

**Approved by CIRH Ordinary General Assembly
Dornbirn/Austria 29.10.2010**

**PART 3
OFFICIAL RULES OF THE ROLLER HOCKEY WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIP**

GROUP "A"

Article 1

The World Championship is open to the National Teams of all the Federations, National Confederations and Associations affiliated with the FIRS, provided that they confirm their entry prior to the closing date for entries laid down by CIRH. This Group will be comprised of sixteen teams, by qualification.

Article 2

The Championship is held every two years, at odd years, always in covered rinks, in compliance with the rules of the game adopted by CIRH.

The General Assembly of CIRH selects in English alphabetical order each Federation in turn, to organize the World Championships, taking into consideration the proposals put forward by the Executive Committee of CIRH, and giving priority to any Federation that has never organized or hosted in the longest period of time a World Championship.

Article 3

If the next candidate Federation due to organize the World Championship does not submit its application to the General Assembly of CIRH for approval, the Executive Committee of CIRH is free to offer this privilege to other Federations who have indicated their interest in undertaking the organization.

Such offers must be made at least three months prior to the official opening of the season (1st of September).

The most suitable application received by CIRH, will then be submitted to the Executive Committee of CIRH for approval.

If no Federation offers to stage the World Championship prior to expiration of the time-limit date, then the Executive Committee of CIRH may undertake the organization itself.

Article 4

Once the organization has been allocated to a Federation, details of the organization will be worked out between the Federation in question and the Executive Committee of CIRH, following which all decisions reached will be circulated to all Federations, National Confederations or Associations.

Federations which are qualified to enter must confirm their entries in writing to the organizing Federation, and such entries must be received by a declared closing date. The day following the closing date, the organizers must inform CIRH of the Federations, National Confederations or Associations which have submitted entries.

Should any special agreements be arranged between the organizers and any of the Federations, CIRH must be kept fully informed at all times.

Article 5

The Organizing Federation accepts total responsibility on behalf of the Executive Committee of CIRH related to the organization, be it financial or otherwise. It must also comply with all the technical specifications laid down by CIRH.

No other international matches of any kind are permitted to be played in the country of the Organizing Federation during the period when the World Championship matches are being played.

Article 6

The Organizing Federation may designate the organization of the Championship to any of its Clubs or members, but in doing so they must accept all responsibility, without exception, for anything unforeseen which may happen. The Organizing Federation remains totally responsible to FIRS, CIRH and all participating Federations.

Article 7

Upon receiving official notification from the Executive Committee of CIRH that its application to stage the World Championship has been approved, the Organizing Federation must pay the organization fee of 90.000 USD to the Executive Committee of CIRH within 30 days or relinquish the right to stage the World Championship.

The entry fee to the World Championship to be paid by each Federation is of 100 USD per player, 200 USD per team; these to be sent directly to CIRH.

Article 8

The World Championship will be played by the sixteen teams qualified. The winning team will be the WORLD CHAMPION.

The bottom three teams (14th, 15th and 16th) will be relegated to Group "B" for the next Championship

Article 9

Should a team withdraw from the Championship after the program has been drawn up, the Executive Committee of CIRH may proceed with the necessary alterations, keeping in mind the results and placements of the previous Championship.

Article 10

The closing date for entries is one year prior to the start of the Championship, but the exact date will always be made official by the Executive Committee of CIRH.

The organizers are under strict obligation to give at least fifteen months notice to CIRH of the opening date of the Championship thereby making it possible for CIRH to give correct and proper attention to the entries of those countries interested in participating.

Article 11

The financial conditions of the Championship are the followings:

1. Each participating Federation would be responsible for its travelling, lodging and living expenses.

Concerning travel:

- a) From its own country by road, railways, sea or air to the country where the Championship is being held
- b) If the participants are travelling by road, railway or sea then they are responsible for all their travelling costs all the way to their hotel in the town where the Championship is being held. They will also be responsible for all expenses incurred on the trip back.
- c) If the participants are travelling by air, then they are responsible for their own travelling costs to the nearest airport to the town where the Championship is being held. They will be met by coach, cars or taxis, sent by the Organization and paid for by the host country, which will transport these participants from the airport to the hotel.
- d) A Federation may participate with the maximum of 10 (11) players and 7 team members.

2. The host country will be responsible in addition to 1.c) above, for the following:

- a) A maximum of 12 international referees (3 of them can be from the host federation and will referee the matches).
The Organizing Committee will be responsible for all the expenses for a maximum of 10 referees.

