

**2023/2024  
Season**



**League  
Guide**

# BUIHL League Guide Table of Contents

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These rules are subject to revision  
at the discretion of the  
BUIHL Committee



## 1.00 - Participating Clubs and Venues

Southern Stars Ice Hockey Club Inc.  
Iceworld Acacia Ridge  
1179 Beaudesert Rd  
Acacia Ridge, QLD



Brisbane Buccaneers Ice Hockey Club Inc.  
Iceworld Boondall  
2304 Sandgate Rd  
Boondall, QLD



## 2.00 - League Structure

The league shall be a competition sanctioned by Ice Hockey Queensland (IHQ) in accordance with Ice Hockey Australia (IHA) and International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) rules and a mix of recreational and competitive divisions. Undertaken between the Southern Stars and the Brisbane Buccaneers. The league, shall be separated into two seasons:

### 2.01 – Winter Season

The Regular Winter season (March to August) shall consist of:

1. Division 1 – Is a recreational division clearly defined within the IIHF rule book. Teams are to be finalised and submitted to IHQ prior to commencement of competition. Once the competition structure is sanctioned for the season (number of teams), no further changes may be made to the structure by either club.
2. Division 2 - Is a recreational division clearly defined within the IIHF rule book. Teams are to be finalised and submitted to IHQ prior to commencement of competition. Once the competition structure is sanctioned for the season (number of teams), no further changes may be made to the structure by either club.
3. Division 3 - Is a recreational division clearly defined within the IIHF rule book. Teams are to be finalised and submitted to IHQ prior to commencement of competition. Once the competition structure is sanctioned for the season (number of teams), no further changes may be made to the structure by either club.

### 2.02 – Summer Season

The regular Summer Season (September to February) shall consist of:

1. Queensland Super league (QSL) - Is a competitive full contact division clearly defined within the IIHF rule book. Teams are to be finalised and submitted to IHQ prior to commencement of competition. Once the competition structure is sanctioned for the season (number of teams), no further changes may be made to the structure by either club.
2. Division 4 - Is a recreational division clearly defined within the IIHF rule book. Teams are to be finalised and submitted to IHQ prior to commencement of competition. Once the competition structure is sanctioned for the season (number of teams), no further changes may be made to the structure by either club.

3. Division 5 - Is a senior development division clearly defined within the IIHF rule book. Teams are to be finalised and submitted to IHQ prior to commencement of competition. Once the competition structure is sanctioned for the season (number of teams), no further changes may be made to the structure by either club. Juniors participating in BUIHL Division 5 will require BUIHL committee approval and IHQ coaching director review.

### **2.03 – Movement Between Divisions**

1. This section applies to both classes of player as defined in section 5.01
  - a. A player, who plays the 6 or more games for a division, must remain in that division for the remainder of the Season.
    - i. For the avoidance of doubt, this ruling applies to all registered players. Including those not currently participating in the BUIHL. For example: if a division 4 player substitutes for a division 3 team during the upper division season, more than 5 times, than the division 4 player will be ineligible for Division 4 for the remainder of the season.
  - b. Exception: Division 1 players approved to play in the Summer Queensland Super League (QSL) will be granted permission to compete in both QSL and Division 1 leagues if not they have not competed within the Australian Ice Hockey League or equivalent level of hockey.
  - c. A player who drops down from a higher division due to injury or another circumstance to a lower division, must play in the lower division for the remainder of the season.

### **2.04 – Regular Season Games**

2. Regular Season games shall be scheduled by the BUIHL Committee and shall be played at the host venues of each participating club. The number of games and locations shall be determined by the BUIHL Committee in their sole discretion.
3. A regular season game shall consist of:
  - a. 3 x 18-minute periods
  - b. 2 x 1-minute intermissions
  - c. Stop time shall be implemented in the last 2 minute of a regular season game if the number of goals between the opposing teams is 2 goals or less.
  - d. Games will end with either a win and a loss, or a draw.
4. Each team is permitted one 'timeout' during a regular stoppage of play, during each regular season game. Each time out shall be 30 seconds.
5. Points – Games points shall be awarded to teams in the following manner and shall be used to determine eligibility for Season Finals:
  - a. If at the conclusion of Regular Season Game teams are tied, the game shall be deemed a draw and both teams shall be awarded 1 x Game Point.
  - b. If at the conclusion of Regular Season Game 1 team has scored higher points than the other, the team with the higher points shall be awarded 2 x Game Points and the losing team 0 points.
  - c. If an event of forfeiture occurs, the non-forfeiting team shall be awarded 2 points and the forfeiting team zero points.

