BELGIAN INLINE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION (BIHA)

Technical Commission – Inline Hockey

Minutes of the meeting

Duffel — 6 June 2026 | Start of the meeting: 10:20

1. Attendance

Club / Body	Person(s) present
Huskies	Cap Bram, Jonathan Lejeune & Patricia Vanspeybroek
White Sharks	Alexandre Dupont
Chap's	Sébastien Pourbais
Flying Eagles	Tommy Pannis
Chiefs	Geert Lorang
Lapwings	Gert Jacobs
Phoenix	Antoine Pierquin
Wolves	Alesio Pontin
Dogs Eeklo	Bart Van Rie (left at 12:30)
Board BIHA	Frank 'S Jegers, Fabrice Böhm

2. Scope and purpose of the meeting

The board members present the slides they prepared, recalling the commission's decision-making scope: on which points the commission currently has decision-making power, and which texts it has no power to amend.

It is recalled that **the technical commission's purpose is to amend the texts that allow us to play next season**, and not to reform the way the federation operates. Accordingly, anything not expressly amended today is considered to have been left as is.

3. Information – Training (MyTalent platform)

Information is provided on the MyTalent platform regarding the training of table officials and refereeing officials.

- **Jonathan Lejeune** recalls that a coaching course in Dutch (a Sport Vlaanderen initiative – to be confirmed) is being organised on the weekend of 18 September, over two days rather than three.
- **Patricia Vanspeybroek** and **Alexandre Dupont** put themselves forward to form a training pool. The proposal is accepted unanimously by the members present.
- The board takes note and undertakes to organise a meeting with these two people as soon as possible, subject to everyone's availability.

4. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda is presented and adopted unanimously by those present.

5. Regular-season calendar (excluding cup and play-offs)

- Season start: the 2nd weekend of September.
- Targeted end of the championship: 31 March. Spillover into April is possible; spillover into May is discouraged.
- Only the Christmas/New Year winter break will be observed. It is not possible to suspend play during the other school holiday periods, exam sessions and similar breaks, as this would reduce the number of available match weekends to 13 for the entire season (bearing in mind that holidays do not fall at the same time in the North and in the South). Clubs are therefore asked to approach the start-of-season calendar constructively and, once they have seen which matches have been scheduled, to report at that stage any fixtures they are unable to play on the proposed dates so that these can be moved. Rescheduling a match at that stage will remain free of charge (subject to hall, referee and official availability), as long as it is done before the calendar is finalised.

Decision: adopted unanimously.

6. Belgian Cup

6.1 Format

- The Belgian Cup format is maintained over three days.

6.2 Dates

- The Belgian Cup will be played on 27, 28 and 29 March 2027.

6.3 Organisation

- Clubs wishing to host the Cup in 2027 must make themselves known before 30 June 2026.
- The BIHA board will decide on the host club, after reviewing the applications, by 15 July 2026.
- Specifications: all information can be obtained by contacting **Philippe Roncalli**.

6.4 Draw

- Draw on 30 June at 20:00, live on YouTube.
- A new draw will be held before the semi-finals (on YouTube, at 20:00, on a date to be determined).

6.5 Participation

- Any club with a senior or U20 team – regardless of the division in which it plays – is required to take part in the Belgian Cup.
- Clubs not fielding a senior or U20 team in the 2026-2027 championship are asked to make themselves known before 25 June, by email to **office@rollerhockey.be**.

6.6 Junior teams – withdrawal

- For junior teams entered in the Cup, the final withdrawal date is set at 27 February 2027 at 23:59. After this deadline, withdrawal is treated as a forfeit for each match scheduled during the cup weekend, with the corresponding fines.

6.7 Player eligibility

- To be eligible to play during the cup weekend, a player must have been registered before the end of the Cup Round Robin and have played at least five matches with their club in their reference category before the cup weekend.

7. Play-offs – dates

- Semi-finals: 1st game on 10 April 2027, 2nd game on 17 April 2027, 3rd game if necessary on 18 April 2027.
- Finals: 1st game on 24 April 2027, 2nd game on 1 May 2027, 3rd game if necessary on 2 May 2027.
- Regarding 1 May: a game may be played on 30 April if it is demonstrated that the venue is unavailable on 1 May.

8. Match postponements (procedure reform)

- It will no longer be possible to postpone a match of the following weekend from 12:30 on the preceding Monday. Any withdrawal after this deadline results in a forfeit for the withdrawing team, with the attached financial consequences.

Cost of postponements (BihaCoins)

- Each club receives 75 BihaCoins at the start of the season.
- Postponement requested more than 15 days before the match: 25 BihaCoins.
- Postponement requested between 15 days and 12:30 on the Monday preceding the match weekend: 50 BihaCoins.
- Nominal value of a BihaCoin: €1. A club may buy more once they are used up. BihaCoins are not carried over from one season to the next.

Forfeit and force majeure

- Forfeits remain penalised in the same way. Only in cases of force majeure, and upon express request to the board, may the fine possibly be waived.

Agreement procedure

- When a club requests a postponement, a new agreement between the two clubs must be reached within seven calendar days.
- The home club proposes, as quickly as possible during this period, three new dates and times for the match.
- Without agreement within seven days, the request is escalated to the board, which takes note and sets the time, place and date. The club that then refuses to play is declared in forfeit with all attendant consequences.

9. Suspensions

9.1 Suspensions and Belgian Cup / Ultimate Games (hereafter the “Cup”)

- A player given a suspension before the Cup who cannot serve it in full before the Cup may not play during the cup weekend.
- The matches missed during the Cup do not count towards serving the remaining penalty.

