



## Southern Counties Hockey Association

### MAINTENANCE OF DISCIPLINE

At its meeting of 21 June Council agreed that in order to improve the standard of discipline the following Regulation shall be deemed to be incorporated into all league and tournament regulations of competitions played under the jurisdiction of the Association. The Regulation applies from 1 September 2012.

#### **“Misbehaviour on the Bench**

Umpires may temporarily suspend (yellow card) (minimum five minutes) or permanently suspend (red card) any player or official (manager, coach, doctor or physiotherapist) from the team-bench for in-discipline.

As a consequence the team concerned will be required to play with one less player for the duration of the suspension period. The choice of the player required to leave the field is at the discretion of the team captain.

The umpire shall record the penalty against the bench person as required in any league or tournament report.”

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**Guidance:** The team is only required to play with one less player. Substitutions may continue as normal providing only that the team has one less player than prior to the suspension of the bench person throughout the suspension period.

**Guidance:** Note the player leaving the pitch at the captain's selection is not receiving a personal penalty and their removal from the pitch must not be recorded on any team sheet or match report form.

**Guidance:** If a manager or coach is subject to a suspension they shall not, during the suspension period, be permitted to perform any aspect of team management. Any breach of this condition may be subject to a further penalty.

#### **Tournaments with an appointed tournament director and/or match official**

The authority to remove a bench person extends to the tournament director or match official. During the suspension, the team shall play with one player less on the field of play. The player required to leave the pitch is at the discretion of the captain.

#### **Guidance for clubs**

Clubs are reminded of their responsibilities under the Association's Pitchside Code of Conduct (attached) and should ensure that spectators and arriving teams are not permitted in the bench, or notional bench area, for the duration of a match. This will avoid any difficulty for umpires in enforcing their powers under this Regulation.

Approved by Council  
21 June 2012