## 2.05 – Season Finals

1. Season finals shall be scheduled by the BUIHL Committee and shall be played at the host venues of each participating club. The number of finals games per bracket and locations shall be determined by the BUIHL Committee in their sole discretion.
2. A Finals game shall consist of:
  - a. 3 x 18-minute periods
  - b. 2 x 1-minute intermissions
  - d. Stop time shall be implemented in the last 2 minutes of a regular season game if the number of goals between the opposing teams is 2 goals or less.
  - e. If, at the completion of regular time, the score is tied then The game shall be subject to a one-minute intermission and then a 5-minute overtime period shall commence. the first team to score a goal will be considered the victor.
    - i. During an overtime period, each team shall take the ice with 3 x Standard Skaters, as defined by Clause 5.01(1)(a) and 1 x Goalkeeper as defined by Clause 5.01(1)(b)
  - f. If at the conclusion of overtime, the teams still present with the same score, the game officials shall commence a penalty shoot-out in accordance with IIHF Rules.
3. Schedule
  - a. A Finals Schedule shall be comprised of the following format
    - i. If a division competition has between two and three teams, then finals play shall only occur between the top two teams. Team play shall occur between the following teams:
      1. 1<sup>st</sup> Bracket – Team 1 vs Team 2
    - ii. If a division competition has 4 or more teams, then finals play shall between the top four teams. Team play shall occur between the following teams:
      1. 1<sup>st</sup> Bracket – Team 1 vs Team 4
      2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Bracket – Team 2 vs Team 3
      3. Victor of 1<sup>st</sup> Bracket Vs Victor of 2<sup>nd</sup> Bracket
4. Qualification
  - a. If two or more teams present with the same number of regular season points, the team with the higher number of 'Goals For', then 'Lower number of penalty minutes' will be placed higher on the ladder than the others.
    - i. For example, if Team A and Team B have 23 points, and Team A has scored 25 goals during the season, and Team B has scored 30 goals during the season, Team B will be positioned higher on the ladder.
    - ii. For the avoidance of doubt if Team A has 60 penalty minutes incurred, Team B has 15 penalty minutes incurred, Then Team B will be positioned higher on the eligibility ladder
  - b. Each successful team shall be required to submit their playoff team rosters to the BUIHL committee prior to the commencement of the first Playoff Game for approval.

- c. A Player or Substitute Player, as defined in Section Clause 5.01 shall only be eligible to play if said player has been recorded as participating in or exceeding 33% regular season games with a participating team, by a game scorer and recorded on official game records for the current season.
  - i. Exception to this rule applies for a Substitute Goalkeeper whereby the game would not proceed without the substitution. In the case of a substitution, the substitution must include a Goalkeeper not registered with a team in a higher division. A substitute may be taken from a lower division. Any substitute Goalkeeper for finals must have been registered with an IHQ club in the current IHQ registration year (Mar-Feb) and approved for use by the BUIHL Committee.
  - ii. If no Goalkeeper is available from a lower division, a Goalkeeper from the same division may be substituted only under the following circumstances:
    - 1. Approval is given by the BUIHL Committee; or
    - 2. In the absence of any approval by the Committee agreement with the Team Captains witnessed by the game referee prior to commencement of play.
  - iii. Further exception: Whereby the Substitution of a Goalkeeper is required for finals held for Division 5, the substitution may occur from the same division.

## 3.00 - Competition

### 3.01 – Season Structure

1. The season structure shall be governed and amended by the BUIHL Committee. The Committee shall set the number of games to be played for the season for each division based on the available ice time to be utilised for each season.
2. The Committee may amend the number of games to be played at any point during the competitive season. Such amendments shall be required if subject to changes in:
  - a. A Pandemic Event.
  - b. Loss of available ice time provided by facility operators.
  - c. Restriction imposed by any governing body, that are beyond the control of the BUIHL.
3. The league structure (Regular Season Games) shall be publicised and managed through an appropriate online database.

