

Hockey Umpiring









The International Hockey Federation Rules of Hockey 2005 not only set out the rules of hockey but also includes a section on umpiring. Importantly, section 1 details the objective of umpiring and makes not of the umpires contribution;












Section 1 – Objectives

- 1.1 Umpiring hockey is a challenging but rewarding way to participate in the game.
- 1.2 Umpires contribute to the game by:
 - (a) helping to raise the standard of the game at all levels by ensuring that players observe the Rules
 - (b) ensuring that every game is played in the right spirit
 - (c) helping to increase the enjoyment of the game for players, spectators, and others.

Section 4 – Umpiring Signals

Signals for conduct of play must be shown if there is doubt about the reason for the decision.

4.1 – Timing			
4.1.a	Start Time		Check that players are in their positions and are ready to play. Turn towards the other umpire with one arm straight up in the air. Blow the whistle to start time.
4.1.b	Stop Time		Turn towards the other umpire and cross fully-extended arms at the wrists above the head. You should also check that time has been stopped by the match manager.
4.3 – Ball Out of Play			
4.3.a	Ball out of play over the side-line		Indicate the direction of the free hit with a horizontal arm.
4.3.b	Ball out of play over the back line by an attacker		Face the centre of the field and extend both arms horizontally sideways
4.3.c	Ball out of Play Over the Back Line Unintentionally by a Defender		Point one arm at the corner flag nearest where the ball crossed the back-line.
4.4 – Goal Scored			
4.4	Goal Scored		Point both arms horizontally towards the centre of the field
4.5 – Conduct of play			
4.5.a	Dangerous Play		Place one forearm diagonally across the chest
4.5.b	Misconduct and/or Bad Temper		Stop play and make a calming movement by moving both hands slowly up and down, palms downward, in front of the body

4.5.c	Foot Infringement		Slightly raise a leg and touch it near the foot or ankle with the hand. The other arm should indicate the direction of the free hit.
4.5.d	Raised Ball		Hold palms facing each other horizontally in front of the body, with one palm approximately 150 mm above the other
4.5.e	Obstruction		Hold crossed forearms in front of the chest
4.5.f	Third Party Obstruction		Alternately open and close crossed forearms in front of the chest
4.5.g	Stick Obstruction		hold one arm out and downwards in front of the body half-way between vertical and horizontal; touch the forearm with the other hand
4.5.h	5 Metres Distance		Players should be 5 metres away from the ball while the free hit is taken. Extend one arm straight up in the air showing an open hand with all fingers extended.
4.6 – Penalties			
4.6.a	Advantage		Extend one arm high from the shoulder in the direction in which the benefiting team is playing. The umpire can call "play on".
4.6.b	Free Hit		Indicate the direction with one arm raised horizontally
4.6.c	Free Hit Progressed Up 10 Metres		Raise arm vertically with fist clenched
4.6.d	Penalty Corner		Point both arms towards the goal
4.6.e	Penalty Stroke		Point one arm at the penalty stroke mark and the other straight up in the air. This signal also indicates time stopped.