

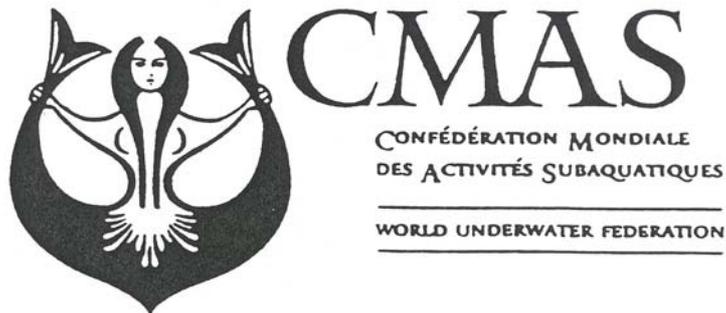
**CMAS**

**INTERNATIONAL RULES**

**FOR**

**UNDERWATER HOCKEY**

**7th Edition**  
**Version 7.11**  
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## **0 DESCRIPTION AND DEFINITIONS**

### **0.1 Description**

0.1.1 Underwater Hockey is a sport played on the bottom of a swimming pool by two teams of six players, each wearing basic snorkelling equipment, i.e. fins, mask, and snorkel. The object of the game is to push or pass a lead puck along the bottom of the pool, by using an underwater hockey stick, into the opposing team's goal.

### **0.2 Definitions**

- 0.2.1 A **TOURNAMENT** is a series of competitive games between two (2) or more teams at any one given time.
- 0.2.2 A **WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP** is a tournament between nations involving one or more of the following:
- 0.2.2.1 A minimum of five (5) National **Mens** teams. *and/or*
- 0.2.2.2 A minimum of three (3) National **Womens** teams. *and/or*
- 0.2.2.3 A minimum of three (3) National **Open Masters** teams aged 35 years or more. An open master must have attained their 35th birthday on or before the first game of the competition. Open masters teams may be mixed gender in any combination. *and/or*
- 0.2.2.4 A minimum of three (3) National **Women Masters** teams aged 32 years or more. A woman master must have attained her 32<sup>nd</sup> birthday on or before the first game of the competition. *and/or*
- 0.2.2.5 A minimum of three (3) National **Open Senior Youth** teams aged 21 years or younger. An Open Senior Youth must NOT have attained their 22nd birthday on or before the first game of the competition. Open Senior Youth teams may be mixed gender in any combination. *and/or*
- 0.2.2.6 A minimum of three (3) National **Open Intermediate Youth** teams aged 18 years and younger. Open Intermediate Youth may NOT have attained their 19th birthday on or before the first game of the competition. Open Intermediate Youth teams may be mixed gender in any combination *and/or*
- 0.2.2.7 A minimum of three (3) National **Open Junior Youth** teams aged 12 years and younger. Open Junior Youth may NOT have attained their 13th birthday on or before the first game of the competition. Open Junior Youth teams may be mixed gender in any combination. *and/or*
- 0.2.2.8 A minimum of three (3) National **Women Youth** teams aged 21 years or younger. A woman youth must NOT have attained her 22nd birthday on or before the first game of the competition.
- 0.2.3 A **CONTINENTAL** or **ZONE TOURNAMENT** is a tournament between nations of the same continent or zone.
- 0.2.4 The International Referee in control of the overall refereeing at a World or Zone Championship shall be termed the **WORLD TOURNAMENT REFEREE**.

## **1 PLAYING AREA AND EQUIPMENT.**

### **1.1 Playing Area** (See Appendix “A”, “B1”, & “B2”)

- 1.1.1. The playing area shall be a swimming pool or part thereof.
- 1.1.2. The playing area shall be 12m-15m wide and 21m-25m long, provided that the minimum playing area is 300 square metres.
- 1.1.3. The pool bottom must be flat or gently sloping, with a maximum gradient of 1 to 20.
- 1.1.4. The depth of the water shall be between 2m and 3.65m, with a  $\pm 10\%$  allowance with the approval of the World Tournament Director. Pools shallower than 2m must be considered “fast and safe” by the World Tournament Director.
- 1.1.5. The end lines must be of a solid nature, i.e. pool walls.
- 1.1.6. A side-line may be either a pool wall, sturdy barrier, or a demarcation line on the pool bottom.  
Note: There is to be no floating demarcation line as it interferes with the players.
- 1.1.6.1. The barrier should have a minimum height of 300mm.
- 1.1.6.2. The demarcation line belongs to the playing area.
- 1.1.7. At each end of a playing area, centred on the mid-point of the end line, a penalty shot area will be marked by a dotted line on the pool bottom to define a semi-circle with a 6m radius, and a goal area will be marked by a solid line on the pool bottom to define a semi-circle with a 3m radius.

### **1.2 Goals** (See Appendix “C”)

- 1.2.1. Shall be made of galvanised or stainless steel [of 2mm (min.) thickness sheet metal] or similar frames, with all sharp edges removed and/or protected.
- 1.2.2. Open-ended goals will be used.
- 1.2.3. Shall be 3m long, placed in the centre of each goal-line, and secured in position.
- 1.2.4. The area behind the anterior lip of the goal is called the trough.
- 1.2.5. The goal back is to have two (2) vertical lines marking the 3m limits of the goal volume.

### **1.3 The Puck** (See Appendix “D”)

- 1.3.1. The puck shall have a diameter of 80mm,  $\pm 4$ mm; and a thickness of 30mm,  $+4$ mm,  $-2$ mm. These are outside dimensions, which include the puck and any protective covering.
- 1.3.2. The radius of the puck edge, whether covered or not, shall be from 3mm to 10mm in radius.
- 1.3.3. The puck shall weigh 1.3kg,  $\pm 0.2$ kg.

### **1.4 The Stick** (See Appendix “E”)

- 1.4.1. The stick shall be made of wood, plywood, or other homogeneous material that floats horizontally in the water.
- 1.4.2. The stick must fit in a box 100mm x 350mm.
  - 1.4.2.1. Minimum corner radius around the perimeter edge of the entire stick is 10mm.
  - 1.4.2.2. Edges where surfaces intersect must be rounded.
- 1.4.3. The stick must be uniformly black or white.
- 1.4.4. The stick may not protrude from the heel of the hand (or gloved hand) by more than 25mm.
  - 1.4.4.1. The puck may not be played with the portion of the stick that may protrude from the heel of the hand (or gloved hand).
- 1.4.5. A wrist lanyard may attach the stick to the playing hand.
- 1.4.6. A player may tape the stick to the playing hand.
- 1.4.7. The stick may be of any shape or design within the minimum and maximum dimensions given. The illustration is only a guide. Knob(s) on stick is/are allowed.
- 1.4.8. The stick must not be capable of surrounding the puck or any part of hand, nor encapsulating the puck by more than 50%, or locking the puck to the stick.

## **2 TEAM COMPOSITION, IDENTIFICATION, AND PERSONAL EQUIPMENT.**

### **2.1 Team Composition**

- 2.1.1 For an international tournament, a country may bring up to 12 players in each division. From this number, a team of up to 10 members must be declared for any one game within the tournament. These team members are divided into a maximum of 6 players and 4 substitutes who may be used at any time.
- 2.1.2 In the event of an accident or injury to a player, resulting in a stoppage of play and assistance of the injured player to the poolside, the appropriate Team Captain must request and obtain the verbal approval of the Chief Referee to use a substitute.
- 2.1.2.1 A player who leaves the game and/or game/deck area due to an injury, having received treatment, may return to the game at the Chief Referee's discretion.
- 2.1.3 In the event of injury or illness which is confirmed by a medical certificate, team member(s) may be replaced for the duration of the tournament.
- 2.1.4 During play, the team is allowed up to three (3) people to help them on the pool deck. One may be in the water on the side-lines and the other two in the players' area. If the team decides not to have a person in the water, they can use only two (2) people in their team area.

### **2.2 Personal Equipment**

- 2.2.1 Each player shall be equipped with a mask, which must have safety glass or other safety material fitted; a non-metal, pliable snorkel (if desired); a pair of conventional underwater hockey fins (made of rubber or other non-dangerous pliable synthetic material, excluding fibreglass) which are approved by the CMAS Underwater Hockey Commission; and an underwater hockey stick (See Appendix "E").
- 2.2.2 Hand protection must be worn on the playing hand(s), provided it does not contain rigid or sharp reinforcing material.
- 2.2.3 Head caps with firm polyethylene or rubber ear protector(s) must be worn.
- 2.2.4 Protective knee and/or elbow pad(s) may also be worn if required, provided they are constructed of soft materials.
- 2.2.5 Wet suits and/or weight belts may not be worn.
- 2.2.6 All personal and team equipment must have the prior approval a Water Referee.

### **2.3 Team Identification**

- 2.3.1 All members of each team shall wear identical bathing suits with respect to design and colour(s), which shall be of a light shade whenever the team is using white sticks or of a dark shade whenever the team is using black sticks.
- 2.3.2 All 12 players of each team in each division shall wear identification caps, either black (or dark blue) or white, to match the colour of the sticks the team is using. The caps of each team's players in each division must have 12 different numbers for the identification of players, i.e., any number may be used, but no player can use the same number as another player from each team in each division.

### **3 OFFICIALS AND THEIR EQUIPMENT.**

#### **3.1 Number, Titles, and Qualifications**

- 3.1.1 The officials who shall control an International Underwater Hockey Game are: one Chief Referee, two Water Referees, Timekeeper(s)/Scorer(s), and other officials as appointed by the Chief Referee.
- 3.1.2 The Chief Referee and two Water Referees shall be qualified International Referees, appointed by the national underwater authority and registered with the CMAS Underwater Hockey Commission.
- 3.1.3 Timekeeper(s)/Score(s) shall be qualified national referees.

#### **3.2 Chief Referee's Duties**

- 3.2.1 The Chief Referee's duties are conducted from a position on the poolside where an uninterrupted view of the playing area can be obtained.
- 3.2.2 The Chief Referee is responsible for:
  - 3.2.2.1 All aspects and the overall conduct of the game.
  - 3.2.2.2 Instructing the opposing teams of any special requirements of the game.
  - 3.2.2.3 Presiding over the tossing of a coin by the two captains for choice of ends and announcing the result of their choice.
  - 3.2.2.4 Signalling the starting and stopping of play in accordance with rules 4.3 and 4.4.
  - 3.2.2.5 Observing any rule infringement which might only be visible from above the water, and to award appropriate penalties to offenders.
  - 3.2.2.6 Responsible for stopping and re-starting play as a result of time suspensions.

#### **3.3 Water Referee's Duties**

- 3.3.1 Water Referees conduct their duties from the water, and each shall generally be in charge of one longitudinal half of the playing area.
- 3.3.2 They are jointly responsible for:
  - 3.3.2.1 Inspecting all players' personal and team equipment prior to the game.
  - 3.3.2.2 Enforcing the rules at all times.
  - 3.3.2.3 Signalling the Chief Referee to stop play when a goal is scored, by raising both hands in the air with open hands.
  - 3.3.2.4 Signalling the Chief Referee to stop the game should any infringements occur, by giving the appropriate signal for 'stop play'.
  - 3.3.2.5 Awarding appropriate penalties for rule infringements.
  - 3.3.2.6 Ensuring the puck is placed in the correct position, and indicating the game is ready to be re-started to the Chief Referee by raising one arm straight in the air with the signal hand open.
  - 3.3.2.7 Ensuring that the goal frames are aligned in their correct position at all times.
  - 3.3.2.8 Signalling the Chief Referee to stop the game by showing the 'stop play' signal should an accident or injury occur, and immediately assist the injured player to the poolside.

#### **3.4 Time-Keeper's/Scorer's Duties**

- 3.4.1 The duties of the Timekeeper/Scorer can be performed by one or more persons and shall be carried out from a position adjacent to the Chief Referee.
- 3.4.2 The responsibilities of the Timekeeper(s)/Scorer(s) are:
  - 3.4.2.1 Timing all play; and indicating the completion of each time period to the Chief Referee.
  - 3.4.2.2 Timing players sent out of the water for one or two minute time penalties, and indicating to the players when they may re-enter the water.

- 3.4.2.3 Stopping the timing of the time period at the request of the Chief Referee in the event of a serious injury or other special circumstances.
- 3.4.2.4 Ensuring all goals are displayed and announced immediately after they have been scored.
- 3.4.2.5 Keeping a written record of the goals scored, the player and team credited with the goals, and any other point pertaining to the game which is felt should be recorded.
- 3.4.2.6 Announcing the final score at the end of the game, once the details of the game have been verified and countersigned by the Referees.