### 3.02 – Finals Structure

1. The finals' structure shall be governed and amended by the BUIHL Committee. The Committee shall set the number of games to be played for each division and stage of final based on the available ice time to be utilised for each season.
2. The Committee may amend the number of finals games & finals structure to be played at any point during the competitive season. Such amendments shall be required if subject to changes in:
  - a. A Pandemic Event.
  - b. Loss of available ice time provided by facility operators.
  - c. Restriction imposed by any governing body, that are beyond the control of the BUIHL.



## 4.00 - BUIHL Committee and Sub Committees

The 'BUIHL Committee' shall consist of a Primary and Secondary delegate from each representing club and a Primary Delegate from IHQ: Each club must field a Primary and Secondary Representative for the governance of the League. Each club shall have in place a reserve delegate. If any decisions are not made by majority vote, the Referee In Chief (RIC) should be contacted for a deciding vote.

### 4.01 - Brisbane Buccaneers Ice Hockey Club

1. The Brisbane Buccaneers shall field as delegates to the BUIHL the following roles.
  - a. Primary Delegate – Brisbane Buccaneers President or delegate nominated by the President
  - b. Secondary Delegate - Brisbane Buccaneers Senior Coordinator
2. The Brisbane Buccaneers shall hold in reserve a third delegate. The Brisbane Buccaneers shall field as a reserve delegate the following roles:
  - a. Reserve Delegate - Brisbane Buccaneers Committee Member – To be nominated by the Primary Delegate in place of either the Primary or Secondary delegate.

### 4.02 – Southern Stars Ice Hockey Club

3. The Southern Stars shall field as delegates to the BUIHL the following roles.
  - a. Primary Delegate – Southern Stars Club President or delegate nominated by the President
  - b. Secondary Delegate – Southern Stars Senior Coordinator
4. The Southern Stars shall hold in reserve a third delegate. The Southern Stars shall field as a reserve delegate the following roles:
  - a. Reserve Delegate – Southern Stars Club Member – To be nominated by the Primary Delegate in place of either the Primary or Secondary delegate.

### 4.04 – Committee Governance

The Committee shall oversee and manage all league matters. In conducting its governance of the league, the Committee shall:

1. Undertake BUIHL Committee meetings monthly and at increased frequency as necessary at which the Primary Delegates and Secondary Delegates must be present. Reserve delegates are not permitted to Committee meetings unless a primary or Secondary delegate is unable to attend.
2. All decisions of the Committee shall be made by majority vote. With each member being permitted a single vote. A reserve delegate is not permitted to vote unless filling an absence of a Primary or Secondary delegate.
  - a. Where a BUIHL vote becomes hung, the BUIHL Committee may seek input from the Referee In Chief (RIC).
  - b.
3. Conduct themselves, apply their discretion and operate to what they believe to be the best interest of the BUIHL in the first instances and then for the benefit of the respective organisation in the second.
4. Delegate the requirement to manage individual players and teams to the participating Clubs. This may include but is not limited to financial eligibility, disciplinary action, or management of team structures.



5. Uphold and administrate the league in accordance with the BUIHL rules.
6. Not depart from or apply discretionary ruling to the league except where expressly noted in the BUIHL rules.
7. At all times act impartially in their duties.

## 5.00 - Team Requirements

### 5.01 – Definition of a Player

1. The league will be played by two classes of players. These player classes are defined as:
  - a. A Skater– A player that plays either, or a combination of, Centre, Wing, or Defence; and
  - b. A Goalkeeper – A player that attends the net to defend against incoming opposition scoring.
  - c. Where the term Player is used, it applies to both Skater and Goalkeeper. Where the term Skater or Goalkeeper is used, it applies only to that subclass of player.