If the host country cannot supply the 3 international referees, then, replacements will be brought in from other countries.

Provide second class air travel for the 6 members of CIRH from their home countries to the nearest airport to the city of the Championship plus taxis or cars from the airport to their hotel. They will also be responsible for providing hotel accommodation and food (no extras) for the CIRH members described, at a hotel, same class international standards (single rooms with private bathrooms) from two days before the start of the Championship up to the day following the conclusion of the Championship.

The fees owed to CIRH for the staging of the Championship of 90.000 USD will be according to Article 7.

Any Federation, National Confederation or Association withdrawing from the organization of the Championship after its application to stage the event has been accepted by CIRH will forfeit the sum of 10.000 USD for this action. The money forfeited will be passed on to any Federation who agrees to take on the task of organising a replacement of the Championship at short notice. This will be passed on at the competition of the Championship.

Such Federation will only be required to deposit 85.000 USD to be added to the 5.000 USD held by CIRH and paid by the withdrawing Federation.

Article 12

The organizers are required to provide the participating countries with the prices of the hotels they will be using, three months prior to the start of the Championship.

Article 13

Any country wishing to cancel its entry, after having been accepted, must inform the Executive Committee of CIRH and the organizing Federation officially of its decision at least 120 days prior to the opening date of the Championship.

Withdrawal will only be tolerated in the most exceptional circumstances.

If the organizers doubt the credibility of any withdrawal, they have the right to refer the matter to the Executive Committee of CIRH who is then required to investigate the circumstances alleged to be responsible for the decision to withdraw from the Championship.

When the results of the investigation is known, and if the case is proven that the withdrawal was unnecessary, the arbitration board will fine the offending Federation with 5.000 USD for any inconvenience it may have caused.

Any fine will be proportionally increased depending on how close the withdrawal notification was presented in relation to the opening date of the Championship.

Article 14

Travelling and accommodation expenses for more then 10 invited referees, originated from countries different from the organizing one, will be paid by CIRH.

Article 15

The duration of the World Championship may not exceed 10 days, including the day of rest.

Throughout the event, each team will usually be required to play one match per day, but if they are required to play 2 matches on one day, there will be at least eight hours between the end of their first match and the commencement of their second match, if played during the day, if played at night there will be 12 hours between matches.

Article 16

All matches will be played in strict accordance with the Rules of the Game adopted by the CIRH and currently in force at the time of the Championship.

Article 17

The World Championship is played according to the enclosed Regulation.

Article 18

International referees designated by the CIA / CIRH, are the only referees permitted to referee World Championship matches. A minimum of ten referees are required for the Championship

The games will be refereed by referees of different nationality of the countries of each team.

Article 19

Referees will receive notice of their appointments to the various matches from CIA / CIRH, on the day prior to the matches in question. They may receive notice of appointment to some of their games, or to all of their games, but in any event they cannot refuse their appointments.

Article 20

The program for the Championships, will be established by the drawing of lots (1st round) conducted by CIRH. The organizing Federation has the right to propose to CIRH the schedule taking in mind the local or international TV transmission.

Article 21

Only players registered with Federations affiliated with FIRS and with CIRH prior to the expiration of the entry limit announced by CIRH are allowed to play in the Championship (see FIRS' World Championships Rules).

Each Federation may appoint up to 10 (11) players, the details of which must be furnished to the Executive Committee of CIRH at the appointed hour prior to the commencement of the Championship.

One hour before the scheduled starting time of each match, the 10 appointed players of each team will be required to gather in their respective dressing rooms, so as their names may be entered on the CIRH's official Match Report Form.

Article 22

The organizing country must inform the Executive Committee of CIRH, 12 months before the start of the Championship, the dates and foreseen venues, together with all other necessary particulars about the rink e.g. size of the playing area, type of surface and seating capacity.

Article 23

Each participating Federation has the right to lodge protests against any incidents (arbitrary or otherwise) which may arise during the course of the Championships.

For a protest to be valid, it must be written and presented to the President of CIRH or his legal representative not later than three hours (3 hours) after the incident. Should the incident occur during a match, the protest must be filed as laid down in Article 30 of Rules of the Game.

Once the Referee in charge of the match has ruled whether or not the protest arises from an incident occurring during the course of the match, an official letter of protest must be lodged with the President of CIRH along with a protest fee of 300 USD (or equivalent in some other currency).

CIRH will then investigate the protest. If it is upheld, the fee will be returned in full to the

complainant, However, should CIRH choose not to uphold the protest then the complaint will forfeit the fee.