### **3.5 Officials' Equipment**

- 3.5.1 The Chief Referee shall be equipped with a means of creating an audible signal above and below the surface of the water.
- 3.5.2 The Water Referee shall be equipped with: mask, which must have safety glass or other safety material fitted; a non-metal, pliable snorkel (if desired); a pair of conventional underwater hockey fins (made of rubber or other non-dangerous, pliable synthetic material, (excluding fibreglass) which are approved by the CMAS Underwater Hockey Commission; as well as a clearly distinguishable T-shirt, red cap with ear protectors, and a pair of brightly coloured gloves.
- 3.5.3 The Time-Keeper shall be equipped with suitable timing facilities, sufficient to time both the game and at least two players sent out of the water for a time penalty.
- 3.5.4 The Scorer shall be equipped with suitable means of keeping a written record of the game and a scoreboard which is visible from all parts of the pool.

### **3.6 Signals** (See Appendix "K")

- 3.6.1 **Ready to Start**  
The ready to start signal is one arm raised straight up in the air with signal hand open.
- 3.6.2 **Stop Play**  
The stop play signal is one arm extended up in the air with the signal hand open, giving a wide rapid waving motion back and forth.
- 3.6.3 **Time**  
Full or half-time is signalled by one hand on top of the other to form the letter "T".
- 3.6.4 **Equal Puck**  
Equal puck is signalled by the arms being crossed above the head with hands clenched into fists.
- 3.6.5 **Advantage Puck**  
An advantage puck is signalled by backing up the offending team, using an extended arm with the palm towards the offenders. Then use the free arm moving in a 90° arc over the water surface to indicate the offending team line. Once the offending team is positioned correctly, the backing-up arm is raised vertically with open hand. When both Referees have raised their backing-up arm, play can be re-started by the Chief Referee.
- 3.6.6 **Time Penalty**  
A time penalty is signalled by pointing with one arm to the offending player, then to the penalty box with the same arm while indicating the penalty time with the fingers of the other hand held over the head.
- 3.6.7 **Total Dismissal**  
A total dismissal is signalled by pointing to the dismissed player, while swinging the other arm back and forth horizontally to the water in a 90° arc, then pointing to the penalty area.
- 3.6.8 **Goal**  
The signal for a goal is both arms raised straight up into the air with open hands.

- 3.6.9 Penalty Shot**  
A penalty shot is signalled by vertically pumping one arm up and down from the shoulder with clenched fist.
- 3.6.10 Penalty Goal**  
A penalty goal is awarded by signalling the following sequence: stop play, then signalling a penalty shot, and finally a goal.
- 3.6.11 Time-Out**  
Time-out is signalled by raising both arms above the head to form a large letter “O”.
- 3.6.12 Illegal Use of Free Arm**  
Illegal use of free arm is signalled by one arm parallel to the water, bent at the elbow with fist clenched: the arm moves in a horizontal pumping motion.
- 3.6.13 Obstruction, Barging, Blocking, or Shepherding**  
General blocking fouls are signalled by the two arms above the water being clasped at the wrists and moving the joined arms in and out from the chest.
- 3.6.14 Advancing the Puck with the Free Hand or Stick Infringements**  
These fouls are signalled by one fist punching into the palm of the other hand.
- 3.6.15 Illegally Stopping the Puck**  
The signal for illegally stopping the puck is an open hand held in a vertical plane and moving up and down in a chopping action.
- 3.6.16 Call by the Referee**  
The Referee may call anyone in the water by using one hand, palm facing the Referee, moving the fingers backwards and forwards in a beckoning or calling motion.
- 3.6.17 Time Suspension**  
Referees may signal a time suspension by forming a large letter “O” over the head, then bringing the hands to the shoulder level and patting shoulders.
- 3.6.18 Illegal Substitution**  
An official will signal an illegal substitution by a hand over hand rolling motion.
- 3.6.19 Unsportsmanlike Conduct**  
Unsportsmanlike conduct is signalled by clenching a fist and then repeatedly tapping the top of one’s head with the thumb-side of the fist.
- 3.6.20 Breaking, False Start, or Encroachment**  
Arm extended and straight up with index finger pointing up. Hand is then rotated several times such that the index finger inscribes an imaginary circle above the head that is parallel to the surface of the water.
- 3.6.21 Grabbing and/or Pulling on Wall Barriers**  
Signal is an open-fingered hand, fingers curved and moving back and forth in pulling motion. Signal is mimicking the grabbing of the top of an invisible barrier and shaking it.
- 3.6.22 Infringement Seen but the Advantage Rule is in Effect**  
A signal made beneath the surface of the water in which the Referee points with the index finger, other fingers clenched into a fist, and the hand moved in a circular motion. The purpose of this call is to allow players to see that a Referee has seen an infringement and is at that moment exercising the “Advantage Rule.” This signal is to reduce frustration and possible retaliation by players.

## **4 THE GAME.**

### **4.1 Rules of Play**

- 4.1.1 A game is only said to be ‘in play’ during the period between the starting and ending of play by the Chief Referee.
- 4.1.2 A player is only said to be ‘in possession’ whilst the player’s stick is in contact with the puck.

- 4.1.3 Any part of the stick, except that protruding from the heel of the hand (or gloved hand), may be used to play the puck. However, the puck must not be lifted up or carried in any direction whilst balanced on the stick; and should a puck be lifted accidentally onto a stick, it must be dropped off the stick immediately.
- 4.1.4 The stick may be held in either the right or left hand; changing playing hands is allowed
- 4.1.4.1 A player may have two hands on the stick when not in possession of the puck (e.g. trying to achieve a streamlined possession when sprinting toward a puck at the pool centre or trying to retrieve a dropped stick). The free hand may not be used to support the stick, stick hand, or arm whilst in possession of the puck.
- 4.1.5 Whilst a game is in play, the puck may be pushed or passed in any direction along the pool bottom anywhere within the playing area, by the player in possession.
- 4.1.6 At no time may a player handle the puck with the free or playing hand. Should the puck accidentally touch the back of the playing hand, this will not be considered handling the puck unless used deliberately to advance the puck.
- 4.1.7 When players are swimming on the surface, over-arm strokes are permitted, but only when other players are not in danger of being struck.
- 4.1.8 During the game, the four substitutes of each team must wait behind the goal line at their own team's end of the pool.
- 4.1.9 The four substitutes may be used while a game is underway, i.e., substituting on-the-fly, or at any natural break in the play, e.g., line-out, penalty, goal, half-time or time-out period.
- 4.1.10 One, two, three, or four players may be substituted at a time.
- 4.1.11 Before a substitute may enter the water, the player being replaced must have fully left the water at that team's end of the pool.
- 4.1.12 Players who have left the water to allow a substitute to enter the water now become substitutes themselves and must wait on the poolside at their own team's end until required.

## **4.2 Duration of Play**

- 4.2.1 An International Game shall last for 33 minutes. The game is divided into two 15 minute periods with a 3 minute break at half-time.
- 4.2.2 At half-time the teams shall change ends.
- 4.2.3 Once started, timed play is continuous until the last 2 minutes of a game, and can only be stopped by the Chief Referee in the event of a serious injury or other special circumstance.
- 4.2.3.1 During the last 2 minutes of a game, or the last 2 minutes of an extra time, the game clock will be stopped during all breaks in play excepting a goal.
- 4.2.4 Should it be necessary to have a winning team from a game which ends in a draw, an extra 10 minutes will be played with a three (3) minute break between the game end and start of overtime.
- 4.2.4.1 An overtime period shall consist of two 5 minute periods. Teams will start from the same end as they started the game. An audible signal will be given thirty (30) seconds before commencing both 5 minute overtime periods.
- 4.2.4.2 When the first 5 minute period ends, both teams shall immediately change ends. The break at halftime will be one (1) minute. An audible warning signal will be given thirty (30) seconds before commencing the second 5 minute period of overtime.
- 4.2.4.3 An overtime period is part of the same game, and therefore, must be played with the same declared players as in the tied game.
- 4.2.5 If after 10 minutes of additional play, a game remains in a draw, after a 1 minute break, with no change of ends, the game will continue without interruption until a goal is scored. The first team to score a goal wins the game.

4.2.6 Time-out Period:

At all competitions, one time-out period per team per half can be called at a natural break in the play. The time-out can be called by either the Team Captain or Coach.

4.2.6.1 To request a time-out period, the Captain or Coach will attract the attention of either the Water Referee or the Chief Referee and request a time-out verbally by raising both arms above the head in the form of a large letter "O". The Chief Referee will acknowledge the request by repeating the signal and stopping the clock. The Water Referees will also mimic the Chief Referee's time-out signal.

4.2.6.2 Each time-out period will be of one (1) minute duration. At forty five (45) seconds, the Chief Referee will give a fifteen (15) second warning.

4.2.6.3 Time-out is only allowed in the two normal fifteen (15) minute periods. No time-out may be called in either five (5) minute periods of overtime or sudden death time.

### **4.3 Starting Play**

4.3.1 At the beginning of a game, after half-time, after a goal is scored, or after a Penalty Shot has been played, the starting positions of the players of each team are in the water alongside their respective end-lines, with each player having at least one hand in contact with the end-line. This hand must be visible to the officials.

4.3.1.1 The substitutes of each team shall be on the poolside of their own team's end of the pool; and any penalised players shall be on the poolside in the Penalty Area.

4.3.1.2 From the moment the Chief Referee gives the signal for play to start until the moment the puck becomes 'in possession', all players, including the substitutes, who enter the game must start play as per rule 4.3.1. After the puck becomes 'in possession' by any player or team, players entering the game from behind the end-line may do so by any means including head-first dives.

4.3.2 The starting position of the game officials are:

4.3.2.1 The Chief Referee shall be on the poolside approximately in the centre of the side-line.

4.3.2.2 The two Water Referees shall be in the water alongside the centre of their respective sidelines.

4.3.3 An audible warning signal will be given 30 seconds before each timed period (first period, second period, before each timed over-time period, and before the start of sudden death overtime).

4.3.4 The Chief Referee will re-start play 30 seconds after a goal has been scored or if the scoring team is prepared sooner. No thirty second warning shall be given.

4.3.4.1 Should play be re-started for any reason before all players have reached their end of the pool, they must do so before re-entering play. The hand touching the end wall must be visible to the Chief Referee.

4.3.5 Should play be stopped because of a rule infringement, an accident, or an injury, it shall be re-started by the Chief Referee.

### **4.4 Stopping Play**

4.4.1 The signal to stop timed play is given by the Chief Referee upon an indication by the Time-keeper that the time period has been completed.

4.4.2 Play is also stopped by the Chief Referee:

4.4.2.1 When a goal is scored.

4.4.2.2 When an infringement of the rules is committed.

4.4.2.3 When an accident or injury occurs.

4.4.3 The clock is not stopped unless otherwise indicated by the Chief Referee.

#### **4.5 Scoring Procedure**

- 4.5.1 A goal is scored only when the entire puck has wholly entered the goal volume, and makes contact with either the back and/or bottom of the frame, having been propelled by or off a stick. Should the puck enter the goal volume propelled by anything other than the stick, it shall be disallowed and the appropriate action for a rule infringement taken.
- 4.5.2 The goal volume is the volume whose width is; 120mm from the end line of the pool to the front edge of the trough, 180mm high by 3m long, along the length of the goal trough.
- 4.5.2.1 Illustrations of a puck having wholly entered a goal volume are contained in the eight (8) sketches identified as “A”, “B”, “C”, “D”, “E”, “F”, “G”, and “H” in the diagrams in Appendix “F”. Moreover, sketches identified as “I”, “J”, “K”, and “L” in the diagrams in Appendix “F” are examples of a puck, which has not wholly entered a goal area. Furthermore sketches “M” and “N” although it has entered the goal volume is not a goal as it hasn’t touched either the back or bottom of the goal.

### **5 FOUL PLAY.**

#### **5.1 Advantage Rule**

- 5.1.1 At any time during play, if a Referee observes an offence against the team in possession but decides that the rule infringement does not affect the advantage held by the team in possession, **play will be allowed to continue as if the offence had not occurred.**

#### **5.2 The “Corner Rule”**

- 5.2.1 As a defensive manoeuvre, a defender may take the puck into the corner and hold it there until his team can offer support. This player can be replaced by one other who should attempt to make an effort to move the puck from the corner. But if a third player holds the puck in the corner and makes no attempt to move it out, the Referee will stop play and award an advantage puck to the opposite team. Repeated use of this manoeuvre by the same team will result in player(s) having a 1minute time penalty awarded against them.