### 5.02 - Teams and Team Rosters

1. Division structure (number of teams) shall be finalised no less than **45** days from the commencement of a respective competition.
2. Team rosters are to be submitted to the BUIHL for uploading to the appropriate online database no less than 30 Days from the commencement of competition. Each roster submitted shall
  - a. Only include all members that are financial members of:
    - i. The respective Club,
    - ii. IHQ; and
    - iii. IHA .
  - b. Include a Captain
  - c. Include an Alternate/Assistant Captain
  - d. Include at minimum 1 x registered IHA Coach,
    - i. The IHA Coach must have a blue card as defined by the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000*
  - e. Include At minimum 1 x registered IHA Referee
    - i. The IHA Referee must have a blue card as defined by the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000* as amended from time to time.
  - f. Be Subject to Section 2 as defined in Clauses 2.01 and 2.02 , ‘a roster may not include a player from a Higher Division whereby the player has played an aggregate of 5 or more games as a reserve or permanent player in a Higher Division the previous season..
    - i. Exemption: Exemption may be given to Super League players on the grounds of an injury and not being permitted to play in a Competitive Checking Competition on the advice of a Medical Professional. All

exemptions and approvals shall be at the discretion of the BUIHL Committee and shall be presided over by majority vote.

- ii. Exemption: Exemption for this rule shall be given whereby the player in question has registered in higher a division as a class of player defined in Clauses 5.01 (1) (a) & (b) and then wishes to register in a lower division as a player of an opposite class to that of the higher division.
  - g. Shall not include a player included on another team's roster.
  - h. No player shall be allowed to be 'traded' to another team or division once rosters have been submitted. Any un-authorized trading of players after finalisation of rosters shall deem the player ineligible to participate.
3. The governance of BUIHL shall have no bearing on how the respective clubs facilitate their own in-house events and competitions.

### 5.03 – Team Composition

1. A team's rosters shall consist of a minimum of **14** Players (13 x Player Class 5.01 (1) (a) and 1 x Player Class 5.01 (1) (b))
2. A team's rosters shall consist of a maximum of **18** players (20 x Player Class 5.01 (1) (a) and 2 x Player Class 5.01 (1) (b)).
3. A team shall be required to provide a minimum of 7 skaters at the start of every game. If a team does not present the minimum number of players by commencement of the game, the team shall forfeit the game. Game play may proceed because of a forfeiture however all match points will be award to the non-forfeiting team.

### 5.04 – Uniforms

1. A Uniform shall consist of
  - a. Player Jersey
    - i. Numbers shall be displayed on the rear and both arms.
    - ii. Shall endeavour to be provided in both light and dark colour schemes.
    - iii. Teams shall be permitted to run a third colour scheme, the colour scheme for the third jersey must be a dark scheme.
    - iv. Shall not be present as a duplicate number with another member of the same team.
    - v. Captains shall be clearly identified with a C on their Jersey.
    - vi. Alternate Captains shall be clearly identified with an A on their Jersey.
2. Each Player and Goalkeeper on the roster shall wear a visible individually identifying number (only whole numbers 1-98 inclusive) that is proportionate to the size of the participant.
3. All players of each team shall be dressed uniformly and can be distinguished from the opposing team.
4. An on-ice official may refuse a player to participate in the game until they wear the appropriate uniform.
5. Teams shall be required to dress in their standard light and dark colours schemes when possible, and it is the visiting teams responsibility to ensure there are no clashes.

### 5.05 – Substitution

1. Players are not permitted to substitute to a team in the same Division.
2. Subject to Section 2 as defined in Clauses 2.01 and 2.02, a player from the Upper Divisions is in-eligible to Substitute to a team in the Lower Divisions within the same

registration year. Any game played by a higher division substitute player in a Lower Division will result in game forfeiture of the Lower Division team.