- If a player receives a suspension during the Cup, the suspension starts running during the Cup. Any remainder is then served in the championship; if no championship matches remain, the outstanding suspension matches are carried over to the next season.

9.2 Suspensions and playing up a category

- A suspension is always to be served in the category in which it was imposed. If it is carried over from a previous season and the player has moved up to a different age category in the meantime, it must be served in his current age category. If the club does not field a team in his age category and the player is eligible to play up, the suspension will be served in the category he has been moved up to, that category being considered his category of reference.
- A player from a lower category who comes to reinforce a higher category and receives a suspension during the higher-category match is suspended for that higher category. If they wish to play in their original category in the meantime, they must also serve the suspension there – without this exempting them from having to serve it, in any case, in the higher category they came to reinforce before being allowed to play in the higher category again.

10. Penalty points & discipline

- The €25 fine accompanying Misconducts and Game Misconducts is maintained for the coming season, but will no longer apply to Misconducts for a 3rd penalty. All other cases remain penalised at €25.
- Players who systematically commit heavy or aggressive penalties (Boarding, Charging, Cross-checking): the IT will be tasked with monitoring all these penalties over the coming season, in order to analyse the statistics at the June 2027 technical commission.

11. Women-only teams

- Women's teams benefit from derogations allowing them to field female players (women and young women) from any division.
- Women-only status, however, requires that these teams comprise only female players. This is a strict point, with no derogation possible, including for goalkeepers.

12. Uniforms / kit

- The rules require uniformity of kit, at least for N1 and for Cup matches.
- Helmets: some clubs are unable to buy replacement helmets in exactly the same colour. A tolerance is granted for shade differences (as long as the helmets are the same colour and the shade stays close) until the 2027-2028 season. From the 2028-2029 season, no tolerance will be accepted.
- Cooperation teams: players must have the same jersey; a tolerance is granted for the pants and the helmet, which may differ. Teams not in a cooperation remain subject to the standard rules.

13. Division structure & creation of DIV4

- Composition: DIV1 – 8 teams; DIV2 – 10 teams; DIV3 – 10 teams; creation of a DIV4 (recreational, with a more playful and creative purpose).

- A player competing in DIV4 may no longer play in any other senior division or U20 division.
- To enter DIV4, a BIHA licence is required; “recreational” insurance taken out with local or private organisations is not sufficient.

14. Clubs with several junior teams (same category)

Reference example: U16 and U14.

Players

- A U14 player coming to reinforce a U16 team may reinforce only one team: once the choice is made, they can no longer play for the other U16 team. This principle applies to the other ranked junior categories.
- Where two teams of the same club coexist in a single category, the club must file its teams’ rosters with the board so that the squads can no longer be mixed.

Goalkeepers

- The goalkeeper of team A may not play for team B and vice versa.
- The goalkeeper from the lower category may reinforce a higher-category team twice. On the third occasion, they are locked into a single team (A or B): if they have played three matches with team A, they may no longer play with team B, while continuing to play in their lower category.

15. Player ↔ goalkeeper across categories

- Any player of one category wishing to play as a goalkeeper in another category – or vice versa – must always submit an express derogation request to the federation.

16. U12 tournaments

- Proposal to move to “on the fly” player changes.
- A meeting will be held with everyone interested in the U12 category to explain the concept. Once explained, it may be proposed to play until December under the new rules: if the assessment is positive, they will be retained; if it fails, there will be a return to the current rules.
- **Fabrice Böhm** stresses the need to inform parents properly and to provide a simple explanation of the rules, in order to avoid excesses (“megaphone”) at the side of the rink.
- Proposal: the federation provides clubs with a roll-up banner setting out the rules and expectations towards supporters and parents. The board is working on it.

17. Protective equipment

- **Frank ’S Jegers** recalls the tragic accident involving Kobe Marckx.
- Decision: the federation will draw up a checklist that each club can provide to parents from the U10 and U12 sections onward.
- The padded shirt becomes a recommended standard, brought to new parents’ attention at registration. It cannot be made mandatory (WorldSkate does not require it), but it is strongly recommended.

18. Mutations & transfers – “catch-all” rule

- Reminder: the transfer and mutation rules are available at all times on the website, under the “Rules” section. A text on the disciplinary measures applicable on and around the rink is currently being drafted by the referees. Once finalised, it will be published on the site and will be fully applicable for next season.
- Last year, it had been decided to refer to the former RBIHF texts for anything not covered by the rules. This year, the limits of that approach were noted: these old texts are not free of legal gaps.
- Decision (agreed by all stakeholders): for any breach of the rules, the BIHA board is empowered to decide, with the matter then systematically placed on the agenda of the next technical commission. This mechanism secures the decisions and the smooth running of the championship.

19. Questions from the clubs

- **Management of player lists:** clubs request the option to grant certain people more rights to edit player lists without always having to go through Stéphanie. The federation will come back to the clubs on this during the holidays.
- **Volunteer insurance:** the request for a price reduction falls outside the scope of a technical commission. A reduction is not always possible: although volunteers are not active players, the risk of flying pucks can cause significant injuries. It is recalled that the rates have already been reduced compared with those of the RBIHF.
- **Officials’ licences & insurance:** anyone officiating during a match must hold a licence and therefore valid insurance. Passing one person off as another is out of the question; particular attention will be given to random checks on this point throughout the year.

This constitutes the official report of the technical commission. – The BIHA board