



SOUTH AFRICAN
SCHOOLS HOCKEY

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SOUTH AFRICAN HOCKEY
ASSOCIATION

To All South African Schools' Provincial Affiliates

With the advent of New Hockey Rule Interpretations by the FIH, the **SAHA Rules and Technical Committee** and **SASHOC Rules and Technical Committee** wishes to highlight the following compulsory interpretations for the new season which are to be applied with immediate effect:

Regarding the new "**chukka**" rule, SASHOC has agreed to the following resolutions:

1. It is strongly encouraged that all under 18 and under 16 inter-school matches in South Africa be played in the FIH recommended chukka system in the 2019 season.
2. At the 2019 SASHOC national and regional under 18 and under 16 tournaments the chukka system will be implemented. You are thus encouraged to familiarise your players with this format of the game.
3. The format for the national tournaments will be as follows:
 - Chukkas will be 15 minutes long.
 - The break between chukka 1 and 2 will be 2 minutes.
 - The break between chukka 2 and 3 will be 5 minutes.
 - The break between chukka 3 and 4 will be 2 minutes.
 - Time will not be stopped for penalty corners.
4. Time will be followed rigidly. When a break is over, the whistle will be blown, and time will start. The team taking the hit may begin play, regardless of whether the opposition is ready.

Regarding the new **removal of the option of a team playing with a player with goalkeeping privileges** rule, SASHOC has agreed to the following resolutions:

1. Teams have now two options: they may choose to play with a goalkeeper who wears full protective equipment comprising at least headgear, leg guards and kickers and who is also permitted to wear goalkeeping hand protectors and other protective equipment, or they play with only field players.

Regarding the new **defending a free hit within the 5 metre area** rule, SASHOC has agreed to the following resolutions:

1. It has now been made clear that players other than the attacker taking the free hit must be at least five metres away, including when they are in their own circle. They must make a concerted effort to quickly move into an acceptable position. If the attacker however chooses to take the free hit immediately, then defenders who are inside the circle and within five meters from the ball may shadow the inside of the circle as per the explanation of the rule before 2019.

Regarding the new **defensive free hits inside the circle** rule, SASHOC has agreed to the following resolutions:

1. As in Indoor Hockey, a defender may now take a free hit awarded in the circle anywhere inside the circle, or up to 15 meters from the back-line in line with the location of the offence, parallel to the side-line.

Regarding the new **completion of the penalty corner** rule, SASHOC has agreed to the following resolutions:

1. Rule 13.5 that described the completion of a penalty corner for substitution purposes and for a penalty corner at the end of a period, has been deleted. The option that a penalty corner is completed when the ball travels outside the circle for the second time, no longer exists.
2. A penalty corner is completed when the ball travels 5 metres outside the circle, and all other situations detailed in rule 13.5 of the 2019 FIH rule book.

These amendments came into effect as of **1 January 2019**.

Signed,

SASHOC Rules and Technical Committee