

Hockey

All forms of hockey are governed by the rules of hockey as set down by the International Hockey Federation (FHI).

Outdoor hockey

Field of play

Pitch boundary

The pitch on which field hockey is played is 91.4m long and 55m wide. This boundary is marked on the turf and the shorter lines are called backlines.

Centre line

A straight line is drawn midway between the backlines, and parallel to them. This centre line divides the pitch into two equal parts.

25 yard line

In each half, another parallel line is drawn at a distance of 22.9m from the backline. This distance converts to 25 yards, hence this is called the 25 yard line. This divides the pitch into four equal parts.

The areas enclosed by and including the 22.9m lines, the relevant part of the side lines and the backline are known as the 23m areas.

Striking circle or "D":

From the center of each backline, a point is marked 1.8m away and a quarter circle arc having a radius of 14.63m is drawn from here on the inside of the field. The two quarter circles are joined at the top by a straight line measuring 3.66m to form the D-shaped striking circle, also referred to as the "D". Another set of quarter circles are drawn outside these 5m away. These arcs are not solid, but dashed.

Penalty spot

From the center of the baseline, this point is marked 6.475m towards the inside of the pitch with a width 0.2m.

Penalty corner defender's and attacker's marks

At 4.975m and 9.975m away from the center of each backline in either direction, a line 0.3m long is drawn. Each backline has four such markings. These are known as the penalty corner defender's and attacker's marks, respectively.

Long corner attacker's mark

Long corners are now taken from the 23m line. Along each sideline at 5.0m from the backline, a line 0.3m long is drawn to form this mark.

Goal area

Goal Post

Each goal post is 2.14m high and 0.05m wide. The goals posts are white.

Goal

Each post is placed 1.83m away from the center of the backline, one on either side, with a depth of 1.2m. This makes the total goal width 3.66m.

Net

The black net consists of mesh whose spacing should not exceed 0.04m. It is fixed to the goal posts, bar, sideboards and backboard at intervals of 0.15m or less, to form netting around the top, sides and back of the goal. This net is not to be too tight to avert the ball that is hit into the goal from rebounding off the net.

Run-off

The playing surface extends at least 2m at the backlines and one metre at the side lines with an additional unobstructed one metre. This equates to a total of 3m at each end and 2m at each of the sides of the field.

These are minimum requirements with the recommended areas being 5m at each end and 3m at each side of the field.

Sideboards and backboards

The sideboards and backboards are 0.5m high from the ground. The backboard runs the length of the goal and is 3.66m across.

The sideboard depth is 1.20m at ground level and both are placed in parallel for each goal, perpendicular to the backboard. The colour of the backboard and sideboards should be darker than that of the pitch.

Flag posts

Flag posts between 1.2m and 1.5m high are located at each corner of the field.

Rookey

Rookey is a modified hockey game for children that is played as part of the Hookin2hockey program for children aged 5-10 years.

The Rookey pitch is divided into three zones of equal size using cones or markers along the sideline and if required, across the playing area. Goals can be created using cones or markers and are 3m wide.

The size of a Rookey pitch will depend on the number of players per team.

