



Constitution - As agreed at the ECRHA AGM 2nd July 2011

1. The Association shall be called the Eastern Counties Roller Hockey Association, the short title being ECRHA.
2. The objectives of the ECRHA shall be to govern and to promote the game of Roller Hockey in the counties of Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Suffolk and Norfolk - to be called the Eastern Counties.
3. The ECRHA shall be an Association of Clubs and Leagues resident or playing in the above counties plus existing members of the ECRHA playing at the start of the 1986 season.
4. Membership shall be open to all Clubs outside the Region by invitation of the Executive Committee.
5. Management of the ECRHA shall be vested in an Executive Committee to be elected at an Annual General Meeting and consisting of: -

President, five Vice-Presidents, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Competitions Secretary, Referees/Disputes Secretary, Development Officer, Website Co-ordinator. No more than three members from any one Club to serve on the Executive Committee.

ECRHA Committee members must show impartiality and may not take regional executive action in matters relating to their own Club, but should, as appropriate refer the matter to another Officer(s) (from another Club) or refer the matter to the full Committee and abstain from any voting that may result.

6. The Annual General Meeting shall be held before the AGM of the National Roller Hockey Association.
7. Twenty-one days notice shall be given to all affiliates of the AGM.
8. Five members shall form a quorum for all Committee Meetings; the President shall be entitled to a casting vote.
9. The ECRHA shall be affiliated to the National Roller Hockey Association and shall abide by their rules.
10. All affiliated Leagues and Clubs shall be entitled to a vote at the AGM provided that they have paid their dues in full.
11. The Executive Committee shall have the power to deal with any matter not covered by these rules.
12. Any league or team wishing to resign from the Association shall give 28 days notice to the Hon. Secretary
13. The Executive Committee shall meet at least four times in each season and more often if required.

14. The fees shall be decided by the members at the AGM

15. EASTERN COUNTIES COMPETITION RULES

NRHA rules apply with the following exceptions:

- a) Before the start of the season and first tournament, each Club should submit team lists to the Fixtures Secretary. A date should be set after which defaulting Clubs will not be allowed to enter teams. The team lists and individual players within each team will be assessed by a committee, one vote per committee member with a unanimous majority required, as to their suitability for any particular league or division. Final team lists, approved by the committee, will be circulated to each Club by the first tournament. No player may play for any other teams other than those for which he/she is registered at the start of the season. Players may only play in more than one division on the basis that outfield players may only play in goal in another division (similarly goalkeepers may play in the outfield in another division). Such dual team registrations shall be brought to the attention of the Competitions Secretary at the time of team registrations at the start of the season. Late additions to teams after the start of the season will be discussed and decided upon at any of the four Executive meetings, the dates of which will have been previously notified. No new player can play until all the Clubs are notified with the amended team list.
 - i) Late additions to teams after the start of the season must be requested via the competitions secretary and agreed by at least three other Executives. No new player can play until agreement has been given and recorded by the competitions secretary
 - ii) A team will consist of a minimum of 4 players on the day of the tournament. The game may only be deemed as a friendly should injuries reduce a team further.
 - iii) If a team only has five players available for a tournament they can play a player up from their club to complete their team. A club can only do this twice during a season providing they use different players. If any player repeats this change (i.e plays up twice), they must then remain in the higher league team. Exception only being for England teams competing in the region, as they are also permitted to play for their own club in whichever league they have been listed
 - iv) A Goal Keeper can be listed as a goal keeper in one league i.e Div 1 and then play as a field player in another league i.e Div 3, subject to the club team list submitted at the start of the season.
 - v) Girls may play above their age category limits in Eastern Counties leagues only, as follows:

Under 11's	-	No Upper age permitted	
Minors	-	1 year older	14yrs permitted
Intermediates	-	1 years older	16 yrs permitted
Schoolboys + Above	-	Any Age	18 yrs +

This applies to all girls playing on pitch and goal.

- b) No team shall take part in any match unless they are registered with both the ECRHA and the NRHA.
- c) Only the use of non-distractive and non-marking wheels and toe stops will be allowed. Any team contravening this rule will be fined an amount to be decided by the Discipline & Disputes sub-committee.
- d) All teams shall be ready to play 15 minutes before the match is scheduled to start. Failure to take the floor at the appointed time will lead to the forfeiture of the points and to a fine.

- e) Referees may claim travel expenses at the rate of 20p per mile for one way only.
- f) New teams/clubs will normally be placed in the lowest division and gain promotion on final placing. The Executive Committee has the right to start such new teams in an appropriately higher division where the identity and standard of the player is known to them. Thereafter, such teams would be subject to the current rules of promotion and demotion.
- (i) Draw of Cup Qualifiers – As per the 2011 AGM the procedure for drawing pool placings for Cup Qualifiers will be carried out by the EC Committee and based on the following: All team lists must be submitted with team entries prior to the event, the draw will be based on the league placings of the teams entered. If a team should pull out prior to the event a £100 fine will be imposed with no Refunds of team entries.
- g) Home Clubs will be responsible for the proper organisation of their League Home Tournaments, including the provision of timekeepers, and ensuring that the rink and match equipment (e.g. balls, goal nets) are serviceable and up to match standard.
- (i) Every game is to have two referees.
- (ii) The Grade of the referee for the various leagues will be set by the ECRHA Referee Officer.
- (iii) Every team has to supply a referee. (Not necessarily from their own Club)
- (iv) If a team does not supply a referee, then they will be subject to a fine of £10 per game.
- (v) The referees should submit their Registration Cards to the timekeepers prior to refereeing their first game.

Note: This will apply to Under 11's and Under 13's tournaments for season 2008/2009, Under 15's tournaments included for the 2009/2010 season, and Under 17's tournaments included 2010/2011. Thereafter this it will apply to all leagues including Senior levels from 2011/2012 season.

- h) Failure to honour dates of tournaments shall result in fines payable to the Association on the following scale:

Non-attendance	£50.00 to EC
PLUS: Hosts lost rink time (payable to host team) charged per hour of venues hourly rate	£35.00 per hour (maximum)
Non-attendance at a Knockout match or qualifier tournament (unless 14 days notice of withdrawal has been given to the Competition Secretary or KO Cup organiser)	£50.00.

Appeals against fines may be made to the Referees & Disputes Officer who in the case of genuine reasons for non-attendance, may waive, vary or suspend fines as he judges in consultation with the Executive Committee. A minimum fine equivalent to the tournament levy will always be applied, payable to the home club.

- i) Schoolboys, Intermediates and Minors. Goal difference is not applicable in the event of a points draw and will be decided in the following order: -
 - a. The highest number of wins, but only between the two level teams.
 - b. If time allows a play off at the cup final
 - c. Lastly, if all the above fails it will be declared a joint placing.
 - j) **Helmets:** As per International rule 2.6 “Light helmet to protect the head made of non rigid plastic or leather”, optional approved helmets for players may be worn in Eastern Region competitions/hockey only.
 - k) **Goal Keeping Pads:** Eastern Counties will allow the use of old size pads for EC regional competitions.
 - l) **Referees’ Dress:** Referees dress code, White/Black EC Referee Polo Shirts, with dark/black trousers.
- 18.** Any amendment to the Constitution Rules must be notified in writing to the Hon. Secretary at least 6 weeks prior to the AGM for notification to all affiliated Clubs.

Updated 02.07.2011