

REGULATIONS FOR
EUROHOCKEY INDOOR CLUB COMPETITIONS
CLUB CHALLENGE (MEN AND WOMEN)

November 2019

1 Qualifications and Pools

- 1.1 The tournaments will normally be played in divisions of up to 8 teams. The format for an 8 team tournament will be 2 pools of 4 (3 matches per team), followed by classification matches.
- 1.2 Any tournament in which there are less than 8 teams shall be played on a round robin basis in accordance with the regulations set out in paragraph 8 below.
- 1.3 Qualified for the **Challenge I** will be the champion clubs of those nations who finished ranked 3 to 6 in the previous year's Challenge I and the clubs of those 2 nations relegated from the previous year's Trophy, plus the champion clubs of those 2 nations promoted from the previous year's Challenge II.
- 1.4 Qualified for the **Challenge II** will be the champion clubs of those remaining nations who have entered including those relegated from the previous year's Challenge I. If there are more than 8 entries, then there may, at the discretion of the EHF, be a **Challenge III**. The EHF will decide, after taking into account the numbers of entries and offers to host, the composition of Challenge tournaments.

2 Trophies and Medals

For each Club Challenge (Men's & Women's) tournament, the host club shall be responsible for producing 17 medals portraying the EHF logo in base metal but coloured gold only (in case of 3/4/5-team events) or coloured gold and silver (in case of 6/7/8-team events) for the club(s) winning promotion from the tournament as set out in the Responsibility Chart (Appendix D).

3 Prize Giving Ceremony

- 3.1 In Club Challenge events, only the club(s) winning promotion is/are **required** to remain at the tournament until after the Prize Giving Ceremony on the final day; failure to do so will be subject to a penalty to be decided by the EHF.
- 3.2 The ceremony will normally take place no later than 16.00hrs and the EHF would encourage other participating clubs to remain if possible with teams making their travel arrangements accordingly.

4 Plan of the Competition

- 4.1 All tournaments of 8 teams shall be played as a two-pool competition. Teams will be placed in pools in accordance with the ranking for the previous year (subject to Regulation A.3) as follows:

<u>Pool A</u>	<u>Pool B</u>
1	2
4	3
5	6

- 4.2 In case of non-participation of one or more team(s) any reserve team(s), if called upon, will in principle, automatically take the place of the defaulting team(s) without changing the pools of the match programme. However, the EHF reserves the right to re-arrange the composition of the pools before the pre-tournament Event Briefing Meeting.

5 Programme of Pool Matches and Match Schedule

- 5.1 Matches in each of the two pools will be played as follows:

<u>Pool A</u>	<u>Pool B</u>
1 v 5	2 v 6
4 v 8	3 v 7
5 v 8	6 v 7
4 v 1	3 v 2
1 v 8	2 v 7
5 v 4	6 v 3

- 5.2 The proposed schedule and timing of matches shall be submitted to the EHF for approval in accordance with regulation D.3.
- 5.3 The EHF prefers to have the following number of matches per day: 8 matches on Friday, 8 matches on Saturday and 4 matches on Sunday.
- 5.4 The EHF has the right to vary the programme of matches in special circumstances.

6 Ranking in the Pools

- 6.1 In each pool, all the teams will play against each other and the following points shall be awarded for each match:

Win:	5 points
Draw:	2 points
Loss with goal difference of no more than 2:	1 point
Loss with more than 2 goals between the teams:	0 points

In each pool teams will be ranked according to the number of points each has accumulated in the tournament.

- 6.2 If at the end of the pool matches 2 or more teams have the same number of points for any place in a pool, the ranking of these teams will be determined according to the procedure (not the FIH points system) set out in **Appendix 3.2 of the current FIH Tournament Regulations (Indoor Competitions)**.

7 Programme of Classification Matches (Trophy and Challenge)

- 7.1 After completion of the initial pools (A and B), the top 2 teams from each of these pools will be placed in Pool D (the 'promotion pool') and the bottom 2 teams from each pool will be placed in Pool C (the 'relegation pool').