#### **5.3 Infringements**

Players may be penalised for the following rule infringements:

- 5.3.1 Starting play incorrectly according to these rules.
- 5.3.2 Standing on the pool bottom in a manner that interferes with game play.
- 5.3.3 “Corner Rule” infractions.
- 5.3.4 Having more than six (6) players in the water whilst the game is in play, or allowing a substitute to enter the water to replace a player sent out of the water for a time penalty, or one who has been dismissed for the rest of the game.
- 5.3.5 Advancing, or attempting to play the puck with anything other than the stick.
- 5.3.6 Handling the puck with the free or playing hand; this includes guiding the puck with an outstretched finger (should the puck accidentally touch the back of the playing hand, this will not be considered handling unless used deliberately to advance the puck).
- 5.3.7 Lifting or carrying the puck balanced on a stick.
- 5.3.8 Obstructing an opponent in any way whilst not in possession of the puck.
- 5.3.9 Behaving in any way or using conduct which in the opinion of the officials can be considered contrary to the sportsmanlike conduct of the game.
- 5.3.10 Stopping or attempting to stop a goal being scored with anything other than the stick.
- 5.3.11 Covering or obstructing the puck with any part of the body or equipment, whilst not in possession, to prevent access to the puck by other players.
- 5.3.12 Attempting to gain possession of the puck by use of obstruction.
- 5.3.13 Using hands, arms, or body in any way to grasp, pull, or push an opponent or his/her stick.

- 5.3.14 Removing or attempting to remove an opponent's equipment.
- 5.3.15 Insulting, by word or gesture, other players or the officials.
- 5.3.16 Refusing to accept any decisions made by the officials.
- 5.3.17 Physically attacking or deliberately hurting an opponent or striking or attempting to strike an opponent with any part of the body or equipment. This includes any action taken in retaliation.

## **6 PENALTIES.**

### **6.1 Action by Officials**

- 6.1.1 Should any infringement of the Rules occur, play is stopped by the Chief Referee; either, on seeing the Water Referee's stop play signal, or if an offence is observed from the surface.
  - 6.1.1.1 Depending on the severity of the infringement, the Referees have at their discretion the following courses of action open to them for penalising offending players.
    - 6.1.1.1.1 They may caution the offending player(s) (see 6.2).
    - 6.1.1.1.2 They may dismiss the offending player(s) from the water for time penalties of one minute or two minutes (see 6.3).
    - 6.1.1.1.3 They may dismiss the offending player(s) from the water for the rest of the game (see 6.4).
  - 6.1.1.2 In addition to penalising the offending player(s), or as an alternative, the Referees also have the following courses of action open to them for penalising an offending team.
    - 6.1.1.2.1 They may award an EQUAL PUCK, with neither team being awarded the advantage (see 6.5).
    - 6.1.1.2.2 They may award an ADVANTAGE PUCK to the non-offending team (see 6.6).
    - 6.1.1.2.3 They may award a PENALTY SHOT if the offence is committed within the 3m goal area (see 6.7).
    - 6.1.1.2.4 They may award a PENALTY GOAL to the non-offending team (see 6.8).
  - 6.1.1.3 Should an infringement of the rules be committed by the poolside substitutes, or the team's officials, they may also have appropriate penalties awarded against them by the Referees, i.e., a substitute will be penalized in the same manner as a player. A substitute awarded a penalty must serve it in the penalty area. In addition, the team must remove a player from the water so that the team plays short-handed for the duration of the penalty.

### **6.2 Cautioning**

- 6.2.1 For minor or accidental infringements, or any other reason thought necessary by the Referees, once play has stopped, the Referees may verbally caution the offending player(s) or team(s) concerned.
- 6.2.2 Once the offending player(s) or team(s) have been cautioned, the Referees will indicate whether play is to be re-started with an equal puck or an advantage puck.
- 6.2.3 In the event that a player or team is cautioned for having left the end-line before the signal to start play was given, the puck will remain at the centre and play will be re-started according to Rule 6.6.

### **6.3 Time Penalty**

- 6.3.1 For major infringements or collective minor infringements, once play has been stopped, the Referee will send the offending player(s) to the Penalty Area to serve either a 1 minute or 2 minute time penalty.
  - 6.3.1.1 Time penalty is indicated by the Referee who stopped play, pointing to the offending player(s) and then towards the penalty box, holding up 1 or 2 fingers on the free hand to indicate the actual length of the time penalty to be served.

- 6.3.1.1.1 The actual time penalty period does not start until the offending player(s) are in the penalty box, which is situated adjacent to the Time-Keeper's table.
- 6.3.1.1.2 Players serving time penalties may not be replaced by substitutes.
- 6.3.1.2 The timing of time-penalised players is the responsibility of the Time-Keeper.
- 6.3.1.2.1 Offending players serving time penalties must await a signal from the Time-Keeper, indicating expiry of the time penalty, before re-entering the water at the centre line.
- 6.3.1.2.2 A time-penalised player shall re-enter the play by gently sliding into the water at the centre line. Under no circumstances may a time-penalised player jump or dive into the water whilst a game is in play.
- 6.3.1.2.3 If the time penalty is concluded whilst the play is stopped, the time-penalised player(s) may not enter the water until the puck is touched by either team.
- 6.3.1.3 Once the offending player(s) has(have) been signalled to leave the water, the Referee who stopped play, will indicate whether play is to be re-stated with an equal puck, an advantage puck, or a penalty shot.

#### **6.4 Total Dismissal**

- 6.4.1 For deliberate major infringements, or repeated unsportsmanlike conduct, once play has been stopped, the Referees will dismiss the offending player(s) from the water for the remainder of the game, which includes any overtime periods required.
  - 6.4.1.1 A total dismissal is indicated by the Referee who stopped play, pointing to the offending player(s) and then towards the Penalty Box, while moving the free arm in a 90° arc with the flat of the hand face down over the top of the water.
    - 6.4.1.1.1 Offending player(s) dismissed for the remainder of the game must go to the penalty box, which is situated alongside the Time-Keeper's table and remain there until the game is concluded.
    - 6.4.1.1.2 A player dismissed for the remainder of the game may not be replaced by a substitute.
- 6.4.2 Once the offending player(s) has been signalled to leave the water, the Referee who stopped play will indicate whether play is to be re-started with an equal puck, an advantage puck, or a penalty shot.
- 6.4.3 In the event of a deliberate major infringement, or for repeated unsportsmanlike conduct by a team official (manager, assistant manager, coach, trainer, underwater coach, medical official, etc.) play will be stopped and the Referees will dismiss the offending team official from the poolside for the remainder of the game, which includes any overtime periods required, so that the team official can no longer disrupt the game nor continue to manage, direct, or exercise influence over the team.

#### **6.5 Equal Puck** (See Appendix "G")

- 6.5.1 For any minor or accidental infringements, or any other reason thought necessary, once play has been stopped, the Referees may award an equal puck, with neither team being given the advantage, either by itself, or in conjunction with rules 6.2, 6.3, or 6.4.
  - 6.5.1.1 An equal puck is indicated by the Referee who stopped play, by both arms being crossed above the head with hands clenched into fists.
  - 6.5.1.2 When an Equal Puck has been awarded, play recommences from the surface as follows.
    - 6.5.1.2.1 The puck will be placed on the spot where the infringement occurred, provided it is never placed within 2m of a side-line and/or within 5m of an end-line.
    - 6.5.1.2.2 The Water Referees will form an imaginary line across the width of the playing area aligned on the puck, and both teams must be on-side of the line with all players on the surface (i.e. with snorkel tips above the water). The players can position themselves anywhere in the playing area between the goal they are defending and the imaginary line.

- 6.5.1.2.3 One player from each team prepares to take possession of the puck, once the signal to re-commence play is given by the Chief Referee.
- 6.5.1.2.4 When both teams are in position, the Water Referees will indicate to the Chief Referee that play is to be re-commenced by raising one arm straight up in the air with the signal hand open.
- 6.5.1.2.5 Play is re-commenced on the Chief Referee's signal, and both teams immediately attempt to take possession of the puck.

#### **6.6 Advantage Puck** (See Appendix "H")

- 6.6.1 For any rule infringement, once play has been stopped, the Referees may award an advantage puck against the offending team, either by itself, or in conjunction with rules 6.2, 6.3, or 6.4.
- 6.6.2 To re-start play:
  - 6.6.2.1 The puck is placed at the point the offence occurred, except when the offence occurred away from the puck, in which case the puck is placed in the position it was when play was stopped. The puck is never placed within 2m of a side-line or within 5m of an end-line.
  - 6.6.2.2 The Water Referees first align themselves on the puck, then hold up one hand in a 'stop' signal with the palm facing the offending team to indicate an advantage puck; they swim 3m away from the puck towards the offending team and form an imaginary line across the width of the playing area behind which all players on the offending team must retreat.
    - 6.6.2.2.1 If the offending team fails to retreat or stay behind the three (3) metre line, then as a further penalty, the puck may be advanced an additional three (3) metres towards the offending team's goal.
  - 6.6.2.3 The offended team players prepare to take possession of the puck by positioning themselves anywhere in the playing area; and,
  - 6.6.2.4 When both teams are in position, the Water Referees will indicate to the Chief Referee that play is to be re-commenced by raising one arm straight up in the air with the signal hand open.
- 6.6.3 Once the signal to re-commence play has been given by the Chief Referee, the offended team must take possession within five (5) seconds of the signal being given.
  - 6.6.3.1 Should a player fail to take possession of a puck within five (5) seconds of the Chief Referee's signal to re-commence play, then this team forfeits the advantage puck. Play is then restarted with an equal puck.
- 6.6.4 The offending team players may submerge but must not advance across the imaginary line until the offended team has taken possession of the puck.

#### **6.7 Penalty Shot.** (See Appendix "I")

- 6.7.1 Should any rule infringements occur within the 3m goal area which prevents an almost certain goal being scored, the Referee will signal the Chief Referee to stop play by raising and lowering one hand with clenched fist in a pumping action to indicate that a penalty shot is being awarded against the offending team. The Referee, at their discretion, may also penalise the offending player(s) with a caution, a time penalty, or a game dismissal.
- 6.7.2 To prepare for playing a penalty shot:
  - 6.7.2.1 The puck is placed directly in front of the offending team's goal on the penalty spot, which is situated in line with the mid-point of the end-line and exactly 3m away from the end-line;
  - 6.7.2.2 The offended team's captain selects two (2) attackers from amongst all the players and substitutes on the offended team, who are initially both on the surface and behind the puck;
  - 6.7.2.3 The offending team's captain selects one (1) defender from amongst all the players and substitutes on the offending team, who is initially on the surface near the mid-point of the end-line and has at least one hand in contact with the end-line wall;

- 6.7.2.4 All the remaining players of both teams must return to their respective ends of the playing area. All players on the defending team, except the appointed defender, must be behind the goal line in their own team's area at the end of the pool;
- 6.7.2.5 The Water Referees are positioned on the surface near the end-line, one at each end of the 6m dotted line bounding the penalty shot area.
- 6.7.3 The Chief Referee, on seeing that all persons are in their proper place, and the Water Referees have one arm raised straight up in the air with signal hand open to indicate they are ready for play to start, will give the signal for the penalty shot to be played.
- 6.7.4 Once the signal to commence play has been given, to play a penalty shot:
- 6.7.4.1 An attacking player, at their own discretion, will submerge and must take possession of the puck within five (5) seconds of the signal being given. If the player fails to take possession of the puck then the penalty shot is forfeited and the penalty shot is successfully defended;
- 6.7.4.2 Once an attacking player takes possession, play is continuous until the penalty shot is decided;
- 6.7.4.3 The other attacking player, at their own discretion, will submerge; and both attacking players will try to retain possession of the puck, score a goal, manoeuvre the puck anywhere within the penalty shot area, and prevent the defender from gaining possession and moving the puck out of the penalty shot area;
- 6.7.4.4 If either attacking player commits an infraction after the penalty shot is underway, the Water Referee who sees the infraction will take immediate action by signalling play to be stopped and advising the offending player of the infraction. The penalty shot will be deemed to have been successfully defended by the defender, i.e. no goal will be credited, even if one was scored before the Referee could stop play.
- 6.7.4.5 The defending player, at their own discretion, will submerge and must keep one hand in contact with the end-line wall until an attacker has taken possession of the puck; whereupon, the defender need no longer touch the wall with one hand, and must try not only to prevent a goal being scored, but also, to gain possession of the puck in order to thrust it wholly across the 6m dotted line, i.e., out of the penalty shot area, and
- 6.7.4.6 The Referees, at their discretion, will submerge; will insure that the attacker takes possession within 5 seconds; and will signal the Chief Referee to stop play when the penalty shot is decided, either by a goal being scored or by the puck being moved wholly out of the penalty shot area.
- 6.7.5 Once the penalty shot has been played, whether or not a goal was scored, the game will restart as per Rule 4.3.1.
- 6.7.6 Once a penalty shot has been awarded, it must be played. In the event that a time period ends before a penalty shot has been completed, the procedure will not be interrupted and the game will be prolonged to allow the penalty shot to be decided.

