

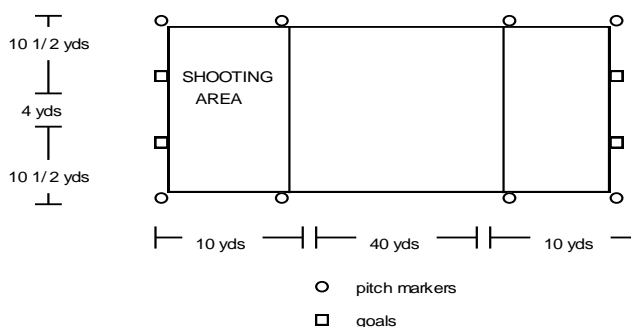
# **NATIONAL PRIMARY FESTIVAL**

## **GUIDELINES FOR MINI HOCKEY**



### A. Field of Play

- \* Mini-hockey is played in an area 25 x 60 yards –  $\frac{1}{4}$  pitch.
- \* A 4 yard goal is set up on each backline.
- \* Shooting areas are determined by a straight line 10 yards from each backline.



### B. Equipment

- \* The game can be played with a standard ball if the surface is 'true and fast'.
- \* Alternatively, a mini-hockey ball can be used.
- \* Sticks should suit the height and strength of the players.

### C. Teams/Eligibility

- \* P6/7 and mixed teams
- \* Primary Schools and Clusters
- \* There will be two groups which teams can be entered into –Blue (Experienced) and Red (Inexperienced).
- \* When schools enter they must state how much match experience the teams have. Which group a team will be entered into depends on their experience and will be confirmed by Development Officer for region.
- \* A team consists of a maximum of 6 players on the pitch with 4 substitutes
- \* Ideally there should be an even split of girls and boys in a team. At any one time there must be at least 2 girls or 2 boys on the pitch.
- \* Players may be interchanged at any time
- \* No goalkeepers

### D. Duration/Format

- \* 10 minutes one way – 2 minutes between games
- \* Round Robin - 6 games

#### **E. Game Instructor**

- \* Each Game will be managed by a Games Instructor
- \* They will coach and umpire simultaneously
- \* A single game instructor manages the game – to be decided between teams
- \* Game instructor's aged U-16 are to be encouraged
- \* Games should be played in a safe, enjoyable and instructive way
- \* In addition to the Games Instructor there will be two Organisers at each pitch. The organiser will oversee two games on each pitch.

#### **F. General Rules**

- \* There is no off-side.
- \* No hitting but sweep hitting allowed.
- \* There are no penalty corners
- \* Dangerous play is forbidden
- \* A goal can only be scored when the ball is played within the 10 yard area
- \* Unsporting behaviour should always be penalised
- \* A penalty ball is awarded to the attack, 7 yards from the middle of the goal when an intentional foul by the defence has prevented a goal

#### **G. Other**

- \* No overall winner
- \* Certificate for each school
- \* Each Local Authority / Partnership enters Two Teams
- \* Bring own lunch – limited food and drink availability