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Welcome to yet another year of Whistlers WA with a little different look and hopefully more of your Qs & As. In alternate months we will have Whistlers National and in 2011 we will have some articles from those who love the finely polished floorboards of Indoor hockey. This will be known as Whistlers Undercover. Enjoy the year.

*Whistler*

## Q&A

**Question 1:** If the defender does not get 5 metres from the free hit and 'shadows' the attacker up to the circle, then puts on a tackle in the circle, is it a short corner?

**Answer 1:** Everyone should be 5m from a 'free' in the 23m and as an umpire you should make sure this happens well before they take the 'free'. If the defender 'shadows' then yes a PC can be awarded. You should also look at a 'yellow' or at least a 2 min. green. You don't have to wait until the attacker gets to the circle, as shadowing is a breach and in this instance seems deliberate inside the 23m. A PC in any case...

**Important Note: Umpires keep it simple (K.I.S.S.) and don't go looking for breaches or rules that aren't there. Keep thinking does it affect play or is it really disadvantaging one or other of the teams? If not, PLAY-ON.... keep the game flowing.**

## WAS THE BALL IN OR OUT?

Rule 7 – Ball outside the field:

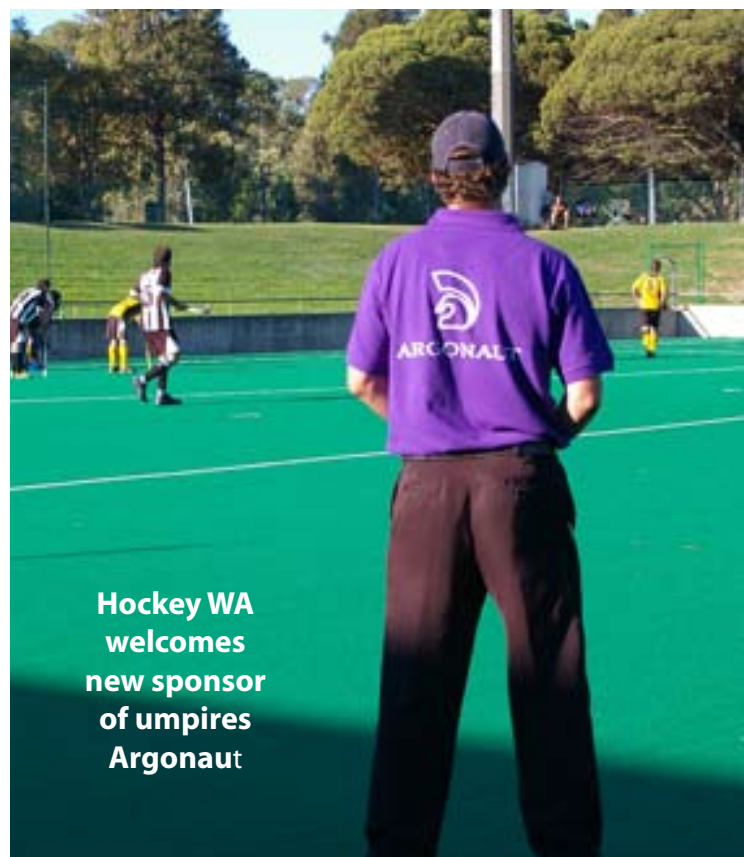
This is a rule that can lead to disagreements during a game. 'It was out! It was in! No goal Ump, he didn't hit it inside the circle!' And so it goes on.

Rule 7.1 says: The ball is out when it passes completely over the side-line or back-line. That means the whole ball must pass over the line to be considered out, otherwise Play-On.

- The ball must travel completely over the side line to be out
- The ball must travel completely over the back line to be out
- The ball must, from the push-in at a PC travel outside the circle (must cross completely over the circle line to be considered outside and then brought inside the circle before a goal is scored
- The ball can be on the circle line (on the line is considered inside the circle) if a goal is to be scored
- The ball must be a full ball over the goal line for a goal to be scored;

**Question 2:** Taking free hit by just running off with the ball (e.g., not two separate actions) so I pulled them up on that (other umpire said let them go), but I saw a men's training session beforehand where the guys were doing that as well.