### **6.8 Penalty Goal**

- 6.8.1 In extreme cases, for any rule infringement committed anywhere in the pool in circumstances where an almost certain goal would have been scored, once play has been stopped, the Referees may award a penalty goal to the non-offending team and waive playing the penalty shot.
- 6.8.2 A penalty goal is indicated by the Water Referee who stopped play, raising and lowering one hand with clenched fist in a pumping action, followed by raising both hands above the head.
- 6.8.3 When a penalty goal has been awarded, normal play will recommence again with the puck placed at the centre of the pool as in Rule 4.3. No thirty (30) second warning will be given.

**6.9 Side Line-out** (See Appendix “B1” and “B2”)

- 6.9.1 In a pool with no wall for a side line, if the puck goes completely out of the playing area, i.e., it passes completely over a demarcation line, then the Referee will stop play and will award either an equal puck or an advantage puck against the offending team.
- 6.9.2 The puck will be placed 2m in from where it went out-of-play, except that; whenever it goes out-of-play within 5m of an end-line, then the puck will be placed 5m in from the end-line and 2m in from the demarcation line.
- 6.9.3 Where a player deliberately flicks a puck over a side-line boundary, the team is warned, and the offending player is penalised. Play starts with an advantage puck.

**7 GENERAL**

**7.1 Pre-game Preparation**

- 7.1.1 Before a game, the two team captains will introduce themselves to each other and to the Officials. In the event the schedule has not assigned ends, then by tossing a coin, the two team captains will choose at which end of the playing area their teams will start; the winner having first choice of ends.

**7.2 Protests and Appeals**

- 7.2.1 Should a protest be made by a Team Captain or a Team Manager about the conduct of a game whilst it is in play, the Chief Referee shall stop play, consult the Water Referees and others as may be necessary, consider the factual evidence presented, announce a decision to all parties, and resume play.
- 7.2.2 Within thirty (30) minutes of the end of a game, an official representing the team may appeal a Chief Referee’s decision by giving written notice to the World Tournament Director.
- 7.2.3 A fee of \$50 US, or its equivalent, must be submitted with the written notice.
- 7.2.4 All appeals properly submitted must be adjudicated on the same day they are received by a jury composed of one representative of each Federation participating in a Championship. The jury’s decision is final.

**7.3 Match Abandonment**

- 7.3.1 In the event of a game having to be abandoned, the Chief Referee shall decide what subsequent action shall be taken.
- 7.3.2 The Chief Referee’s decision is final.

**7.4 Ruling Body**

- 7.4.1 The Ruling Body for all International Underwater Hockey Games shall be the CMAS Underwater Hockey Commission.
- 7.4.2 Any inquires concerning the rules by which international games are played should be addressed to the current Rules Director for Underwater Hockey.

**8 AMENDMENT OF RULES**

- 8.1 Opportunity to propose, discuss and approve rule amendments is provided whenever several nations participate in CMAS World Underwater Hockey Championships during which meetings of the Underwater Hockey Commission are convened.

- 8.2 Amendments to the rules may be proposed by any nation at any time between World Championships. The nation will forward in writing, their proposed amendment(s) together with reasons justifying the rule change to the Rules Director for distribution to all participating nations in good standing with CMAS. A ballot will be included on which nations will record their vote, their reasons for accepting/rejecting the proposed rule change, and the signature of the person authorized to cast the vote. Whenever votes are taken between World Championships, they will be conducted by double registered mail.
- 8.2.1 A country who requests a postal vote must submit US\$50.00 with the proposal to support the postal costs.
- 8.3 Votes will be returned to the Rules Director. A simple majority of fifty per cent of the returned votes plus 1 is required for a rule amendment to be approved. The Rules Director will announce the results of a vote within two weeks after the deadline to receive ballots.
- 8.4 In order to be in force for a World Invitational Tournament or a World Championship, approved rule amendments must be distributed to all nations by double registered mail (where applicable) at least six (6) months in advance of a world event.
- 8.5 A rule may be amended and be immediately implemented at a Meeting of the Underwater Hockey Commission or Rules Subcommittee prior to a World Championship, if all delegates of competing Nations at the Championships are given two (2) days written notice of such rule amendment and a unanimous vote is received at such meeting.
- 8.6 **List of Rules Directors Identified by Nation.** See guidance notes

## **9. GUIDANCE NOTES.**

### **9.0 Miscellaneous**

- 9.0.1 Definitive Text
- 9.0.1.1 The original text of these rules is the English text.
- 9.0.2 Responsibilities of a hosting nation
- 9.0.2.1 As soon as possible after CMAS gives approval for a World Championship to be held, and no later than a year prior to the event, the hosting nation must provide details of the date, location, name, and specifications of the pool(s) to be used, accommodation facilities, and any specific information pertaining to how the games are to be conducted (e.g., puck, goal frames, etc.)

### **9.1 Playing Area and Equipment**

#### **9.1.1 Playing Area**

- 9.1.1.6 For World Championships, sturdy barrier or walls are essential. For Zone Championships or other tournaments, a sturdy barrier or wall is preferred. However, if not possible, a demarcation line is acceptable.

#### **9.1.4 The Stick**

- 9.1.4.1 All sticks may be checked at captain's meeting and stamped.
- 9.1.4.2 The "playing area" of the stick is that area not covered by the hand and forward of the thumb.

### **9.2 Team Composition, Identification, and Personal Equipment**

#### **9.2.1 Team composition**

- 9.2.1.1.1 In the case of player coaches, the team may play with less than 10 if the coach decides to not play for the whole game. The Chief Referee must be informed.
- 9.2.1.2.1 In the event of an injury, a reserve may not be used for that game.

### **9.3 Officials and Their Equipment**

#### **9.3.2 Chief Referee's Duties**

9.3.2.2.6 The Chief Referee is to watch that substitutions are done correctly.

### **9.4 The Game**

#### **9.4.1 Rules of Play**

9.4.1.6.1 The puck while being propelled by the stick may rest against the index finger when the hand is in its natural position of holding the stick.

9.4.1.11.1 The infringing substitute(s) will incur a one (1) minute penalty. That team will play without players equal to the number of infringing substitutes.

9.4.1.11.2 Referees will not wait for substitutes to return to their pool positions, i.e. advantage puck.

#### **9.5 Foul Play**

##### **9.5.0.1 The Nature of Fouls**

###### **9.5.0.1.1 Minor Infringement**

- most stick infringements
- incorrect starts
- most obstruction infringements

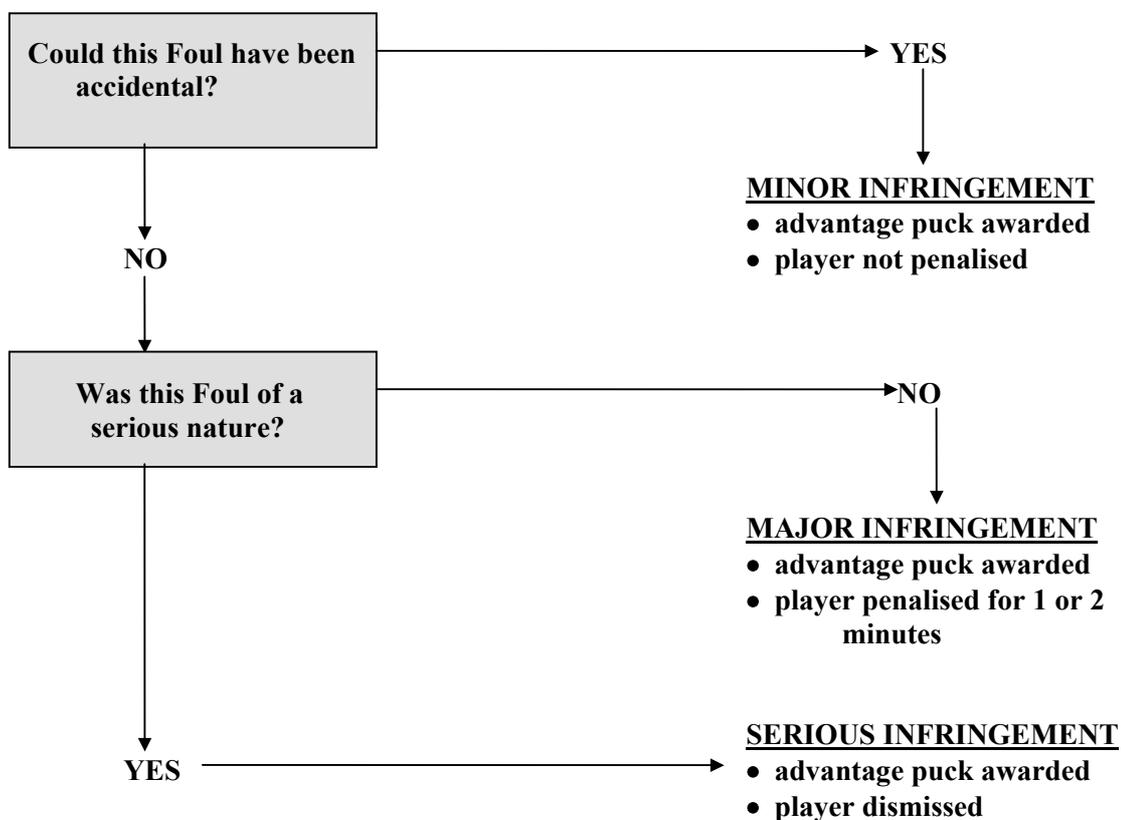
###### **9.5.0.1.2 Major Infringement**

- grasping, holding, pulling
- obscene language, abuse
- deliberate obstruction
- continued minor infringements

###### **9.5.0.1.3 Serious Infringement**

- fighting, striking
- continued major infringements

### 9.5.0.2 Foul Selection Procedure



### 9.5.2.1 Incorrect Starts

Starting play early (breaking)

Start: Advantage puck at centre.  
 Caution: Advantage puck to the other side.  
 Advantage Puck: Back 3m further. (If this occurs at 5m from goal line, the puck is then moved sideways to the centre of the pool.)

### 9.5.2.7 Obstruction

9.5.2.7.1 Especially watch when the puck is flicked forward and the opposing player turns but doesn't directly go for the puck.

9.5.2.7.2 Obstruction on advantage puck:  
 On an advantage puck, before the puck has been played, a player is deemed to be obstructing if he/she endeavours to block another players direct line to the puck.

**Action:** advantage puck if done by defending team.  
 equal puck if done by attacking team.

## **9.6 Penalties**

- 9.6.1 Dangerous Play
- 9.6.1.1 If the Water Referee believes that the puck has been deliberately played in a dangerous manner, he will caution the offending player and award an advantage puck, dismiss the player for a time penalty, or send the player out of the water for the remainder of the game.
- 9.6.2 Deliberate Flick-Out
- 9.6.2.1 Where a player deliberately flicks a puck over a side-line boundary, the team is warned, and the offending player is penalised. Play starts with an advantage puck.
- 9.6.3 Time Penalties
- 9.6.3.1 The following table is the list of time penalties to be awarded against offenders of the listed rule infringements.

<b><u>Rule 5.3</u></b>	<b><u>INFRINGEMENTS</u></b>	<b><u>1st Offence</u></b>	<b><u>2nd Offence or more</u></b>
5.3.1	Incorrect start	Caution	1 minute
5.3.2	Standing on bottom	Caution	1 minute
5.5.3	“Corner Rules” violation	Caution	1 minute
5.3.6	Handling the puck with free hand	1 minute	2 minutes
5.3.7	Lifting/carrying puck	1 minute	2 minutes
5.3.9	Unsportsmanlike conduct	2 minutes	2 minutes
5.3.10	Illegal stopping of Goal	2 minutes	2 minutes
5.3.13	Handling an opponent	2 minutes	2 minutes or Game Dismissal*
5.3.14	Removing equipment	2 minutes	2 minutes or Game Dismissal*
5.3.15	Insults	2 minutes	2 minutes
5.3.17	Attacking/hurting	Game Dismissal	

\*For rules numbered 5.2.13 and 5.2.14, on any subsequent offence by the player, a game dismissal may be awarded, rather than a two (2) minute penalty if the action was deemed to be deliberate.

## **9.7 General**

### **9.7.2 Protests and Appeals**

- 9.7.2.1 If a player receives a penalty, only the Team Captain can protest to the Water Referee. This will not constitute “*refusing to accept any decisions made by the officials*”; thus, it does not merit the award another penalty for breaking Rule 5.2.15. If after receiving an explanation, the player refuses to go to the penalty area, such action may constitute refusing to accept decisions made by officials. The player will go immediately to the penalty area, and let the Team Captain protest the matter to the Chief Referee, After consultation, and the Chief Referee’s announcement of a decision, the team captain will no longer protest the issue, so that the game can be resumed. An appeal can be made following the game if necessary.