Article 24

The Board of Appeals will be comprised of the Members of CIRH and CIA.

If a matter arises which is not covered by any rules, or if a difference of opinion arises over the imposition of sanctions, then any such matters will be resolved by the President of CIRH or his legal representative, whose decisions in all matters will be final and binding.

Article 25

In view of the fact that CIRH and CIA are the Championship's only technical advisers, being solely responsible for all matters pertaining to the running of the Championship, it is of the utmost importance that the President of CIRH is kept fully and personally informed about all matters, however trivial, which may arise from time to time, from players, managers, press, television and broadcasting, etc..

The President and his committee are empowered to make decisions that they feel are necessary to resolve any matters, regardless of the source of the incident, including the press and television.

Article 26

The organizers are obliged to provide transportation for the teams from their hotels (used by the organisers) to the site of the Championship.

The organizers must also provide a permanent means of transportation for the officials of CIRH/CIA who are on constant call throughout the duration of the Championship

Article 27

The organization will also be responsible for the payment of the official medals which must be paid to CIRH before the beginning of the Championship and when the medals are handed over.

Six months in advance to the World Championship the Organizer must communicate a steady updated website.

Any breach of these rules will render the Organizing Federation able to severe penalties, which will be imposed by the Executive Committee of CIRH at the end of the Championship.

Article 28

Anti-doping control shall be adopted and will be carried out by the organizers, under the supervision of CIRH and according to the dispositions laid down by WADA (see FIRS Rules).

Article 29

Any occurrence not accounted for in these Rules will come under the jurisdiction of the Executive Committee of CIRH whose decision will be final and binding.

The World Championship - Group A - will be played in two phases, i.e. Preliminar Phase and Final Phase.

The series for the preliminar phase will be composed according to the scheme mentioned below and in conformity with the World Championship Rules.

SERIES "A"

The 1st, 8th, 9th qualified teams in the World Championship - Group A- as well as the 3rd qualified team in the last World Championship -Group B.

SERIES "B"

The 2nd, 7th and 10th qualified teams in the World Championship -Group "A" - as well as the 2nd classified in the last World Championship "B".

SERIES "C"

The 3rd, 6th and 11th qualified teams in the World Championship -Group "A" - as well as the 1st classified in the last World Championship "B".

SERIES "D"

The 4th, 5th 12th and 13th qualified teams in the world Championship -Group "A".

The Preliminar Phase will be played on a single league basis, with each team playing against each other once.

The first two qualified teams on each Series will then play the Eighth's Final. The bottom two teams of each series will play to be relegated.

The Final Phase will last three days and will be played by the two series classified as follows:

Series A: the first and 2nd classified of each group will play for the 1st to 8th place.

Series B - 3rd and 4th classified of each group that will play for the 9th to 16th place.

The two series will be played in play-off system and successive scoring of best classifications in three phases, 1/4 final, 1/2 final and final.

The series will be constituted as follows:

"A" SERIES:

1° A	1° B	1° C	1° D
2° A	2° B	2° C	2° D

"B" SERIES:

3° A	3° B	3° C	3° D
4° A	4° B	4° C	4° D

COMPOSITION OF THE CALENDAR:

1/4 FINAL

Game 25 - 3° A vs. 4° B
 26 - 3° B vs. 4° A
 27 - 3° C vs. 4° D
 28 - 3° D vs. 4° C
 29 - 1° A vs. 2° B
 30 - 2° A vs. 1° B
 31 - 1° C vs. 2° D
 32 - 1° D vs. 2° C

1/2 FINAL

33 Loser 25 - vs Loser 28
 34 Loser 26 - vs Loser 27
 35 Winner 25 - vs Winner 28
 36 Winner 26 - vs Winner 27
 37 Loser 29 - vs Loser 32
 38 Loser 30 - vs Loser 31
 39 Winner 29 - vs Winner 32
 40 Winner 30 vs Winner 31

FINALS

41 Loser 33	vs	Loser 34	15°	/16°
42 Winner 33	vs	Winner 34	13°	/14°
43 Loser 35	vs	Loser 36	11°	/12°
44 Winner 36	vs	Winner 36	9°	/10°
45 Loser 37	vs	Loser 38	7°	/8°
46 Winner 37	vs	Winner 38	5°	/6°
47 Loser 39	vs	Loser 40	3°	/4°
48 Winner 39	vs	Winner 40	1°	/2°

The Championship ends with 48 games.

The teams in 14th, 15th and 16th places will degrade to "B" World Championship.