

PLAYER EQUIPMENT THAT DOES NOT CONFORM TO THE RULES OF HOCKEY

It has been noted that a number of players are using protective equipment to defend Penalty Corners, notably hand protectors, which do not conform the current Rules of Hockey.

It has been noted that the 2017 Rules of Hockey contain more specific requirements for such protective equipment, but now including the colour of knee pads. Hockey Ireland has issued a paper in conjunction with IHUA regarding these 2017 Rule changes and the date of implementation.

- [See 'Rule Changes 2017 – Key Information to umpires' on IHUA website – download section.](#)

To help clubs and players, MTAs at matches where they are appointed will ask to inspect all protective equipment before a match. Any that do not conform to 2015 Rules will not be permitted to be used. Any that would contravene the 2017 regulations will be pointed out. This will allow time for players to prepare for the changes.

Umpires in matches where there is no MTA appointed should still ensure the 2015 Rules are correctly applied and any potential breaches of 2017 Rules pointed out to the player.

This does not remove the responsibility of the individual players to ensure they are not in breach of any Rules.

- [The Rules of Hockey 2017 are also available on IHUA website – download section.](#)

It is worth noting that FIH do not plan to print the 2017 Rule Book.

Clarification

The current 2015 Rules of Hockey state that players are allowed to wear gloves for protection which do not significantly increase the natural size of the hand(s).

The current 2015 Rules of Hockey also state that field players must not wear anything that is dangerous to other players.