Coaches Briefing documents must be complied with. **Additionally, all Participants are expected to read the documents referred to in 1.1 noted above, including these BAHF Tournament Regulations, and to observe them prior to and during the duration of the event.**

4.2 All documents available at <https://www.juniorpremierhockey.com/big-apple/>

5. COMPOSITION OF A TEAM

5.1 Team Rosters are to be submitted by 5 February 2026. The team roster must include Team name, Division, Team Manager name, phone number and email along with first and last name of all players and their respective shirt number.

5.2 Final Team Roster, including player names and unique uniform number, is to be presented on the form "BAHF TEAM ROSTER" at the "Tournament Registration" area a minimum of one hour before the team's first match.

5.3 Participants are limited to those listed on this final TEAM ROSTER submittal.

5.4 A maximum of twelve (12) players may be used by a team in a match.

5.5 Up to four (4) team officials may be on the team bench during the match.

5.5.1 Team Manager

5.5.2 Coach

5.5.3 Assistant Coach

5.5.4 An appropriately qualified Physiotherapist/ATC/Doctor

5.5.5 **There must be a team official designated as the Team Manager** who will be expected to liaise with the tournament Technical Officials on all matters regarding their team's participation and conduct during the event, and in particular must be present for each match on the team bench

5.5.6 In consideration of the limited team bench and sideline space, all Team Officials are requested to remain seated as much as possible and not to impede the view of the Technical Officials or the movement of the Umpires.

6. TEAM CLOTHING, EQUIPMENT AND COLORS

6.1 Each team will wear the colors of its club (either primary or alternative) as specified on the BAHF Team Roster.

6.2 Shirts must be numbered and a player must retain the same number throughout the tournament as listed on the Team Roster.

6.3 Team listed first will wear light color shirt and socks.
Team listed second to wear dark color shirt and socks.

6.4 If in the opinion of the Technical Officer the colors of two opposing teams might lead to confusion, one of the teams must change colors. This team will be the team that is listed first on the schedule, if an amicable settlement is not possible.

6.5 Players wearing face masks or head coverings for medical purposes, as described in FIH Rule 4.2 and FIH Regulation 6.10, must present the equipment to the Technical Delegates and Tournament Medical Staff for approval at least 1 hour prior to their team's first match.

7. DURATION OF MATCHES / TIME-KEEPING

7.1 Pool matches are as described in FIH Rule 5.1 and shall consist of four quarters of 10 minutes, an interval of 1 minute between quarter 1 and 2 and between quarter 3 and 4 and a half-time interval of 3 minutes.
The score at the end of the regulation time will be registered as the result of the match.

7.2 Crossover and classification matches follow the same timing rules and must have an outright winner at the end of regulation time. If there is no clear winner, the match shall be determined as follows:

7.2.1 For the purpose of establishing an outright winner, the teams go straight into a "Shoot Out Competition". A Shoot-Out Competition is as described in FIH Regulations, Appendix 8.

7.3 The Umpires start and re-start the match; they also signal to the Technical Officials on duty every time they order a time stoppage and the subsequent re-start.

7.3.1 Time will be stopped by the Umpires as according to the FIH Rules, **except** the clock will **not** be stopped on penalty corners.

7.4 Time-keeping is controlled by the Technical Officials on duty; they are responsible for signaling the end of each quarter. If a match, however, is prolonged at the end of a quarter to allow for the completion of a penalty corner as specified in the Rules of Indoor Hockey, the Umpires will signal the end of that quarter.

8. SUBSTITUTION OF PLAYERS

8.1 As described in the FIH Indoor Regulations Section 8 & the FIH Rules of Indoor Hockey.

8.2 As described in FIH Rule 2.3g, Time is not stopped for substitutions, this includes not stopping the time for a goalkeeper substitution, including following a goalkeeper injury or suspension if a field player needs to put on protective equipment.

9. ADMISSION TO THE FIELD OF PLAY

9.1 Admission to the Field of Play is as described in the FIH Indoor Regulations Section 9 with the only

exception that a Coach may not enter the Field of Play during playing time under any circumstances but may do so during a shoot-out competition and to attend to an emergency medical situation if Tournament Medical Staff needs assistance.

10. INTERRUPTIONS OF A MATCH

10.1 If a match is interrupted by the Technical Delegate(s) (e.g. because of Field of play conditions), this match must be resumed as soon as possible (not necessarily on the same Field of Play or on the same day), under the following conditions:

- 10.1.1 the match must be completed up to the regulation full time unless otherwise stated by the Technical Delegate(s). The score on the resumption being that at the time the interruption took place;
- 10.1.2 Regulation 8 relating to the substitution of players shall apply as though there had been no interruption to the match.

10.2 The Technical Delegates have authority to modify the match schedule, including postponing, reducing the duration, or cancelling a match due to weather, forfeits, or other unforeseen circumstances.

- 10.2.1 This includes, but is not limited to changing the match schedule, adjusting match lengths, finding replacement teams, scheduling friendly matches, etc

11. DISQUALIFICATION OR FAILURE TO PLAY

11.1 Matches will start promptly as stated on the schedule. If a team fails to take the field after five minutes of the scheduled time, the Umpires or Technical Officer will officially call the match off and award the win to the team that is ready. The record will reflect a forfeit and a 5 – 0 result to their opponents.

- 11.1.1 In a case where neither team is ready to play after ten minutes of the schedule start, the match will be called off by the umpires and will be recorded as “Did Not Play (DNP)” and zero points awarded.
- 11.1.2 The final decision not to play a scheduled match and forfeit determination in accordance with Big Apple Regulation 11.1 will be made by the Technical Delegates.

11.2 A team willfully refusing to play or to complete a match shall be considered as withdrawing from the tournament.

11.3 If a team thus withdraws from the tournament, the match results and the points table shall be adjusted accordingly as described in section 13 of the FIH Indoor Regulations.