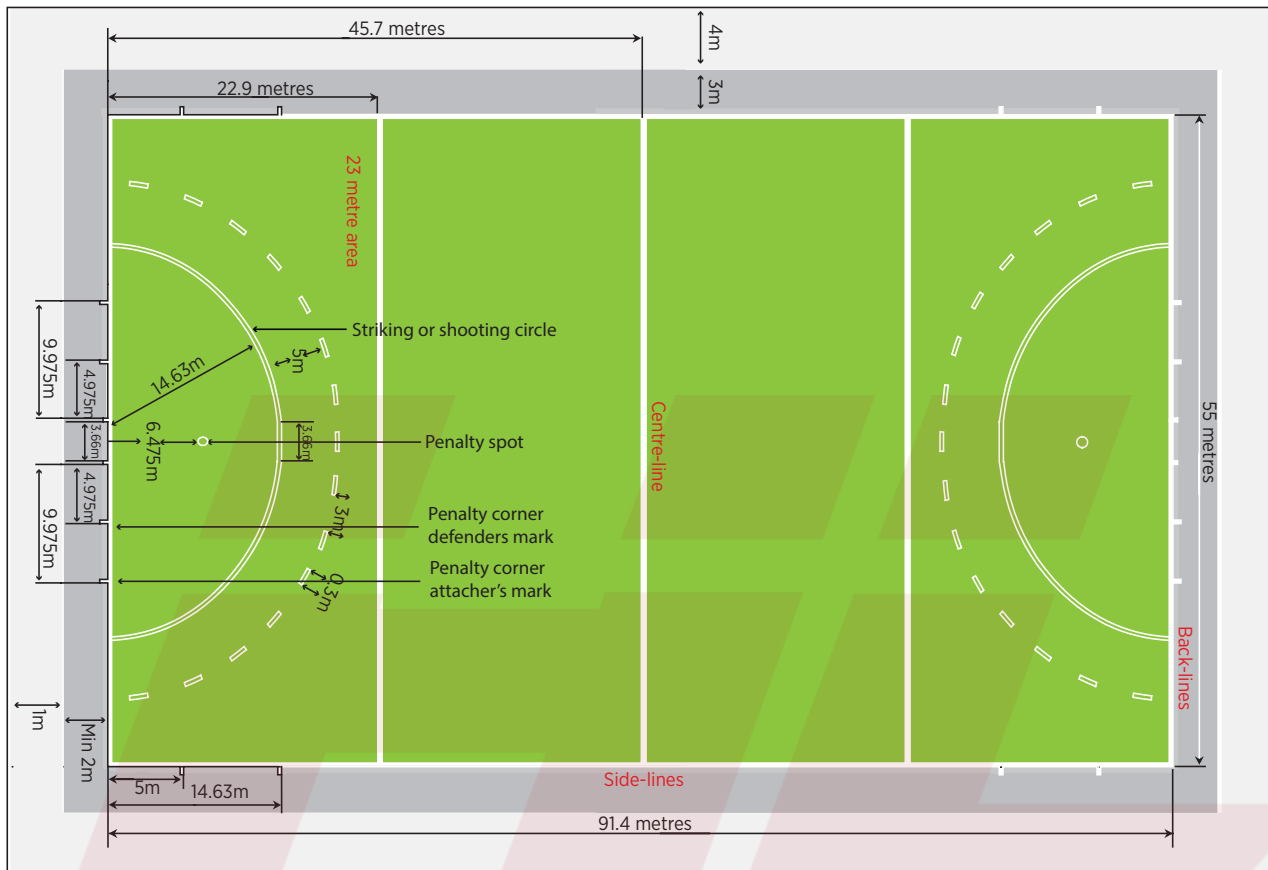
Below is a guide to the pitch size required for different numbers of players.

No of players per team	Hockey pitch	No hockey pitch
6	Quarter field	30-35m wide 50-60m long
7	Quarter field	30-35m wide 50-60m long
8	Half field	40-45m wide 65-75m long
9	Half field	40-45m wide 65-75m long

References

IRules of Hockey. International Hockey Federation. Lausanne Switzerland 2014. www.fih.ch/media/8997802/rules-of-hockey-2015.pdf.
Rules of Indoor Hockey. The International Hockey Federation. Lausanne Switzerland. January 2016.
Hookin2Hockey. Hockey Australia. 2015. www.hookin2hockey.hockey.org.au/Home

Regulation hockey pitch



Indoor hockey

Playing pitch

The pitch is 44m long bounded by sideboards and 22m wide bounded by backlines. A smaller pitch may be used in national or local regulations. The minimum size of a pitch is 36m long and 18m wide.

The minimum run-off area recommended is 3m outside the backlines and one metre outside the side lines.

The space outside the pitch, behind but including the goal posts and crossbar and enclosed by the net is a minimum of 800mm deep at the crossbar and a minimum of 1m deep at ground level.