**Answer 2:** Reversal could be considered for continuous breaches after being warned that this would happen (preferably through the captain) but a 'green' would be too confronting - empathy with the intent of the rule & the intent of the player are key issues: the player's intent is not to cheat but to take the hit as quickly as possible, & hence, incorrectly.



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# Working as a Team

## 5 minutes before start

### Whistlers' Observations

It is important that early in the season that we set a high standard and try not to deviate from it throughout the year. It is a tall ask but it will be of the utmost benefit to you and your colleagues if you are to maintain a high standard.



## Tackling

Tackling is a constant theme of mine and we are still not at a level that is acceptable. Each week we see players play to their optimum and we expect umpires to have a similar attitude. Slackness and cruising have no place in Australian umpiring, as a high level of performance is demanded all the time. In this issue I will highlight two issues where those making the tackle should have been suspended for crude and/or deliberate tackles.

1. The right winger travelled down the right wing with ball at speed; the left half came to tackle him; the winger eliminated the left half to halt his progress and so gave away a free hit, the left half tried to hook his opponents stick. The winger extricated his stick and continued on his path to the goals and the umpire in this case applied advantage. However apart from a verbal warning no further action was taken. At the very minimum the ump should have issued a green card (2 min. suspension). A yellow card suspension might have been more appropriate in this instance.

2. In the second example the player swung his stick on the reverse side from about waist height and hit his opponents stick out of the way. No temporary suspension was given and in these instances we would suggest at least a 10 minute yellow was warranted.

*Remember the PIT rule: (P) = Position (I) = Intent (T) = Timing*

*Get all of these wrong and you should expect a 10 minute Yellow! 2 out of 3 wrong should be at least a 5 minute yellow and 1 out of 3 at least a 2 minute green.*

## Dangerous Play

When the ball is hit in the air it is not always dangerous. Players will try to "con" the umpire to believe it is dangerous by "taking evasive action". Umpires should see through this con and not blow it. That is not to say when it is dangerous they should apply the correct penalty. I now want to give an example of where an umpire should not blow danger because he or she is not in the best position.

The ball is hit by a defender of a team that is hitting to the northern end of the ground in the air straight down from the left half position. It is the responsibility of the umpire who is behind the trajectory of the ball to determine whether it is dangerous. It is not the duty of the umpire on the other side of the ground to blow as he/she does not have depth of field vision and could in no way determine how close it was to the players.



## Umpire your own area

An umpire has areas of responsibility. He/she should only blow decision in that area unless the colleague is unsighted. Too often we hear the double whistle blown because each has seen the same breach and feel compelled to blow it. Umpires should refrain from blowing in their colleague's area immediately they see a breach. They should give the colleague an opportunity to blow or indicate that advantage is being applied. It is all about composure, a necessary attribute of an umpire.

## Rule Variations 2011

### SCHEDULE OF VARIATION TO RULES OF HOCKEY APPLICABLE FOR FIH WORLD LEVEL EVENTS

The following variations to the Rules of Hockey and Tournament Regulations will apply to FIH World Level Events (i.e. World Cup, World Cup Qualifier, Champions Trophy, Champions Challenge I, Champions Challenge II, Olympic Qualifier and Junior World Cup).



#### 1. Green Card – Two Minute Suspension

For any offence, the offending player may be warned (indicated by a green card).

- Where a green card is issued the offending player shall be temporarily suspended for two (2) minutes.
- During the period of temporary suspension of a player, the team shall play with one less player.
- The umpire shall immediately restart the game after the issue of the green card.
- The offending player must leave the field immediately. If the player interferes with play on the way to the technical table area the umpire will further penalise the player in accordance with the Rules of Hockey.
- The two minute temporary suspension shall commence when the player is seated at the technical table area.
- The timing of the suspension shall be controlled by the technical officials on duty at the technical table.