12. MATCH REPORTS

12.1 As described in FIH Indoor Regulations Section 12

13. CODE OF CONDUCT AND SANCTIONS

13.1 As described in FIH Indoor Regulations Section 14

14. PROTESTS

14.1 As described in FIH Indoor Regulations Section 15, however due to the timing and resources available at the event, the decision of the Technical Delegates or their designate, is final and no Appeals will be entertained.

15. UNFORESEEN EVENTS

15.1 As described in FIH Indoor Regulations Section 19

16. GREEN CARD/YELLOW CARD SUSPENSIONS

16.1 As described in FIH Indoor Regulations, Appendix 1

17. PLAN OF COMPETITION

17.1 After pool play, teams will be ranked within their pool according to Big Apple Regulations, Section 18 - Plan of Ranking (below). Classification & crossover matches as described in the official Tournament Schedule will determine final standings

18. PLAN OF RANKING

18.1 Teams will be ranked as according to FIH Regulations Appendix 3 – Ranking in a Pool.

18.2 All teams will play against each other in their respective pool, and the following points will be awarded for each match:

- Three points to the winner;
- One point to each team in the event of a draw;
- No points to the loser.

18.3 Teams will be ranked according to the number of points each has accumulated in the competition, then as follows:

- 18.3.1 Number of wins
- 18.3.2 Goal Difference
- 18.3.3 Goals For
- 18.3.4 Result of Match(es) Played between those Teams
- 18.3.5 Field Goals in Pool Matches
- 18.3.6 Shoot-Out Competition between Teams involved

19. POINTS OF EMPHASIS

19.1 Big Apple Hockey would like to remind participants of the following FIH Indoor Rules and Regulations that will be enforced.

19.1.1 FIH Rule 2.3 a: substitution is permitted at any time except within the period from the award of a penalty corner until after it has been completed; during this period substitution is only permitted for injury to or suspension of the defending goalkeeper...

19.1.1.1 This guidance aligns with outdoor hockey, only the suspended player can return to play if their period of suspension ends during a penalty corner, if they are being substituted, the substitute cannot enter the field until the corner is completed.

19.1.2 Rule 13.5: A penalty corner is completed when:

- a) a goal is scored
- b) a free push is awarded to the defending team
- c) the ball travels more than 3 metres outside the circle
- d) the ball is played over the back-line and a penalty corner is not awarded
- e) the ball travels over a side-board and a penalty corner is not awarded
- f) a defender commits an offence which does not result in another penalty corner
- g) a penalty stroke is awarded

Note: A PC is no longer completed with a bully, if the decision would be a bully the PC is retaken, this is to match outdoor regulations.

19.1.3 Rule 13.6e: For an offence during the taking of a penalty corner (e) an attacker enters the circle

before permitted, the player taking the push from the back-line is required to go to a point within 9.1 metres of the back line at the far end of the pitch, the penalty corner is taken again – updated to match outdoor regulations.

19.1.4 FIH Rule 3: Each team must have an appointed captain who must wear a distinctive arm band or ribbon.

19.1.5 FIH Rule 4.2: Field players are highly recommended to wear shin, ankle, and mouth protection.

19.1.6 FIH Regulations 6.9: All players must be uniformly and neatly dressed at all times.

19.1.7 FIH Regulation 9.6: No incapacity treatment is permitted on the Field of Play unless the Tournament Medical Staff or Team Physio reasonably believes that a player requires medical attention and for that reason, they may enter the Field of Play without permission.

19.1.8 FIH Regulations 9.7: Players attended to on the field of play, must leave the field of play for at least 1 minute. This player may be substituted in accordance with the substitution rules.

19.1.9 FIH Rule 2.7: A player who is injured or bleeding must leave the pitch unless medical reasons prevent this and must not return until wounds have been covered; players must not wear bloodstained clothing. Play shall be stopped by the umpire in case of head injury to allow for the assessment by a team official or doctor prior to play resuming. In the case of possible concussion then the player shall leave the field of play and be substituted to allow for a concussion assessment to be completed.

19.1.10 Regulation 9.2: The Team Manager and substitute players nominated for that match must remain near or within the team bench during playing time, including time stoppages, or when implementing the substitution procedures. The Team Coach nominated for the match must remain in an area designated by the Technical Officer on duty but need not be seated. Substitutes may leave their seats to warm up in an area designated by the Technical Officer on duty. The team Physio may leave their seats to treat players; wherever possible treatment should take place at the end of the team bench.

19.1.11 Regulation 9.3: The nominated Team Manager for a match is responsible for the conduct of all persons occupying the team bench.

19.1.12 Regulation 9.4: Vocal communication by team officials and/or players on the team bench must not be directed at the Technical Officials seated at the table, the Umpires and/or the players of the opposing team.

19.1.13 Regulation 9.5: If misconduct occurs after a Team Manager has been warned about acts of misconduct on his / her team bench, the Technical Officer on duty is empowered to order the person or persons involved to leave the team bench for the rest of the match. After the match, the Technical Officer will report the circumstances to the Technical Delegates who may take further disciplinary action.

19.1.14 FIH Regulation 6.10: Wear face masks at penalty corners

19.1.15 FIH Regulation 6.10: All items of jewelry (necklaces, rings, bracelets, earrings, etc.) are forbidden and must be removed. Permanent jewelry or any jewelry that cannot be easily removed must be adequately covered or taped.

19.1.16 FIH Regulation 9.9: No liquid or other refreshment may be consumed on the Field of Play. Any player or umpire wishing to take refreshment during a match, including during time stoppages must leave the Field of Play. A goalkeeper may leave and re-enter the Field of Play adjacent to the goal.