



Constitution - As agreed at the ECRHA AGM 7 July 2013

items in red were agreed at the AGM July 2013 but come in to effect 2014/15 Season, ie, 1 September 2014

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,

Web site 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 and have a club representative, who is not a member of the EC Executive Committee present



10a Clubs must have a representative present at the EC Fixtures Meeting to allow their entry into EC Leagues

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 can be discussed and decided upon via email, within reasonable notice or at any of the four Executive meetings, 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 ie, 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	-	No Upper age permitted
Intermediates	-	1 years older 16 yrs permitted
Schoolboys	-	Under 25 on 1 September

This applies to all girls playing on pitch and goal.

- From 2014/15 season in age groups U11, U13 and U15, clubs can play a maximum of two over age girls per match per team
- From 2014/15 season any first time player, boy or girl, can play one year BELOW their age group for their first full or part season of registration to aid development

- 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) Although any EC player that is given a red card serves a one match ban, the EC Committee retain the right to apply a fine for any serious incidents on or off the rink
- g) 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.
- h) 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. However any referee of the correct standard and over the age of 14 will be permitted to referee at any level as long as it is agreed by the other referee and both teams playing
- (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 £50 per game.
- (v) The referees should submit their Registration Cards to the timekeepers prior to refereeing their first game.
- (vi) All referees in EC leagues and tournaments must wear an Eastern Counties Referee Shirt, NO National or other region shirts. EC shirts can be obtained from the EC Referee and Disputes Officer
- . Failure to wear correct dress could mean a referee will not be permitted to ref and fines mentioned above to be imposed.

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.

- i) 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.

- j) Schoolboys, Intermediates and Minors. Goal difference is not applicable in the event of a points draw and will be decided in the following order: -

1. The highest number of wins, but only between the two level teams.
2. If time allows a play off at the cup final
3. Lastly, if all the above fails it will be declared a joint placing.

- k) **Should injury force the instant halting of a game, a 10-0 win will be awarded to the 'surviving' team**

- l) **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.
- m) **Goal Keeping Pads:** Eastern Counties will allow the use of old size pads for EC regional competitions.
- n) **Referees' Dress:** Referees dress code, White/Black EC Referee Polo Shirts, with dark/black trousers.



- o) **Shirt Numbering:** In line with international rules, shirts can be numbered 1-99, with goalkeepers wearing, 1, 10, 20, 30 etc

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 21 August 2013