## **9.8 Amendments**

### **9.8.1 RULE CHANGES - Agreed Procedure**

	6 Months	12 Months	6 Months	
World Championships	Write-up new rules and send out New Rule Book	Present New Rule Proposals	New proposals sent out to all countries for trailing	World Championships

- 9.8.1.1 After a World Championship the Rules Director has 6 months to write up the new rules and include them into the rule book. Then post the rule book to all participating countries. The countries then have a further 12 months to present to the Rules Director proposed rule changes or guidance notes. The Rules Director then must distribute all the proposals 6 months prior to the World Championships. Countries then will try all the proposals and then vote on them at the next World Championship.

## **9.9 Tournament Play Schedule**

### 9.9.1 General

9.9.1.1 Each team will play no more than two (2) games per day.

9.9.1.2 Eight (8) playing days are allowed.

9.9.1.2.1 Five and one-half days (5.5 days) for play.

9.9.1.2.2 Two and one-half days (2.5 days) for play-offs.

9.9.2 Number of teams in tournament.

9.9.2.1 If twelve (12) or fewer teams participate in a division, a full round robin will be scheduled.

9.9.2.2 If thirteen (13) or more teams participate in a division, a split round robin will be played. Seeding of teams will be necessary.

9.9.3 Seeding.

9.9.3.1 Seeding will be based on final placing at the immediately previous World Championships.

9.9.3.2 In any division with thirteen to nineteen teams (13-19), play will be divided into two (2) Sections, A and B.

9.9.3.2.1 Section A will consist of the top eight (8) seeded teams from the immediately previous World Championships.

9.9.3.2.2 Section B will consist of the remaining previously participating teams plus new and/or non-participating teams seeded by draw.

9.9.4 Section Play.

9.9.4.1 Section A will play a full round robin (7 games each).

9.9.4.2 Section B will play a full round robin.

9.9.4.3 Inter-Section play will be scheduled (a maximum of ten (10) total games/team) to allow maximum mixing of the Sections in the round robin.

9.9.4.3.1 Inter-section games do not count toward play-off status, excepting for forfeits which will incur a 2 point penalty against points awarded in round robin play.

9.9.4.4 Games will be scheduled to spread play as evenly as possible, but some teams may play one game less depending on the number of entries.

9.9.4.5 Inter-Section games will be assigned by random drawing at a meeting with team representatives present as early as possible during the practice week.

9.9.5 Points to determine play-off status.

9.9.5.1 Points awarded as follows:

#### **Intra-Section Game Points**

Win = +2 points

Tie = +1 point

Loss = 0 points

Forfeit = -2 points (minus 2)

**Inter-Section Game Points**

Win = 0

Tie = 0

Loss = 0

Forfeit = -2

9.9.6 Sectional Play-offs.

9.9.6.1 The top four (4) Section B teams will play the bottom four (4) Section A teams.

9.9.6.2 The 5th Seed from Section A plays the 4th Seed from Section B; the winning team becomes the 5th Seed in the Championship bracket, and the losing team becomes the 4th Seed in the consolation bracket.

9.9.6.3 The 6th Seed from Section A plays the 3rd Seed from Section B; the winning team becomes the 6th Seed in the Championship bracket, and the losing team becomes the 3rd Seed in the consolation bracket.

9.9.6.4 The 7th Seed from Section A plays the 2nd Seed from Section B; the winning team becomes the 7th Seed in the Championship bracket, and the losing team becomes the 2nd Seed in the consolation bracket.

9.9.6.5 The 8th Seed from Section A plays the 1st Seed from Section B; the winning team becomes the 8th Seed in the Championship bracket, and the losing team becomes the 1st Seed in the consolation bracket.

9.9.7 Championship Play.

9.9.7.1 The Championship bracket consists of the top four Sectional Play-off winners plus the top four Section A teams.

9.9.7.2 The Championship bracket will play a 'Multilevel Tournament with Eight Entries' play off with complete losers bracket determining all places. See Appendix L.

9.9.7.3 There will be a consolation bracket for all remaining teams, so all participating teams are seeded for the following World Championships.

9.8.6 Rule Directors by Nation

Note: This list is as current as possible but is liable to change due to changes in the internal structure of the participating National Organizations

NAME	POSITION	NATION
<b>Murray Brooks</b> 6 Matterhorn Cres Northpark, Howick, Auckland, NZ	World Tournament Referee	CMAS Underwater Hockey Commission
<b>Graham HENDERSON</b> 34 Kirwana Grove Montmorency Australia	World Tournament Director	CMAS Underwater Hockey Commission
<b>Pablo RENDE</b> Arribeños 1599 Piao 15'B' Capital Federal CP 1426 Buenos Aires Argentina	Federation President	Argentina
<b>Graham HENDERSON</b> 34 Kirwana Grove Montmorency Australia	Rules Director	Australia
<b>Jan DAUTZENBERG</b> Cannerweg 272 6213 BL MAASTRICHT, Netherlands	Rules Manager	Belgium
<b>Margaret FRANCIS</b> CUGA 4010 Stanley Road SW Calgary, Alberta T2S 2T4 Canada	President	Canada
<b>David Pueñtes PEÑA</b> Carrera 52 #6A38 Cali Columbia	U/W Hockey Representative	Columbia
<b>Ulysse MUNOZ</b> 1 rue de la Justine 93800 Spinay sur Seine, France	Rules Director	France
<b>Alexander MOLIER</b> Eichendorffring 107Y 135 35396 Giessen FRG Germany	Contact Person	Germany

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<b>Nyul Gabor</b> 1082 BUDAPEST Kisfaludy u.26 Hungary EMAIL nyul@eyssen.hu	Contact Person	Hungary
<b>Hugh Nolan</b> Photographic Department Eye and Ear Hospital 78a Patrick St. Dun Laoighaire Co.Dublin Ireland EMAIL nolan_hugh@hotmail.com	Contact Person	Ireland
<b>Leone TAROZZI</b> V. Santo Stefano 43 40125 Bologna Italy	Contact Person	Italy
<b>Kees Bakx</b> Vikingrade 4 2912 PM Nieuwerkerk A/D IJSSEL Netherlands	Rules Director	Netherlands
<b>Ray Dolman</b> C/- NZU P O Box 875 Auckland New Zealand	Chairperson	New Zealand
<b>Marilen CARPIO</b> 46 Van Buren San Juan Metro Manila Philippines	Rules Director	Philippines
<b>Rudi BRAJDIC</b> Adamiceva Ulica 2 1117 Ljubljana Slovenia	Contact Person	Slovenia
<b>Anton LOUW</b> 9 Wilkonson St. Kilner Park Pretoria 0186, South Africa TEL (Mobile) +27 8344 22 898 TEL (Work) +27 12 318 5397 EMAIL Louwra@techpta.ac.za	President	South Africa
<b>Laurent ALQUIER</b> Gran Via 575 Barcelona 08011 Spain	Contact Person	Spain

NAME	POSITION	NATION
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<b>Bert Dolan</b> 1899 Larson Ct Erie, CO 80515 EMAIL Bertnlisa@earthlink.com	Rules Director	United States
<b>Bozana OSTOJIC</b> Borska 40/219 11193 Beograd Yugoslavia	Contact Person	Yugoslavia
<b>Glen PARTINGTON</b> Field Tech Sales PO Box CY 535 Causeway Harare Zimbabwe	Contact Person	Zimbabwe

•Here ends the text of the Rules, known as the 7th Edition, Version 7.11. This edition supersedes Rules dated November, 1977 (1977a), and includes changes made in San Jose, California, United States (1998), and Hobart, Tasmania, Australia (2001).

Special acknowledgment is given to Jamie Phillips for redrawing all images and converting them to a format that is easily updated, and converting the Rules to an appropriate format for electronic distribution over the Internet. Jamie can be contacted at via e-mail at [jamie@petrellyn.com](mailto:jamie@petrellyn.com), by telephone at +44 (023)80898698 in the United Kingdom or visit his website at <http://www.petrellyn.com>.

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Acting World Assistant Rules Director  
of Underwater Hockey

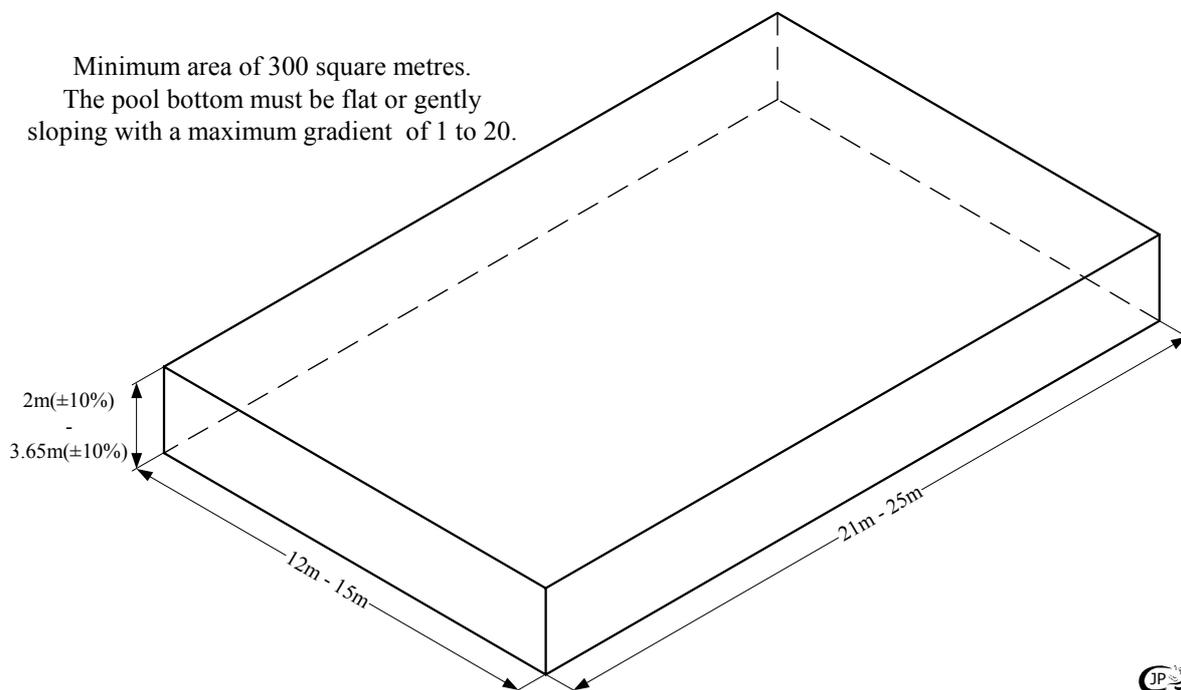
Smithsonian Marine Station  
701 Seaway Drive  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34949  
U.S.A.