#### 2. Yellow Card – Temporary Suspension

For an offence where the offending player is temporarily suspended (indicated by a yellow card)

- Where a yellow card is issued the offending player shall be temporarily suspended for a minimum of five (5) minutes.
- During the period of temporary suspension of a player, the team shall play with one less player.
- The umpire shall restart the game after the issue of the yellow card.
- The offending player must leave the field immediately. If the player interferes with play on the way to the technical table area the umpire will further penalise the player in accordance with the Rules of Hockey.
- The period of temporary suspension shall commence when the player is seated at the technical table area.
- The timing of the suspension shall be controlled by the umpires same as 2010 (HWA directive for WA Competitions).

#### 3. Breaking at Penalty Corner

- Until the ball has been played, no attacker other than the one taking the push or hit from the back-line is permitted to enter the circle and no defender is permitted to cross the centre-line or back-line.
- For any offence of this rule by a defender, other than the goalkeeper, the offending player(s) shall be required to go beyond the centre-line and cannot be replaced by another defender
- For any offence of this rule by a defending goalkeeper, the defending team defends the penalty corner with one less player.
- For an offence of this rule by an attacker who enters the circle before the ball is played, the offending player(s) shall be required to go beyond the centre line.
- The player who pushes or hits the ball from the back-line must not feint at playing the ball. For an offence of this rule the offending player shall be replaced by another attacker.

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT HOCKEY AUSTRALIA WILL BE APPLYING THESE REGULATIONS AT ALL HOCKEY AUSTRALIA CHAMPIONSHIPS IN 2011 AND RECOMMENDS THEIR IMPLEMENTATION BY ALL STATES/TERRITORIES WHERE AN APPROPRIATE TECHNICAL BENCH IS IN PLACE.



Jan Hadfield  
(NATIONAL OFFICIATING MANAGER)



## Technical Stuff

### Whistler Being Technical

Question:

In two recent International Series there were two (2) different directions given to suspended players when their two (2) minutes had expired. Both had been given Green Cards so were suspended for 2 minutes. In one instance, the TO allowed the player to return when their two (2) minutes had expired even though the PC had not been completed. In the other instance the TO refused to let the player back onto the field of play even though the two (2) minutes had expired.

There is a third (3rd) scenario in this situation and that is, if one of the suspended players is then substituted when the two (2) minutes has expired and the PC has not been completed....What are your decisions?

Answer:

There is nothing in the rules that prevents a player who has been given a Green Card from return to play even if the PC has not been completed. Warning, as an Umpire in this situation you must ensure the teams do not delay play simply to be able to have their player return to the PC formation or attack. In the instances above the first TO was correct.

Secondly in the third instance the player substituting cannot enter the field of play until the PC is complete. This is covered in the Rules under the substitution rule during a PC.

*Whistler*



## What's Your Decision?

### Whistler Undercover

Question 1:

On a lifted shot on goal if the goalkeeper deflects the ball higher than the initially raised shot is this a breach or should it be play on?

Answer 1:

In saving a lifted shot at goal the goalkeeper must only be penalised if the ball is played dangerously or leads to dangerous play, so if no danger Play On...

Question 2:

When a free hit is awarded to the attacking team in the attacking half of the pitch, can the ball be played directly into the circle from the free push?

Answer 2:

The ball can only enter the circle from the free push if it first touches the side-board or the stick of a player of either team before entering the circle.



Hockey WA has approved KT1 soft peaked caps made to be worn playing hockey. These caps and the rubber visors have a peak that presents no danger to other players and are the only caps to be worn playing hockey.

KT1 caps can be found at F-H-E stores in Claremont and Victoria Park.

