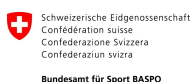


Rules of Hockey: Directives Outdoor Season 2025-26

Unsere Partner:



Disclaimer:

Language versions of this document: *In the event of a discrepancy between the German, French and English versions of this document, the original German version shall prevail.*

Swiss Hockey largely adheres to the official rules of the International Hockey Federation (FIH) for outdoor field hockey. A few exceptions are included in the rules. These are specifically designed to optimize the design and execution of game operations for our small association.

Below are two specific points that have been changed or clarified for the upcoming 2025-26 outdoor season.

1. Mandatory Face Masks for Short Corners

During short corners, all field players on the defending team must wear a protective mask. This change will be incorporated as a new article (Article 10.1.c) in the next revision of the Directive No. 11 “Rules of the Game”, but will apply immediately from the start of the 2025-26 field season.

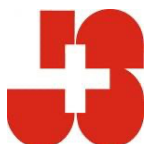
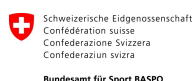
The mask requirement also applies to any additional field player replacing the goalkeeper, which is permitted in the following leagues: Women's NLA, Men's NLA Master and Challenge, and 1st League. Each team must therefore have four or five protective masks available in the area behind their own goal. Please note that in the Women's NLB and all junior leagues, the goalkeeper may not be replaced by an additional field player.

Instructions for Implementing the Rule:

- Putting on additional protective equipment:
Teams must be given sufficient time to put on additional protective equipment (e.g., masks) – this may take longer than 40 seconds.
- Time wasting when putting on protective equipment:
If a team is found to be intentionally wasting time while putting on protective equipment, they must be warned the first time. If the time wasting occurs again, the player who is not ready will receive a green card. The defending team may not replace the penalized player with another player when defending the subsequent short corner.
- Removing the protective equipment:
If a player from the opposing team or the own team is hit while removing additional protective equipment after a short corner, the offending player will receive a yellow card and a 5-minute time penalty. The short corner will be retaken.

2. Receiving Flicks / Aerials

Unsere Partner:



When receiving a high ball falling, no opponent may remain within a 5-meter protected circle until the ball has been touched by the receiver.

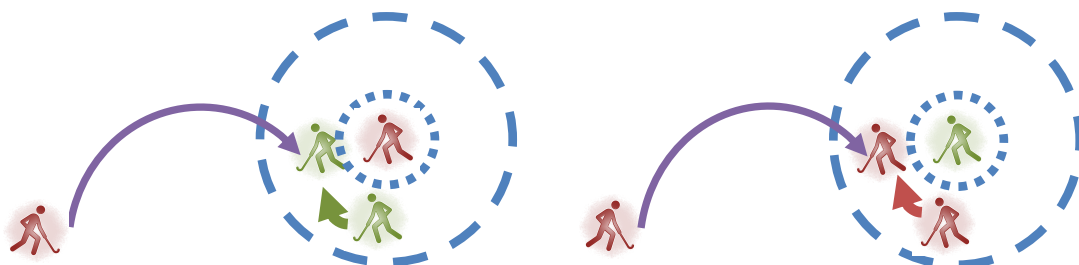
If players from both teams are within the protected circle of the falling ball, the team that played the ball must leave the ball to the opposing team (see Pics 1 and 2).



Pics 1, 2: 5-Meter Protected Circle (blue-dashed circle) for the Receiving Player.

Interception: However, an opposing player is permitted to penetrate the receiving player's 5-meter protected circle and intercept the high ball. However, they must maintain a playing distance of 1-2 meters from the opponent and may not provoke any dangerous play when receiving the ball (see Pics 3 and 4).

Note: In such a situation, the first receiving player may not make any movement against the falling ball in order to shorten the playing distance.



Pics 3, 4: Interception by a ball-winning player within the 5-meter protected circle is possible, provided that a 1-2 meter playing distance (blue-dotted circle) is not entered and the game is not endangered by the interception.

Horw, August 27, 2025
Swiss Hockey Office / fd