TEL 561.465.6630 extension 145  
EMAIL [uwhrules@yahoo.com](mailto:uwhrules@yahoo.com)

**APPENDIX "A"**

**POOL DIMENSIONS**

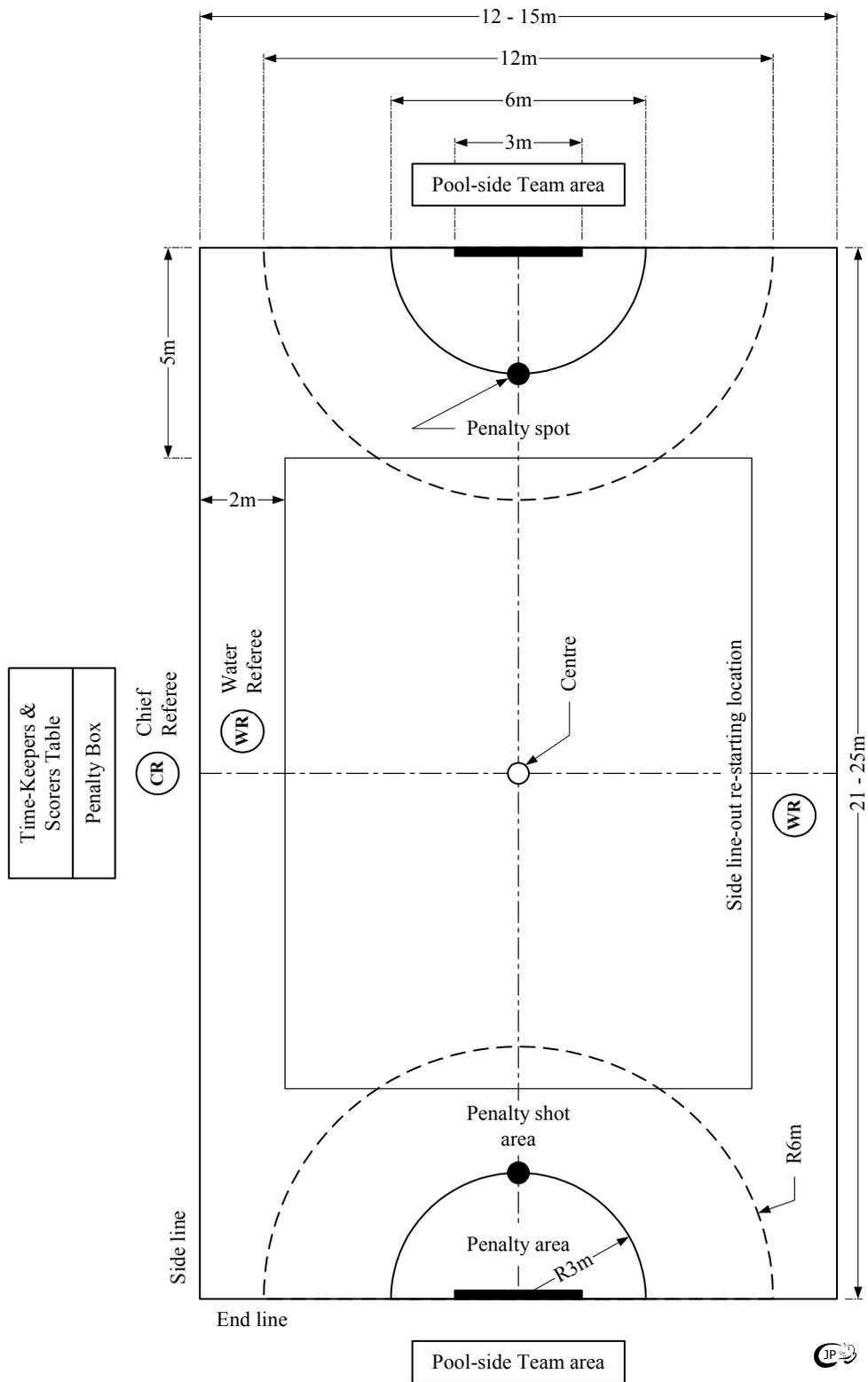
Minimum area of 300 square metres.  
The pool bottom must be flat or gently sloping with a maximum gradient of 1 to 20.



\*The depth of the water shall be between 2m and 3.65m, with a  $\pm 10\%$  allowance with the approval of the Games Commissioner. Pools shallower than 2m must be considered "fast and safe" by the Games Commissioner

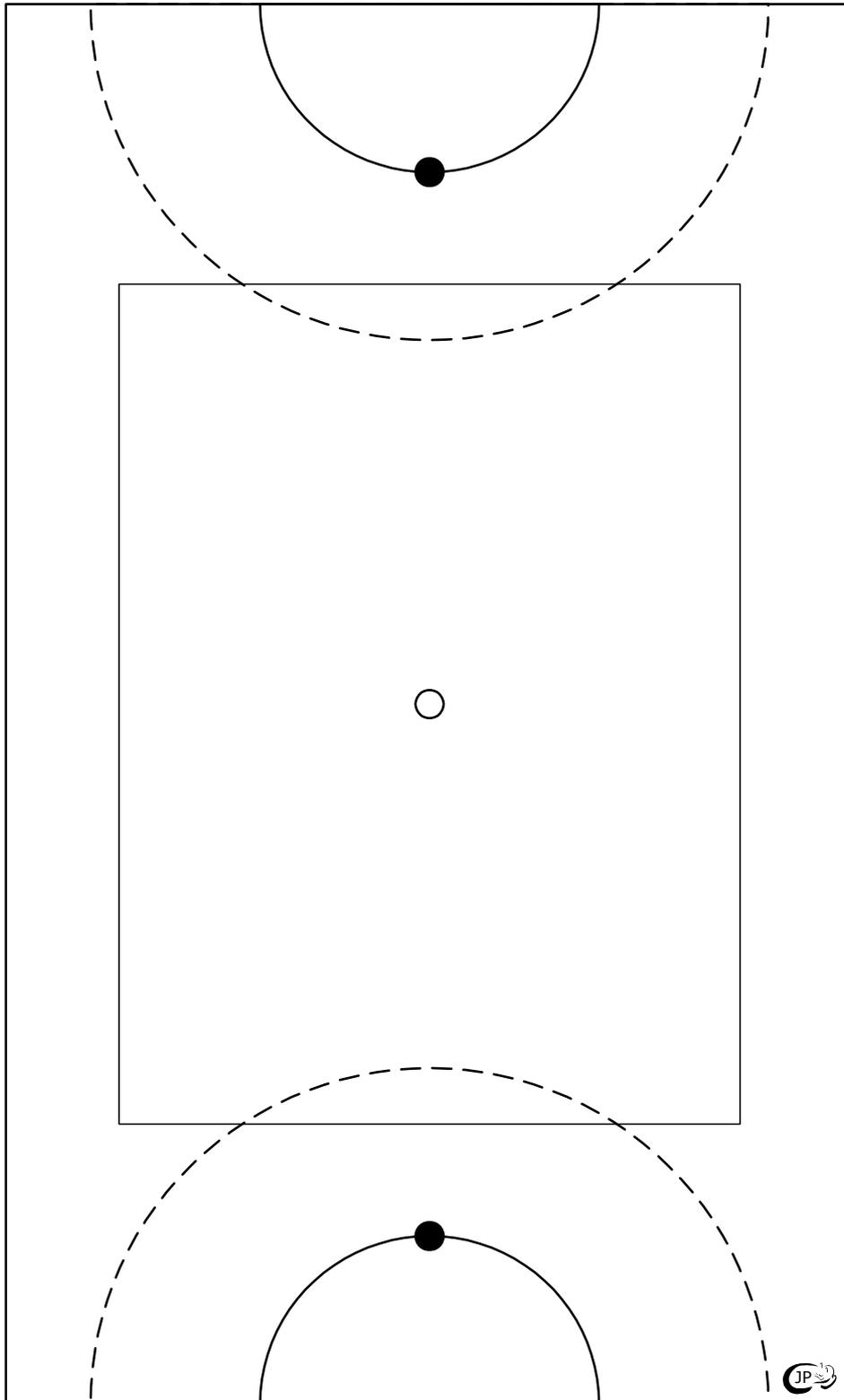
APPENDIX "B1"

POOL LAYOUT



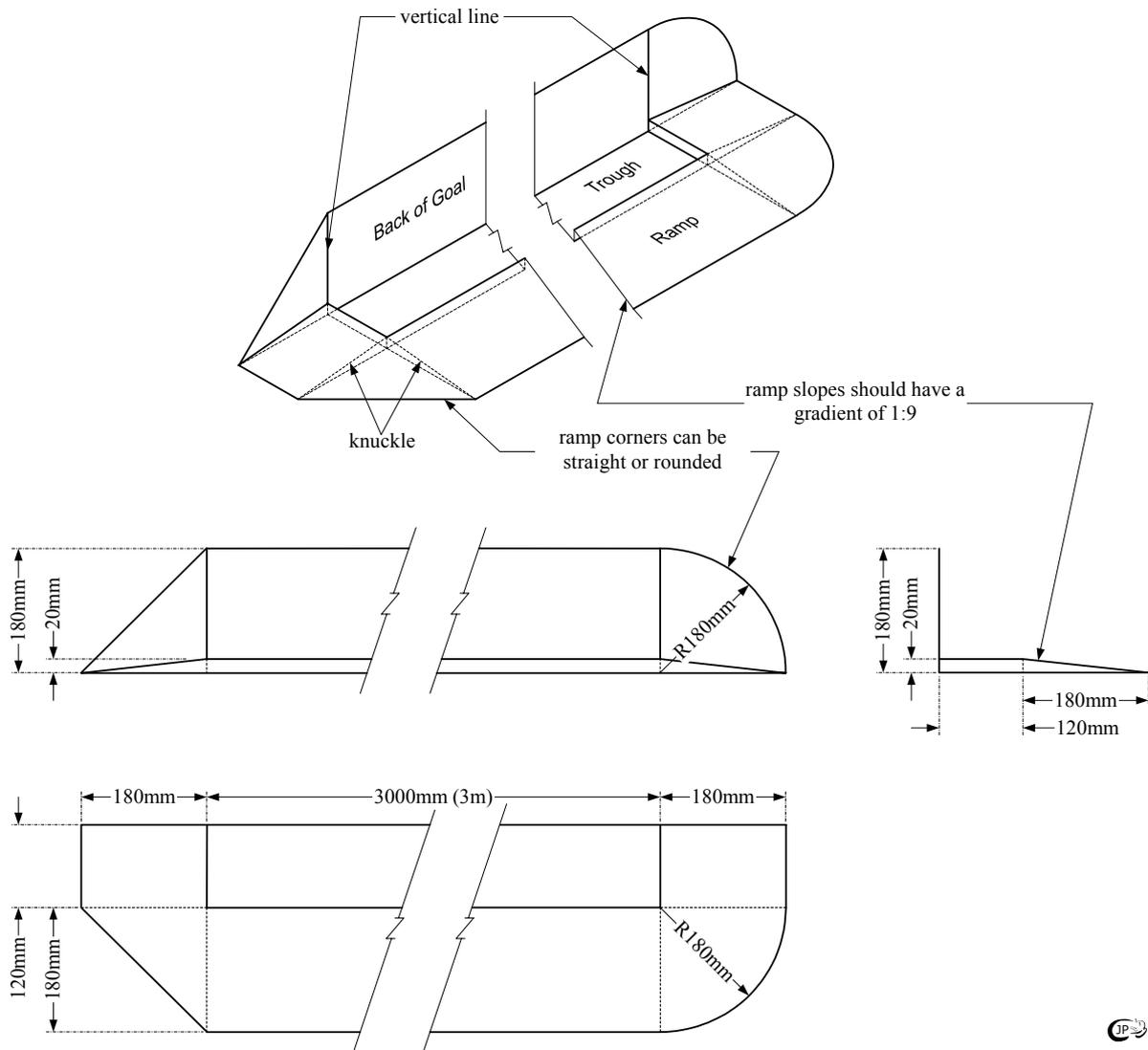
**APPENDIX "B2"**

**POOL MARKINGS**



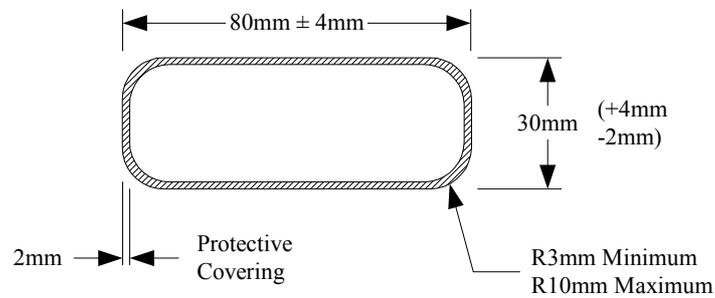
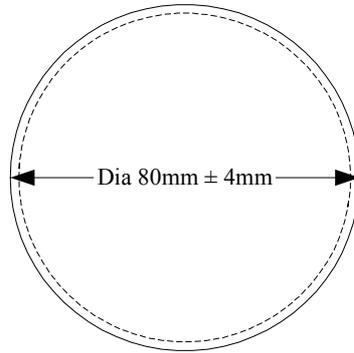
**APPENDIX "C"**

**THE GOALS**



**APPENDIX "D"**

**THE PUCK**



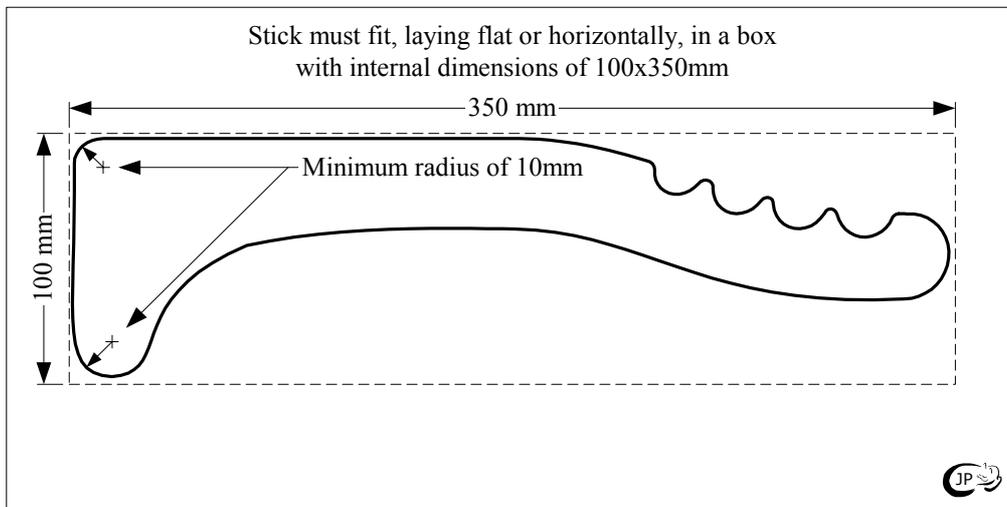
The puck shall weigh  
1.3 kg ± 0.2 kg.