Lines and markings

All lines are 50mm wide. The backlines and all markings enclosed between them and the sideboards are part of the pitch.

All marks are in a colour that contrasts with the playing surface. If played on a surface marked with lines for other sports, they are a distinctive colour.

The following lines are marked on the pitch:

- Backlines: 18m to 22m long perimeter lines.
- Goal lines: part of the backline between the goal posts.
- Centre line across the middle of the pitch.
- 300mm lines inside the pitch on each backline on both sides of the goal at 6m from the outer edge of the nearer goalpost, as measured between the furthest edges of each lines.
- 150mm lines outside the pitch on each backline 1.5m from the centre of the backline, as measured between the nearest edges of these lines.

- Penalty spots 100mm in diameter in front of the centre of each goal with the centre of each spot 7m from the inner edge of the goal line.

Circles

The following circles are marked on the pitch:

- Lines 3m long and parallel to the backlines are marked inside the pitch with their centres in line with the centres of the backlines. The distance from the outside edges of these 3m lines to the outside edges of the backlines is 9m.
- These lines are continued in uninterrupted arcs in both directions to meet the backlines in the form of quarter circles with centres at the inside front corner of the nearer goal posts.

- The 3m line and arcs are called the circle lines. The spaces enclosed by these lines, including the lines themselves, are called the circles.
- Broken lines are marked with their outer edges 3m from the outer edge of each circle line. Each broken line starts with a solid section at the top centre of the circle line. Each solid section is 300mm long with gaps between the solid sections 2m long.

Pitch sideboards

The pitch sideboards are:

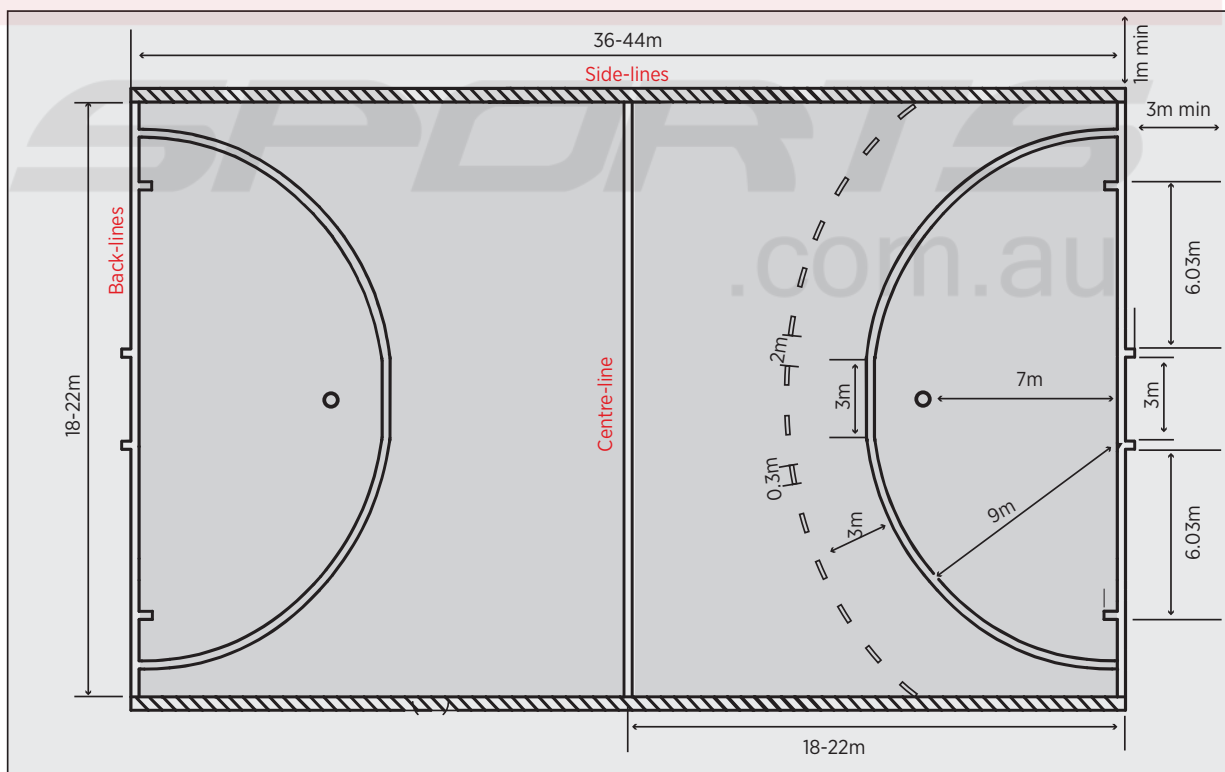
- Marked on the 36m to 44m long perimeter of the pitch.
- Based on a square 100mm cross-section and the upright surface facing the pitch is inclined by 10mm towards the pitch.
- Made of wood or materials with similar physical properties. They must not have fittings or supports which are dangerous to players or umpires.
- Sideboards are positioned on the ground at right angles to the backline and are fixed to the back of the goal posts without increasing their width.
- Backboards are positioned on the ground at right angles to the goal sideboards, parallel to the backline, and are fixed to the end of the goal sideboards.
- Sideboards and backboards are of a dark colour on the inside.