3. Players are not permitted to play in a lower Division after rosters are finalised.
  - a. Exception is permitted only by BUIHL committee on grounds of the players inability to compete in that division.
4. Goalkeeper substitutions. Teams may substitute a goaltender who is not on a team roster in the same division or higher with BUIHL Committee approval, or from lower divisions. If no Goalkeeper is available from a lower division, a Goalkeeper from the same division may be substituted only under the following circumstances:
  - a. Approval is given by the BUIHL Committee; or
  - b. In the absence of any approval by the Committee agreement with the Team Captains witnessed by the game referee prior to commencement of play.
5. Goalkeeper injuries. As teams may not have two Goalkeepers on their roster, and Goalkeepers are a limited resource, Goalkeepers (from same Division or lower Division may be substituted into a game at any point, if the regular Goalkeeper becomes injured, ill, or is unable to continue play. Due to BUIHL game time restraints, if a Goalkeeper becomes injured, the affected team will have 5 minutes (while the clock runs) to dress a substitute (at the expense of their time out). After the 5 minutes, the game must be restarted. If the goalie is not ready, the game will recommence with the affected team putting 6 players on the ice.
6. Substitution of players from lower divisions
  - a. Requires substitute players to be approved by the respective teams' club.
  - b. A substitute player upon commencement of their 6<sup>th</sup> substitute game shall be deemed by the committee as a permanent rostered player of the higher division.
  - c. A substitute player upon commencement of their 6<sup>th</sup> game in a higher division, must move into the higher division for the rest of the season.
  - d. Any game played by a substitute player in the original lower division will be forfeit.
7. A Substitute player is unable to commence play unless they are dressed in the same uniform and colour scheme as the higher division team.
8. A Substitute player, if assigned to a lower division roster, must have approval in writing to substitute to the higher division team. Commencement of play without being recorded in E-Sports will result in forfeiture of game by the higher division team.
9. A player who drops down divisions in accordance with Section 2.03, Clause (b) shall be ineligible to substitute as player for a higher division.

#### **5.06 – Game Play - New Rostered Players**

1. Prior to the start of each game the team Manager, Captain or Coach of each team are required to provide a list of all players and goalkeepers who shall be eligible to play in the game along with their correct numbers. (See appendix A – Game Day Roster) Players are not permitted to take to the ice until roster is submitted to the Score Keeper.
  - a. Game sheets shall be submitted in jersey number numerical order lowest to highest.
2. All new roster additions must be financial members of a participating club.

3. A non-starting player may be added to the team sheet at commencement of the game play, however must take the ice by commencement of the second period.
4. If at any time during a league game or post completion it is found that a player deemed ineligible as prescribed above has participated in a game, the offending team may be required to forfeit upon lodge of "forfeiture application" by the captain/manager of the non-offending team.
  - a. The time permitted for notification a forfeiture application must be received by all BUIHL primary delegates within 48 hours of completion of game play.
  - b. Continued rostering of ineligible players will result in further disciplinary action for the players, managers and/or team.

### 5.07 – Age

Notwithstanding any other provision of this rule book. Eligibility of players shall take into account the following

1. Age
  - a. QLD Super League – A player (as defined in Clauses 5.01 (1) (a) & (b) must be at minimum 15 years of age on or before December 31<sup>st</sup> of the Previous Calendar Year.
  - b. Division 1 - A player (as defined in Clauses 5.01 (1) (a) & (b) must be at minimum 15 years of age on or before December 31<sup>st</sup> of the Previous Calendar Year.
  - c. Division 2 - A player (as defined in Clauses 5.01 (1) (a) & (b) must be at minimum 14 years of age on or before December 31<sup>st</sup> of the Previous Calendar Year.
  - d. Division 3 - A player (as defined in Clauses 5.01 (1) (a) & (b) must be at minimum 14 years of age on or before December 31<sup>st</sup> of the Previous Calendar Year.
  - e. Division 4 - A player (as defined in Clauses 5.01 (1) (a) & (b) must be at minimum 14 years of age on or before December 31<sup>st</sup> of the Previous Calendar Year.
  - f. Division 5 – A player (as defined in Clauses 5.01 (1) (a) & (b) must be at minimum 14 years of age on or before December 31<sup>st</sup> of the Previous Calendar Year.
  - g. Notwithstanding that above age restrictions:
    - i. A Junior player of any division is ineligible to play unless an IHQ Playing Up form is completed and approved by the Junior Coach, the relevant team manager, and the respective club executive.

## 6.00 - League Rules

### 6.01 – Drugs and Alcohol

1. All players shall participate in the BUIHL in accordance with the IHQ anti-doping policy.
  - a. Super league is being defined under IIHF as a competitive division, and as such all athletes competing in the Super league competition are defined by Sports Integrity Australia as Lower-Level Athletes. All Lower-Level Athletes are required to comply with the World Anti-Doping Code.

