

## Scottish Hockey Conference Guidelines



These guidelines have been created to support the membership in their approach to 2020's conference leagues, and should be read in conjunction with ongoing Scottish Hockey (SH) [advice](#) linked to Scottish Government restrictions. While as many areas have been covered as possible, teams should approach getting back to the game in an enjoyable, collaborative, and safe way.

The conference set-up has been designed in response to travel restrictions and club feedback, while providing a reasonable standard of play. It is a temporary solution to the logistical problems presented by Covid-19 disruption. The conference leagues will have no bearing on future league positions, which are proposed to return to previous, traditional, set-up when it is safe and sensible to do so.

The regional conferences consist of teams of a similar standard who will play each other until the end of 2020. This allows flexibility in format to reflect any restrictions on society due to Covid-19. Consultation will take place regarding indoor hockey for a possible January start.

Subject	Approach
<b>League Information</b>	Hosted on SH website
	Administered by SH competitions team
<b>Promotion/Relegation</b>	No promotion or relegation for this temporary structure
<b>Playing Surfaces</b>	FIH approved, agreed by both teams. (Conference A preferably water)
<b>Discipline</b>	Previous bans now considered served
	Normal discipline procedures will be applied from game week 1
	Spitting is a 10 minute yellow card
<b>Player Eligibility</b>	No named nines
	Players within a match day bubble can play for any team
	Players must be registered and complete track and trace
<b>Match Report Forms</b>	Each team completes their own section and sends to SH. Do not hand sheets of paper to each other.
<b>Umpires</b>	Teams provide their own umpires. Names must be recorded for track and trace
	Umpires are left to umpire and have no additional responsibilities – club Covid officers ensure the safety of participants
<b>Penalties</b>	No fines or point deductions for teams unable to play
	Playing unregistered players will see clubs fined (in line with SH Competition rules)
<b>Spectators</b>	Not currently allowed
<b>Cost</b>	With clubs providing their own officials, and no finals day, the cost of entering a conference league will be reduced in comparison to previous competition entry cost.



**\*Premiership:** On hold and may start, subject to financial modelling, board approval and entry numbers. Premiership teams will be placed into the conference structure for the immediate term.

**\*European representation:** May be through a Premiership season, or a short term competition involving Premiership clubs in a format agreed by the Premiership Management Group (PMG). The Process will be agreed following the decision on whether the Premiership season can be run.

Scottish Hockey's aim is to provide a structure that allows safe participation and as such will not be as stringent on previous rules and regulations.

We ask that clubs enter with the right spirit and acknowledge that a "win at all costs" approach should be replaced with a development mentality.