



LEAGUE WEBSITE:

<http://www.cityofdover.com/Field-Hockey-Leagues/>

WEATHER LINE:

(302) 736-7155

REPORTING SCORES:

(302)736-7050

2016

HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER FIELD HOCKEY LEAGUE BY-LAWS

1. NAME
The Leagues shall be known as the City of Dover High School or Middle School Summer Field Hockey League.
2. ORGANIZATION
The City of Dover Sports Coordinator will preside over the Leagues and his decision is final. All concerns shall be directed to the Recreation Office at 736-7050.
3. BEGINNING DATE
High School - June 6, 2016 Middle School – June 18, 2016
4. WARM-UP PERIOD
Prior to the first game, the field is available to both teams for open practice. **Managers must clear players from the field** and submit their lineups to the scorer ten minutes before the scheduled game time. A ten minute warm-up on the field will be allowed as time permits for all games scheduled thereafter.
5. HALF TIME
Half time will last no longer than five (5) minutes.
6. GAME TIMES
All High School games scheduled on Mondays & Thursdays will begin at 5:15 p.m., 6:15 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. All Middle School games scheduled on Saturdays will begin at 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
7. POSTPONEMENT
No game may be postponed by anyone other than the Sports Coordinator or the head official. Games may be called off by the Sports Coordinator or his representative due to inclement weather no later than 4:50 p.m. on weekdays. Team managers should call the Dover Recreation Cancellation Recording at 736-7155 to be sure a game is not postponed due to inclement weather. If not called off by the Sports Coordinator or representative, BOTH TEAMS MUST REPORT for a decision by the head official at the scheduled starting time. **All managers or a team representative must be registered for Rainedout in order to receive an instant text message concerning cancelations.**
8. RESCHEDULING OF GAMES
In all leagues the Sports Coordinator or his representative will be responsible for the rescheduling of games. Rescheduled games may fall on any day of the week. Once 48 hours of notification has been given, a forfeit will be issued to teams unable to field a team. **Rescheduled games will be posted on the City of Dover website.**

9. GAME BALLS

The official game ball for the Leagues will be a National Federation approved game ball. The home team will provide one ball to the head official at the start of each game.

10. ROSTERS

All participants must turn in a signed City of Dover waiver prior to their first game. Waivers must show first and last names of participants, complete mailing address, and be signed by parent/legal guardian.

No player may play with more than one team in the League. She shall be considered a member of the team on which she plays first.

In order to be eligible to participate in the High School Field Hockey League one must be in grades 9 through 12 in the upcoming (2016- 2017) school year. In order to participate in the Middle School Field Hockey League the participant must be in grades 6 through 8 in the upcoming (2016-2017) school year.

11. PAYING PLAYERS

No player shall be paid in any form for playing in the League.

12. EQUIPMENT (see #21 for rules)

All players are responsible to provide their own equipment. Every player will be required to wear a mouth guard and shin guards. Team members should wear like colored shirts, hence the team shirt. In cases where individual players are wearing the same color jersey as the opposing team, that player will not be permitted to participate. Goalies must wear the proper safety gear.

13. PLACE OF PLAY

All games will be played at officially designated fields. An attempt will be made to limit travel requirements for teams involved.

14. REGULATION GAME

A regulation game is any game that has completed the first half. If the first half has not been completed the game will be reschedule and play will resume from the time of stoppage.

In completed games resulting in a win, the winning team will be awarded 3 points.

In completed games resulting in a tie, each team will be awarded 1 point.

15. CONDUCT

Each team manager shall be responsible for the conduct of her/his players at all times.

Player(s) who have been ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct (physical or verbal abuse of a player or official, or any situation that the official deems unsportsmanlike) will automatically be suspended from the next game in which her/his team is involved. Any player who verbally harasses an official or staff member after a game or during suspension will be suspended from her/his team's next regularly scheduled game. Repeated offenders will be expelled from any further games in the League.