- b. A Super League player found in breach of the code may be subject to sanctioning and exclusion from competition at the discretion of Sports Integrity Australia and IHA.
- 2. No player shall be permitted to take to the ice under the influence of:
  - a. Alcohol,
  - b. Recreational drugs,
  - c. Any other drug which even though prescribed may impair the judgement and cognitive ability of the player to the point where such impairment becomes a safety concern the player or other players on the ice.

### **6.02 – Penalties**

1. All penalties shall be prescribed by accredited IHQ officials in accordance with the current IIHF rules and regulations (as amended from time to time), adjusted to reflect the competition, as well as the current IHQ Tribunal & Policy regulations.
2. If players require supplementary proceedings from the Tribunal, players will be presented with reports and witness statements and be entitled to appear and present their own defence.
3. Any team official or player serving a suspension penalty may not participate in a game or sit near the bench of their team, nor enter the change rooms of their team, nor in any way attempt to direct the play of their team until their full suspension has been served.
4. Any player found to have not complied with a suspension order undertaking the actions consistent with Clause 6.01 (1) & (2) will be deemed to have participated as an ineligible player, causing the offending team to subsequently forfeit
  - a. A player found in breach of a suspension order shall be subject to further supplementary discipline as set forth in the IHQ Tribunal & Policy regulations, applied at the discretion of the BUIHL Committee. (Please see appendix B)

### **6.03 – Supplementary BUIHL Discipline – Divisions 1 to 5**

1. Notwithstanding the enforceable penalties of the Current IIHF Rules as amended periodically, the BUIHL Committee shall apply the following suspensions, in addition to any suspensions issued under the IIHF rules. These penalty minutes are exclusive of match penalties, but inclusive of game penalties. These are;
  - a. For a player accumulating 40 penalty minutes – 1 Match Suspension.
  - b. For a player accumulating 60 penalty minutes – 2 Match Suspension.
  - c. For a player accumulating 80 penalty minutes – Competition expulsion from the remainder of league regular games and finals. Submitted to tribunal for review.

### **6.04 - Supplementary BUIHL Discipline – QLD Super league**

1. The Queensland Super League is not subject to Clause 6.03. This is to promote consistency with the AIHL game play standards.

### **6.05 – Protection**

1. All Senior Players must participate in league games with the following minimum safety equipment.
  - a. An official IIHF approved helmet with:
    - i. Male players shall be permitted to wear 1 of the following as per the choice:
      1. Full face metal cage

2. Full face polycarbonate visor
  3. Half face polycarbonate visor
- ii. Female players shall be permitted to wear 1 of the following as per the choice:
    1. Full face metal cage
    2. Full face polycarbonate visor
- b. Shin guards
  - c. Hockey Pants
  - d. Gloves
  - e. Elbow Guards
2. Senior players may choose to wear the following optional safety equipment:
    - a. Mouth Guard
    - b. Shoulder Pads
    - c. Neck Guards
  3. All Junior Players must participate in league games with the following minimum safety equipment.
    - a. An official IIHF approved helmet with:
      - i. Full face metal cage, or
      - ii. Full face polycarbonate visor
    - b. Shoulder Pads
    - c. Shin Guards
    - d. Hockey Pants
    - e. Elbow Guards
    - f. Neck Guard
    - g. Hockey Gloves

#### **6.06 – Junior Players**

1. An appropriate skilled senior player shall not be displaced from a team roster for a junior player.
2. The maximum number of junior players on a roster shall be capped at 4.
3. A Junior player shall be required to participate in a game with all protection items noted in Clause 6.05.
4. A junior player may only participate in the league if an approved playing up form has been provided to IHQ.

#### **6.06 – Gender**

1. A Player shall be permitted to play at any level of the BUIHL except QSL (Queensland Super League). Female players shall not be permitted to be added to a roster for QSL nor be permitted to play a substitute player.

### **6.07 – Referee Communication**

1. Team Captains and Alternate Captains may communicate with game officials during the course of a game.
2. A Minor Penalty (2mins) shall be issued to any player for Unsportsmanlike Conduct if abusive communication towards a game official is evident. A secondary Penalty due to this offence will be referred to the Tribunal for review and potential supplementary discipline.