Goal sideboards and backboards

Goal sideboards and backboards are not mandatory but if fitted should conform to the following specifications:

- Sideboards are minimum 0.92m long and 460mm high.
- Backboards are 3m long and 460mm high.
- Sideboards are positioned on the ground at right angles to the backline and are fixed to the back of the goal posts without increasing their width.
- Backboards are positioned on the ground at right angles to the goal sideboards, parallel to the backline, and are fixed to the end of the goal sideboards.
- Sideboards and backboards are of a dark colour on the inside.

Indoor hockey pitch



Ice hockey

Dimensions of the ice rink

For top level International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) competitions, the recommended dimensions of the rink are 60m long and 25–30m wide .

For IIHF World Championship tournaments, the official dimensions are 60m long and 30m wide.

The corners of the rink are rounded in the arc of a circle with a radius of 7.0m to 8.5m.

The rink is divided by the red centre line, has two blue lines, nine face-off circles, the goals and the creases.

Ice surface markings—zones

The area where the goal net is located is the defending zone for the team defending that net.

The middle of the rink, between two blue lines, is the neutral zone.

The area where the opposing net is located is the attacking zone or offensive zone.

The 30cm wide centre red line divides the length of the rink equally.

The two 5cm wide icing lines are marked 4m from the flat and middle sections of the end boards at both ends of the rink.

The blue lines are 22.86m from the flat and middle sections of the end boards at both ends of the rink and are 30cm wide.

For open air rinks, all lines are 5cm wide.

Ice surface markings—face-off circles

There are nine face-off spots on the ice. These are the only places at which an on-ice official can drop the puck to begin game action.

All face-off spots are red except for the one at centre ice which is blue. This is the centre face-off circle and is 30m in diameter.

Four face-off spots 60cm in diameter are marked in the neutral zone.

Four face-off spots 60cm in diameter and red circles 5cm wide with a radius of 4.5m from the centre of the face-off spot are marked on the ice in both end zones and on both sides of each goal.

Rink boards

The rink is surrounded by boards made out of sections of wood or plastic and painted white. The boards are 107cm high from the ice surface.

Ice surface markings—creases

There are three creases on the ice: one for each goaltender in front of either goal net and one at the boards by the scorekeeper's bench for on-ice officials.

Protective glass

Transparent plexiglas, 12m-15mm thick, is affixed to the top of the boards. The glass is 2.4m high behind the goals and extends a minimum of 4m from the icing line towards the blue line. The glass is 1.8m high along the sides except in front of the players' benches.

There is no protective glass in front of the players' benches. There is protective glass behind and along the sides of the players' benches and penalty boxes.

References

The IIHF Official Rule Book 2014-2018. July 2015 2nd Edition. Zurich Switzerland. www.iihf.com