**APPENDIX "E"**

**THE STICK**



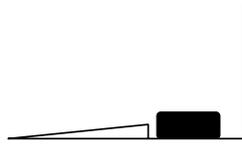
- The stick must fit in a box 100mm x 350mm.
- Minimum corner radius around the perimeter edge of the entire stick is 10mm.
- Edges where surfaces intersect must be rounded.
- The stick must be uniformly black or white.
- The stick may be of any shape or design within the minimum and maximum dimensions given. The illustration is only a guide. Knob(s) on stick is/are allowed.
- The stick must not be capable of surrounding the puck or any part of hand, nor encapsulating the puck by more than 50%, or locking the puck to the stick.



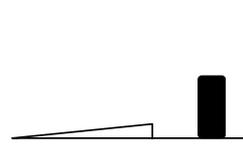
**APPENDIX "F"**

**GOAL SCORING**

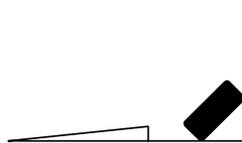
**GOAL**



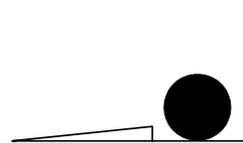
(A)



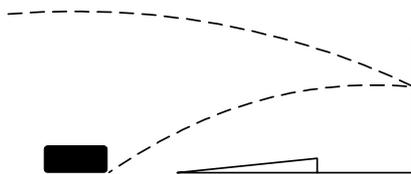
(B)



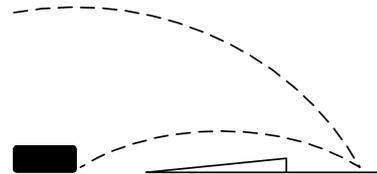
(C)



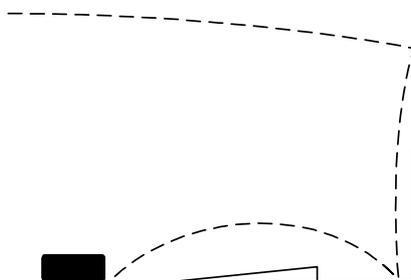
(D)



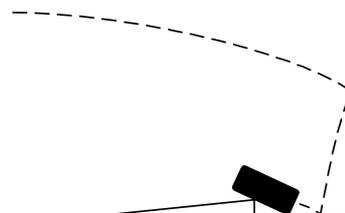
(E)



(F)



(G)



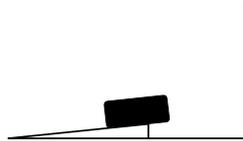
(H)



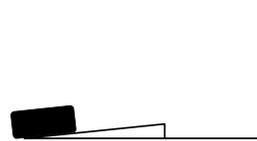
**APPENDIX "F"**

**GOAL SCORING**

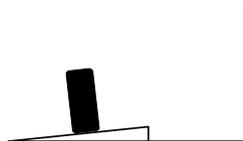
**NO-GOAL**



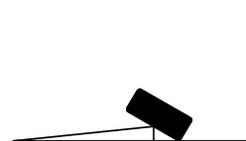
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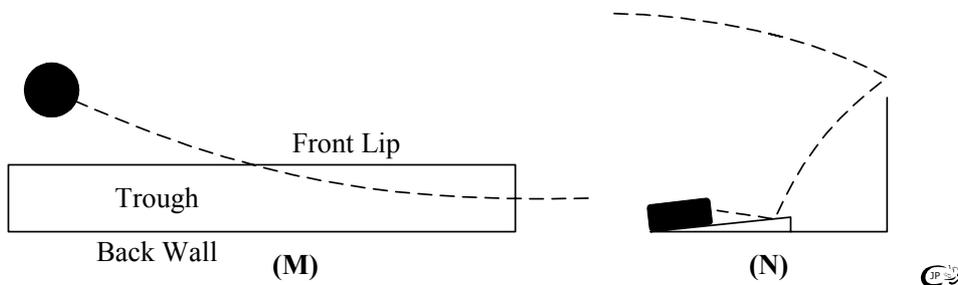
(J)



(K)



(L)



(M)

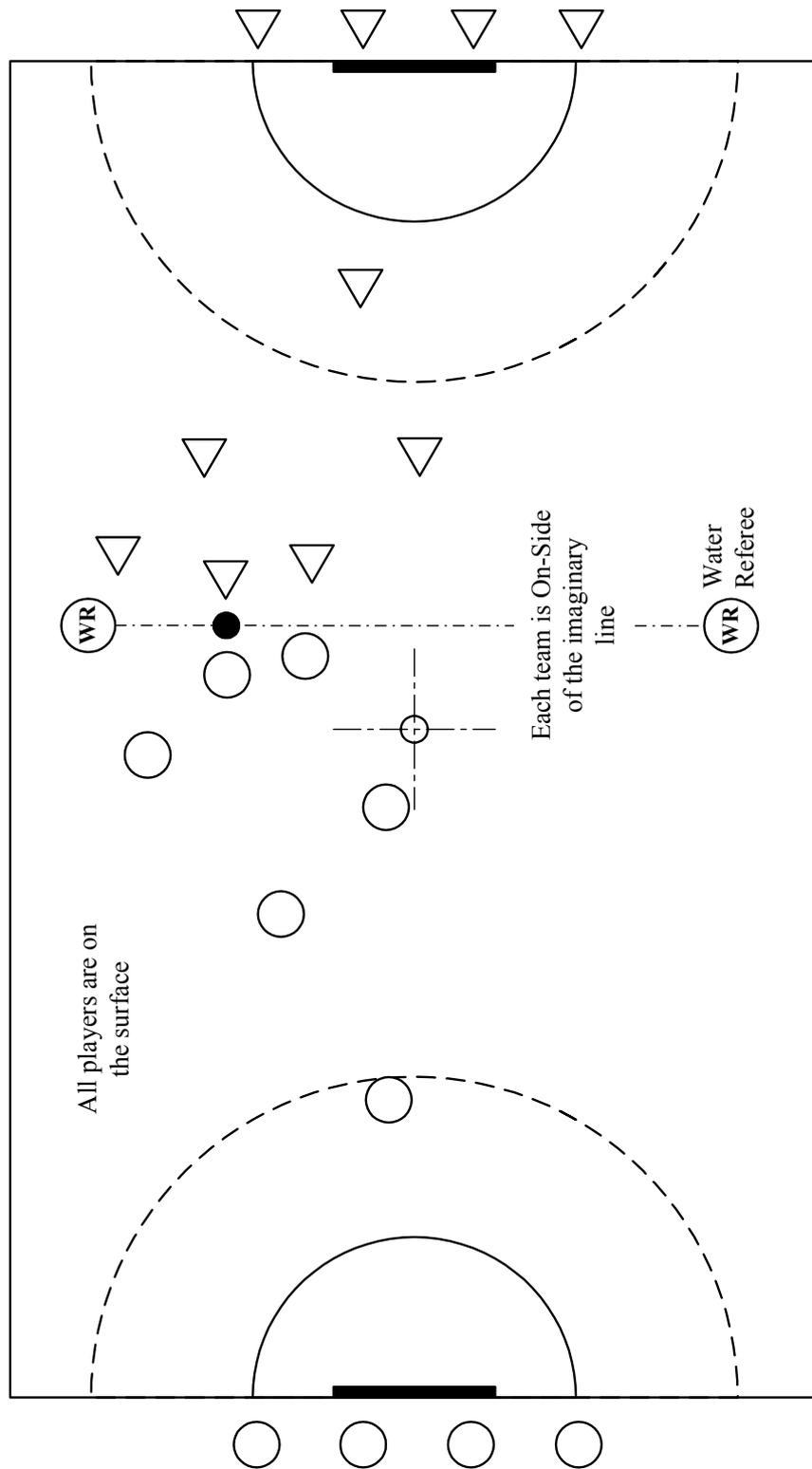
(N)