Player(s) who have been ejected from a game for fighting will automatically be suspended for the remainder of the season and will face review by the Sports Coordinator before gaining re-entry into the league.

Any other actions felt to be detrimental to the league will be reviewed by the Sports Coordinator. Players, groups of players, and/or entire teams will be suspended from League play if necessary.

16. NO ALCOHOL ALLOWED ON PREMISES - There will be no alcoholic beverages permitted on any of the playing fields, spectator areas, or parking areas before, during, or after play.
17. CONTROL OF THE BENCH
Players, managers, and one scorekeeper are to be the only persons allowed on the players' side of the field during the game.
18. FEES
 - A. Franchise Fee: Each team will deposit a franchise fee, set by the Sports Coordinator, payable to the City of Dover for the purpose of League operating expenses. The City of Dover will be responsible for paying expenses incurred by the League for officials, certain equipment, field lining, and other authorized expenses.
 - B. Forfeit Fee: If a team forfeits a game, that team must pay \$25 to the City of Dover before it can continue to participate in the League. If a team forfeits a second game, that team must again pay the forfeit fee before it can continue to participate in the League. If a team forfeits a third game, it must do the above plus appear before the Sports Coordinator to discuss their plan of action for avoiding additional forfeits. The Sports Coordinator may, following this review, suspend the team from further League play or allow it to continue. There will be a **TEN** minute grace period before a forfeit is called by the Referees for lack of players.
19. PROTEST
Any protest must be made to the head official at the point of play and submitted in writing to the Sports Coordinator within twenty four (24) hours of the game protested. The Sports Coordinator will review the protest and rule on it within ten (10) days of the date received. This written protest must be accompanied by a fee of \$25 payable to the Recreation Department. If the protest is upheld, the fee shall be forfeited to the Recreation Department and used for operating expenses. Official's judgment calls cannot be protested.
20. HOME TEAM RESPONSIBILITY
The Home team will be required:
 - A. To assist with getting the goals in play before and after the game when necessary.
 - B. Provide an alternate scorer/timer.
21. OFFICIAL RULES
High School and Middle School Leagues: National High School Federation Rules or Field Hockey will be used unless amended by the League By-Laws.
NFHS website link:
<https://nfhsfieldhockey.arbitersports.com/front/105408/Site/Area/Field-Hockey-Rules-Information>
22. Teams will be allowed ONE practice per week beginning with the week of the first scheduled contest. Practice schedules must be e-mailed to spickering@dover.de.us by Sunday evening of each week.
23. REPORTING GAMES
The winning team **must** report the score to the Recreation Office by 10:00 a.m. of the day following the game. In case of a tie the Home team is responsible for reporting on time. Failure to report game scores will result in: First Offense: Warning; Second Offense: \$5 fine payable to the Recreation Office prior to your next scheduled game; Third and Subsequent Offense: \$5 fine payable to the Recreation Office prior to your next scheduled game plus one win subtracted and one loss added to the violating team's record. (Ties will be subtracted if no wins are available).
This situation will in no way affect the win/loss record of other teams. Failure to comply will be cause for forfeiting each game thereafter until such fee is paid.

23. LEAGUE AWARDS

T-shirts will be awarded in the High School and Middle School Leagues for a First Place finish in the regular season.

24. ASSUMPTION OF RISK

The City of Dover Parks and Recreation Department and its officers assume no responsibility for injuries to the members of any team holding a franchise in this league, no matter under what circumstances incurred; and adoption of these rules by the team managers shall be equivalent of full and lawful release and discharge of any claim that any members may have or that may arise in the future against any of the above named for injury to their persons or property.

25. REGULAR SEASON RANKINGS

The regular season ranking will be determined by the following procedure:

- I. Highest Point Total (3 points will be awarded for a win and 1 point for a tie).
- II. Head to Head Competition
- III. If teams are still tied after step II, the lowest amount of goals allowed during head to head competition will break the tie
- IV. If teams are still tied after step III, the lowest amount of goals allowed during the regular season will break the tie.
- V. Coin Flip