- 7.2 Each team in Pool C and in Pool D will carry forward to the new pool the result of the match against that other team (only) in their original pool (A or B) who also goes forward with them into Pool C or Pool D.
- 7.3 Each team will play the other 2 teams in the new Pool (being the teams which they have not already played in Pools A or B) - thus 2 further matches for each team.
- 7.4 The matches will be played in the following sequence:

<u>Pool D</u>	<u>Pool C</u>
2A v 2B	4A v 4B
1A v 1B	3A v 3B

and then:

1B v 2A	3B v 4A
1A v 2B	3A v 4B

- 7.5 The final tournament rankings will be based on the ranking of the teams in Pool D (who will be ranked 1-4) and in Pool C (who will be ranked 5-8).
- 7.6 If at the end of the Pool C and Pool D matches 2 or more teams have the same number of points for any place in a pool, then regulation 6.2 (above) shall be applied.
- 7.7 The proposed schedule and timing of matches shall be submitted to the EHF for approval in accordance with regulation D.3. The EHF has the right to vary the schedule of matches in special circumstances.

8 ONE POOL COMPETITION PLAN AND RANKING

8.1 Plan of Competition

All the teams will play against each other, and teams will be ranked according to the number of points each has accumulated in the tournament.

8.2. Programme of Matches

- 8.2.1 If a tournament has **3 teams**, the tournament can be played in two (2) days and the following match schedule should apply:

Day 1	Day 2
1 v 3	1 v 3
(interval)	(interval)
2 v 1	2 v 1
(interval)	(interval)
3 v 2	3 v 2
	(interval)
	1 st v 2 nd

- 8.2.2 If a tournament has **4 teams**, the tournament can be played in two (2) days (instead of 3) and the following match schedule should apply:

Day 1	Day 2
1 v 3	1 v 4
2 v 4	3 v 2
(interval)	(interval)
3 v 4	3 rd v 4 th
2 v 1	1 st v 2 nd

If the tournament with **4 teams** could not be brought back from 3 to 2 days, the following match schedule should apply:

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
1 v 3	3 v 4	3 rd v 4 th
2 v 4	2 v 1	1 st v 2 nd
	(interval)	
	1 v 4	
	3 v 2	

8.2.3 If a tournament has **5 teams**, the following match schedule should apply:

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
2 v 5	3 v 1	1 v 4
3 v 4	4 v 5	3 v 2
(interval)	(interval)	(interval)
1 v 5	2 v 1	3 rd v 4 th
2 v 4	5 v 3	1 st v 2 nd

8.2.4 If a tournament has **6 teams**, the following match schedule should apply:

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
1 v 6	4 v 5	1 v 4
2 v 5	6 v 2	5 v 6
3 v 4	3 v 1	3 v 2
(interval)	(interval)	
1 v 5	4 v 6	
2 v 4	2 v 1	
6 v 3	5 v 3	

It may be more convenient to play only 3 matches on the first day. If so, the programme should be advanced without adjusting the order of play. The interval period shown above is essential to ensure that teams have at least 2 hours rest between matches.

8.2.5 If the tournament has **7 teams**, the following match schedule should apply:

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
2 v 4	7 v 2	5 v 7
6 v 1	6 v 3	4 v 6
7 v 3	1 v 5	1 v 3
5 v 4	4 v 7	5 v 2

6 v 2	3 v 2	6 v 7
7 v 1	5 v 6	3 v 4
5 v 3	1 v 4	1 v 2

This schedule contains 21 matches, which means that each team plays 2 matches per day.

8.2.6 The proposed schedule and timing of matches shall be submitted to the EHF for approval in accordance with regulation D.3.

8.2.7 The EHF has the right to vary the programme of matches in special circumstances.

8.3. Ranking

8.3.1 All the teams will play against each other and the following points shall be awarded for each match:

Win:	5 points
Draw:	2 points
Loss with goal difference of no more than 2:	1 point
Loss with more than 2 goals between the teams:	0 points

Teams will be ranked according to the number of points each has accumulated in the tournament.

8.3.2 If at the end of the competition 2 or more teams have the same number of points for any place, these teams will be ranked according to the process set out in the relevant Appendix of the **FIH Tournament Regulations (Indoor Competitions)**.

8.3.3 In 3, 4 or 5 team tournaments, if the score at the end of the regulation time of a classification match is a draw, a shoot-out competition shall be played to establish the winner of the match.