**APPENDIX "G"**

**EQUAL PUCK**

Time-Keepers & Scorers Table
Penalty Box

 Chief Referee



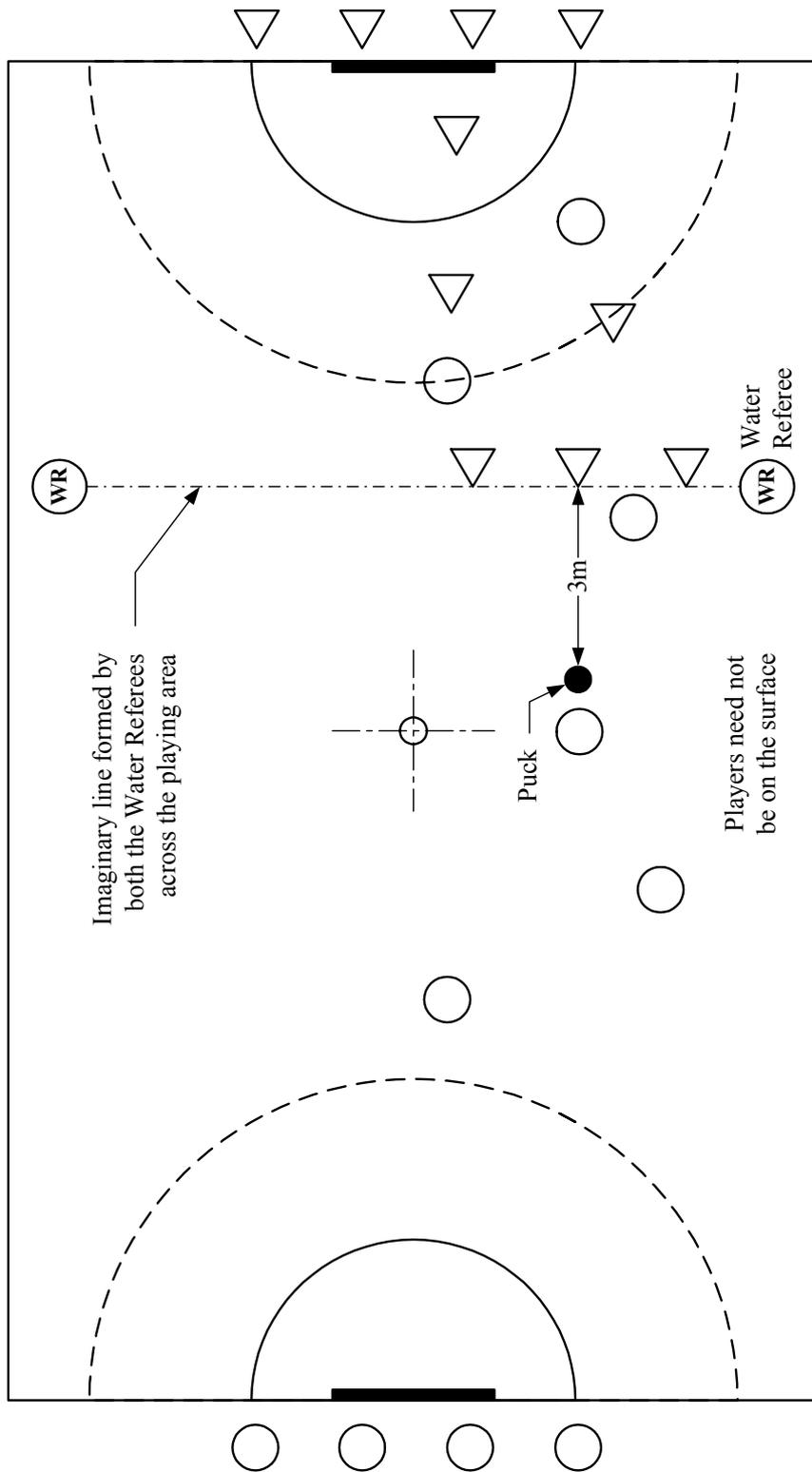


**APPENDIX "H"**

**ADVANTAGE PUCK**

Time-Keepers & Scorers Table
Penalty Box

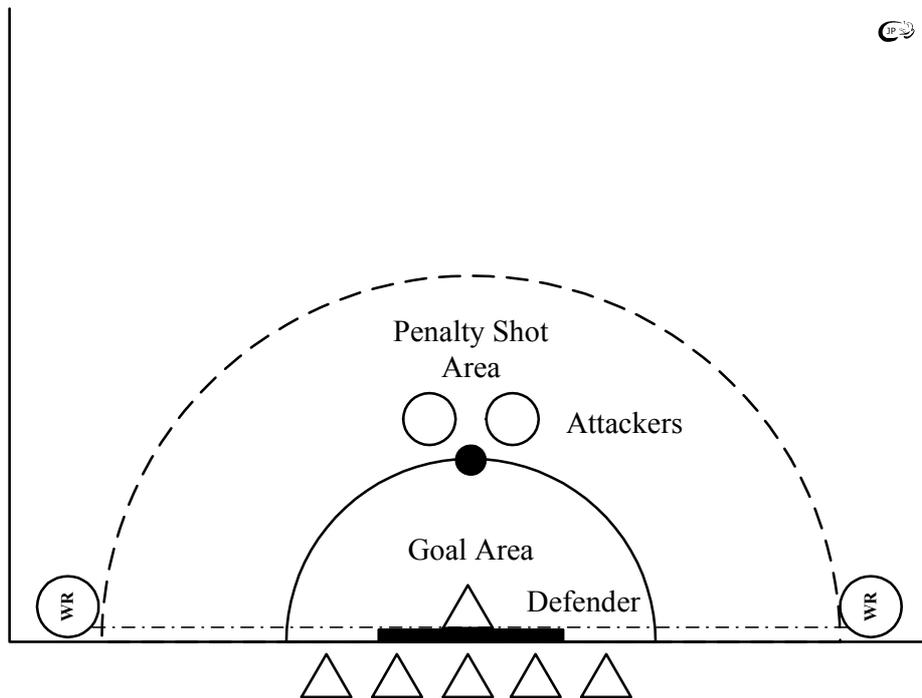
Chief Referee  
**CR**





**APPENDIX "I"**

**PENALTY SHOT**



**ALL OTHER PLAYERS MUST:**

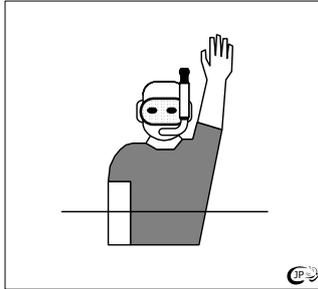
- Return to their respective ends of the playing area.
- All players on the defending team, except for the appointed defender, must be behind the goal-line in their own teams area at the end of the pool.

**APPENDIX “J”** **(Vacant)**

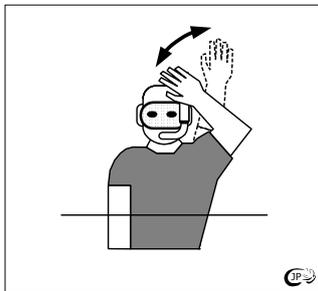
**APPENDIX “K”**

**SIGNALS**

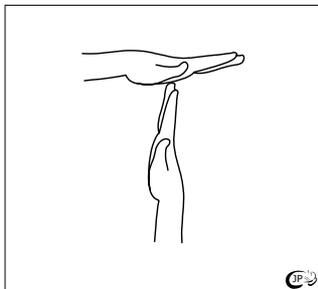
**3.6.1 Ready to Start Play**



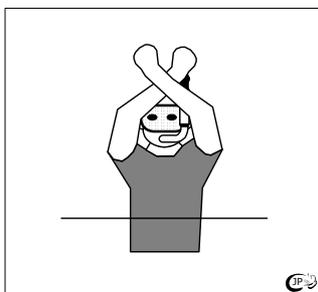
**3.6.2 Stop Play**



**3.6.3 Time**



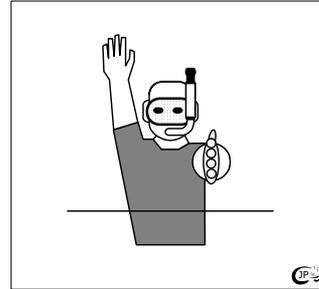
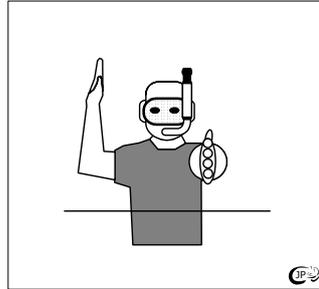
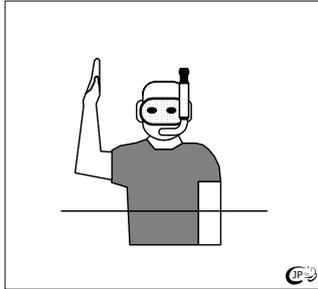
**3.6.4 Equal Puck**



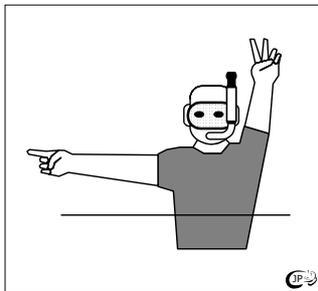
**APPENDIX “K”**

**SIGNALS**

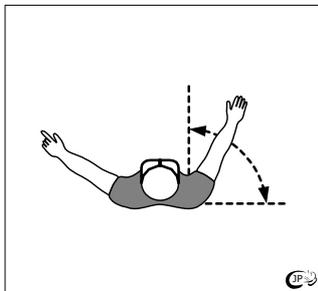
**3.6.5 Advantage Puck**



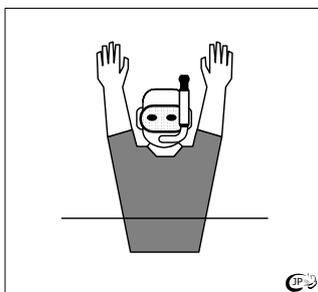
**3.6.6 Time Penalty**



**3.6.7 Total Dismissal**



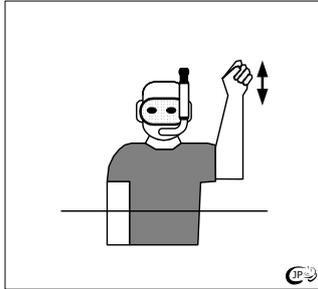
**3.6.8 Goal**



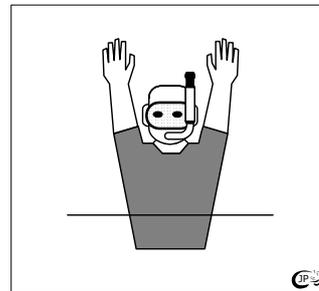
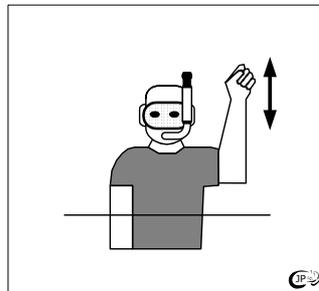
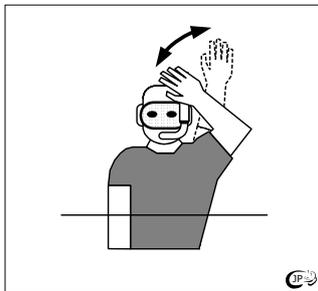
**APPENDIX “K”**

**SIGNALS**

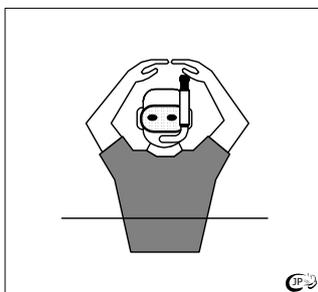
**3.6.9 Penalty Shot**



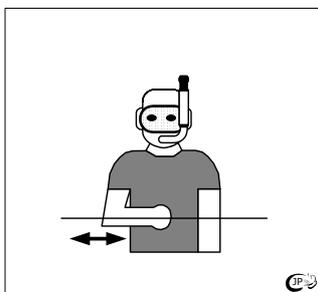
**3.6.10 Penalty Goal**



**3.6.11 Time-Out**



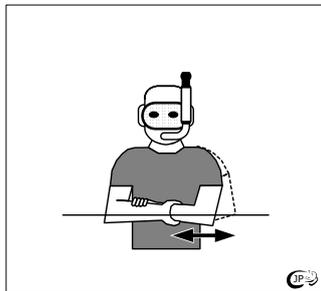
**3.6.12 Illegal Use of Free Arm**



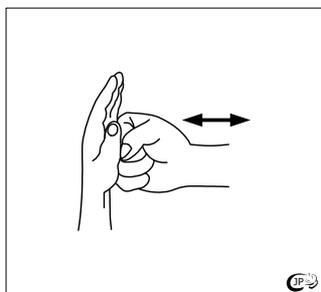
**APPENDIX “K”**

**SIGNALS**

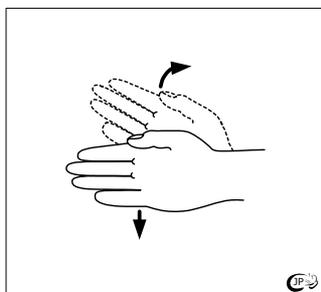
**3.6.13 Obstruction, Barging, Blocking, Shepherding**



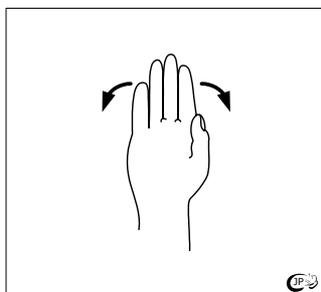
**3.6.14 Advancing the Puck with the Free Hand or Stick Infringements**



**3.6.15 Illegally Stopping the Puck**



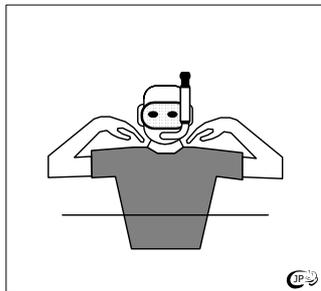
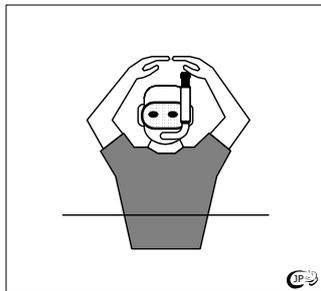
**3.6.16 Call by Referee**



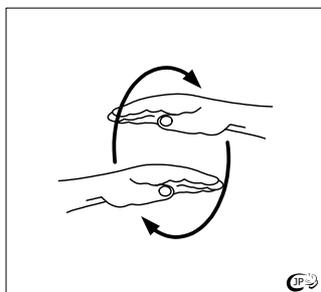
**APPENDIX “K”**

**SIGNALS**

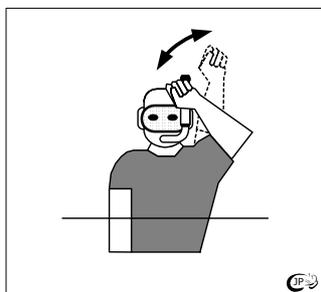
**3.6.17 Time Suspension**



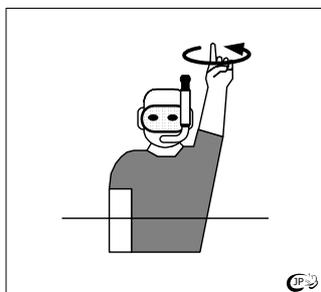
**3.6.18 Illegal Substitution**



**3.6.19 Un-Sportsmanlike Conduct**



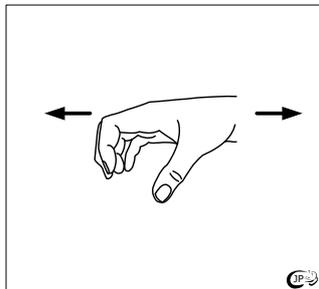
**3.6.20 Breaking, False Start, or Encroachment**



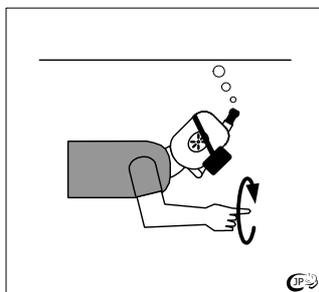
**APPENDIX “K”**

**SIGNALS**

**3.6.21 Grabbing and/or Pulling on Wall Barriers**



**3.6.22 Infringement Seen but the Advantage Rule is in Effect**





**APPENDIX "M"**

**AMENDMENTS**