**NorthWest Jersey Field Hockey Association**
**Northwest Jersey Youth Field Hockey**
**By-laws**

**Rules: The official playing rules shall be the current New Jersey High School Federation Rules except as modified herein.**

0. **Organization:** Every Town/Association shall designate a coordinator, who will attend League meetings. Towns must provide valid insurance certificates and pay League fees prior to the first game of the season. Town teams who have not met this requirement will not be permitted to play games until the requirement is met. **The NWJFHA assumes no liability for games or events, and the participants and attendees who attend any game do so at their own risk.**

**1. Participation eligibility is as follows:**

1.1. Players' Eligibility: Players residing in the municipality sponsoring a team are equally eligible to play.

A municipality/association will also be considered as an extension of its High School's Sending District, and make all players within those sending districts eligible players of a Town participating in the League. This will be to assist in determining the actual residency of a player and to deter players from playing outside of their sending district without proper League consent.

A player wishing to play outside of their sending district will need to file a waiver of consent form with the League. The consent form will need to be approved by the sending and receiving town's director and also approved by the League's Executive Board.

1.1.0. Each participating municipality will be responsible for confirming their High School sending district Towns (Annex 1) to the League at the before the start of the Recreational season. If this information is not provided that town will not eligible to participate in the season until it is provided.

1.1.1. Junior Varsity Level: Grades 5th and 6th.

Capable 4th graders may be rostered to play at the Junior Varsity level base on the town's discretion.

1.1.2. Varsity Level: Grades 7th and 8th

1.1.2.1.1. Capable 6th graders may be rostered to play at the Varsity level base on the town's discretion. If they are rostered to play at the Varsity level they are ineligible for play at the JV level.

**2. Rosters**

**2.1.** Towns with more than a single team may not share players between teams for any reason. A player should be designated to one team and may only play for that team, including the play-offs. Varsity teams may bring up players from the JV Division to fill their teams for the day.

**2.2.** It is required that the towns having more than one team at either the Junior or the Varsity level distribute the talent evenly amongst the teams. Failure to do so may result in the team being ineligible for the play-offs. A grievance committee will determine if "stacking" of a team has occurred.

## 3. Games, Scheduling, Make-ups , Score Reporting, Play-Offs

*3.1.* Games will be scheduled by the League. *Home coaches should place a courtesy call to the scheduled referee and the opposing coach one day before the game to confirm game time and field location, and to exchange cell numbers.*

3.1.0. Games for the JV Division shall consist of two 25 minute halves. Varsity Level is to play 30 minute halves.

3.1.1. League Games that are tied at the end of regulation shall stand, no overtime played.

### 3.2. Rescheduling games

3.2.0. League games will be played as scheduled except in the case of adverse weather conditions. Home teams please notify official and visiting team at least 3 hours prior to game time. The League coordinator shall be notified for rescheduling which will be at the discretion of the coaches. Two week make-up rule will be enforced.

### 3.3. Reporting the Score

3.3.0. Must be reported by email to the League Coordinator within 48 hours of the game. The League Coordinator's email is northjerseyfh@gmail.com.

3.3.1. The winning coach shall report the game score to the League coordinator.

3.3.2. Home coach will report a tied game to the League coordinator.

3.3.3. Home coach is responsible for cancellation notification to opposing coach, official, and League coordinator.

3.4. **Play-offs**:

3.4.0. Play-offs are held for the both Junior Varsity and Varsity level.

3.4.1. Division standings shall be conducted on a point system. 2 points for win, 1 point for tie

3.4.2. For the Varsity level, the top two teams from each division make the play-offs.

3.4.2.1. For the Junior Varsity level, only the top 2 teams make the play-offs and plays for that level's championship.

3.4.3. In the event of a tie score for division games head to head competition shall be used.

3.4.4. Division I first place plays Division II second place, Division II first place plays Division I second place, with winners playing for championship.

3.4.5. In the event of a tie score at the end of regulation a 10 minute sudden-victory over-time shall be played, 7V7. If the game remains tied after the 10 minute over-time the game shall be decided by a 5 player stroke-off. If tie still remains a single player stroke-off will decide game.

3.4.6. Trophies are awarded to championship team only

## 4. FIELD AND EQUIPMENT

**4.1. Field**: Field is to be lined to New Jersey High School Guidelines. It is the responsibility of the home team to make sure that the field is cut to an appropriate length.

4.2. **Player gear:**

4.2.0. Home team is to wear WHITE socks. Visiting may wear any color other than white.

4.2.1. Number is required on back of shirt but not on front.

4.2.2. Field Hockey goggles must be worn; goggles must conform to ASTM F2713-09 as per high school rule change. This is for the JV and the Varsity level, all players will where goggles this year.

4.3. **Timer:** Home team is to provide timer as well as volunteer to time the game. This should not be a coach.

## 5. PLAYERS and COACHES

5.1. **Calling up younger players:** 6th graders may play temporarily at Varsity level. Call ups are used when an upper level team does not have enough players to avoid a forfeit. The League assumes no liability, and assumes that coaches have gained the approval of players' parents to play at a higher level.

## 6. Referees

6.1. The league shall assign a High school certified referee for all games. Each team is responsible for paying the referee $30 for each game.

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Annex 1:

| Sponsoring Municipality / Association | Team Name | Other name | Sending District High School | Sending District Towns |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Skyland Field Hockey | Belvidere | | Belvidere | Belvidere, Harmony Township, Hope Township and White Township |
| Independence Township | Independence | | Hackettstown | Independence Township, Liberty Township, Hackettstown, Allamuchy Township. |
| Bryam Township | Lenape Valley | | Lenape Valley Regional | Byram Township, Stanhope Borough and Netcong Borough. |
| Mansfield Township | Mansfield | | Warren Hills Regional | Franklin Township, Mansfield Township, Oxford Township, Washington Borough and Washington Township. |
| Union Township | North Hunterdon Field Hockey | Junior Lions | North Hunterdon | Bethlehem Township, Clinton Town, Clinton Township, Franklin Township, Lebanon Borough and Union Township. |
| Greenwich Township | Phillipsburg Area Field Hockey | Junior Liners | Phillipsburg | Alpha, Bloomsbury, Greenwich Township, Lopatcong Township and Pohatcong Township, Phillihspburg Township. |
| Sparta | Sparta | | Sparta High School | Sparta Township |
| Taylwind Field Hockey Club | Taylwind | | Voorhees | Califon Borough, Glen Gardner Borough, Hampton Borough, High Bridge Borough, Lebanon Township and Tewksbury Township. |