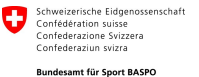


Directives for Match Postponements Outdoor Season 2025/2026

Version 1.1, valid from 1 October 2025
(replaces version 1.0 in German, dated 1 June 2025)

Unsere Partner:



Based on information provided by the clubs and taking into account cantonal and local circumstances, Swiss Hockey draws up the match schedules before each season in a multi-stage exchange with the clubs and national coaches. Swiss Hockey therefore expects that matches and tournaments will only be postponed in exceptional cases after the publication of the "Definitiver Spielplan".

This document supplements the unchanged articles Art. 21.1.-5. of the "Rules of the Game" and explains the process for requesting match postponements. If clubs wish to postpone matches or tournaments after the publication of the "Definitiver Spielplan", the following guidelines apply in accordance with the "Rules of the Game" and the "Regulations Fees".

- **Requests for Match Postponements**

Requests for postponements for all matches and tournaments must be submitted in writing to Swiss Hockey using the following document and stating the reasons:

[Postpone match](#).

The following information must be included with the request: date, time and location of the rescheduled match.

- **Applicants**

Requests for a match postponement must be agreed upon by the clubs of both teams involved or, in the case of a tournament postponement, by all clubs. It is the responsibility of the applicant to obtain the necessary approvals before submitting the request.

- **Fees for Match Postponements**

Once a match postponement has been approved, fees will be charged in accordance with the "Regulations Fees".

In addition to the league-specific requirements (see chapters 2 and 3), applications for match postponements due to unforeseeable situations caused by force majeure are generally approved.

1. Free of charge match postponements due to short-term and unforeseeable events

Swiss Hockey supports clubs in rescheduling matches that have to be postponed due to short-term and unforeseeable events and does not charge any fees for this.

- **Examples of reasons for postponing matches free of charge due to force majeure**

- Pitch is unavailable through no fault of one's own, e.g. due to cancelled booking approval or technical defects.
- Weather conditions (e.g. snowfall or icing of the playing field), health or safety conditions that do not allow games to be played.
- Illness-related absences of at least 5 (11-a-side), 4 (9-a-side) or 3 (7- and 6-a-side) players from a team for the outdoor championship or at least 5 players for the indoor championship.
Note: the Office may request medical certificates.
- Recent death or accident directly related to players and/or referees involved.

2. Chargeable postponements of Women's NLA and Men's NLA Master & Challenge

Match postponements in the highest leagues for women and men should not take place after the publication of the "Definitiver Spielplan". Requests will only be approved in exceptional cases.

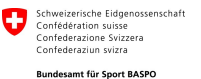
- **Examples of inadmissible justification for postponing matches**

- Holiday absences of players and coaches
- Prevention of double weekends
- Injuries of players
- Circumvention of match suspensions

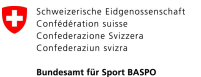
- **Postponement dates**

Matches in these leagues can only be scheduled between the weekend days before and the weekend days after the match date originally scheduled in the "Definitiver Spielplan". Postponements to dates outside this time window and postponements of matches on the last NLA match day are not permitted.

Unsere Partner:



- **Timelines for submitting requests for match postponements**
 - Bringing matches forward:
Application must be submitted at least 10 days before the new match date.
 - Postponing matches:
Request must be submitted at least 10 days before the originally scheduled match date.
- **Approval by the Office**
Match postponements in these leagues must be approved by the Office. The Office will process requests within one week. If the Office rejects a request, it must provide reasons for doing so. The Office's decision is final and cannot be appealed.
- **Postponement fees**
Postponements in the highest leagues cause considerable, unforeseeable additional work for the Office. This will be charged to the club responsible in accordance with the "Regulations Fees".
- **Appointment of referees**
Matches in the Women's NLA and Men's NLA Master and Challenge leagues are normally officiated by referees appointed by the Head of Refereeing. It is therefore his responsibility to inform the referees of any postponements in these leagues.

Unsere Partner:

3. Postponements of Women's NLB, 1st League and Junior Leagues (excluding HKT)

Requests to reschedule matches in these leagues are generally possible, but have increased significantly in recent years. Clubs are encouraged to play matches according to the "Definitiver Spielplan" whenever possible.

- **Postponement dates**
Matches in these leagues may be postponed to any date between the start and end of the season. In leagues with final matches, postponed matches must be played no later than the weekend before the final matches.
- **Timelines for submitting requests for match postponements**
 - Bringing matches forward:
Application must be submitted at least 10 days before the new match date.
 - Postponing matches:
Request must be submitted at least 10 days before the originally scheduled match date.

- **Reasons for free and fee-based match postponements**

Request for match postponements must be justified. The Office will decide whether fees will be charged in accordance with the "Regulations Fees".

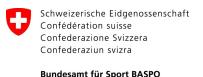
- Examples of reasons for postponements free of charge:

- Matches are scheduled during cantonal or local holidays according to the "Final Match Schedule".
- Matches are scheduled during an official Swiss Hockey event or training course according to the "Final Match Schedule".

- Examples of reasons for postponements subject to a fee:

- Not enough players available
- Coaches unavailable
- Club/club referees unavailable

Unsere Partner:



- **Approval by the Office**

Match postponements must be reported to the Office in accordance with the above timelines. The Office will process the requests within one week and inform the clubs concerned.

- **Appointment of referees**

In these leagues, referees are usually appointed by the clubs involved. It is therefore the responsibility of the club submitting the request to inform the referees about match postponements.

Final note: In the event of disagreement about the interpretation of this directive in connection with requests for match postponements, the Office will seek an amicable solution with the clubs concerned, but has the final decision-making authority.

Horw, 1 October 2025
Swiss Hockey Office / mz