


# **IRISH OLYMPIC HANDBALL ASSOCIATION**

**2022-2023**

**SCHOOL  
REGULATION**





# **OLYMPIC HANDBALL**

## **SPECIFIC REGULATION**

2022-2023

## INDEX

<b>1. INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. COMPETITION FORMAT .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3. AGE GROUPS, COURT SIZE, BALL, GAME TIME AND ALTERNATIVES OF THE SPORT.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4. TEAMS.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4.1. U11 (Handball 5):.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4.2. U13, U15, U18 &amp; U21 (Handball 7):.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>5. TECHNICAL-PEDAGOGIC REGULATION.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>5.1. U11 &amp; U13 (Handball 5) .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>5.2. U15 (Handball 5 or 7) .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>5.3. U18 &amp; U21 (Handball 5 or 7).....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>6. CLASSIFICATION, SCORING AND TIE-DOWN.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>7. REFEREEING.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>8. OMITTED CASES .....</b>	<b>12</b>

# 1. INTRODUCTION

Over 15 million people in 160 countries take part in the game of Olympic Handball. The Irish Olympic Handball Association (“IOHA”) acts as the NGB for the sport of Olympic handball for the whole island of Ireland.

Established in 1975, the IOHA is recognised by the Irish Sports Council, Olympic Council of Ireland, the European Handball Federation and the International Handball Federation as the sole governing body for the sport of Olympic handball in Ireland

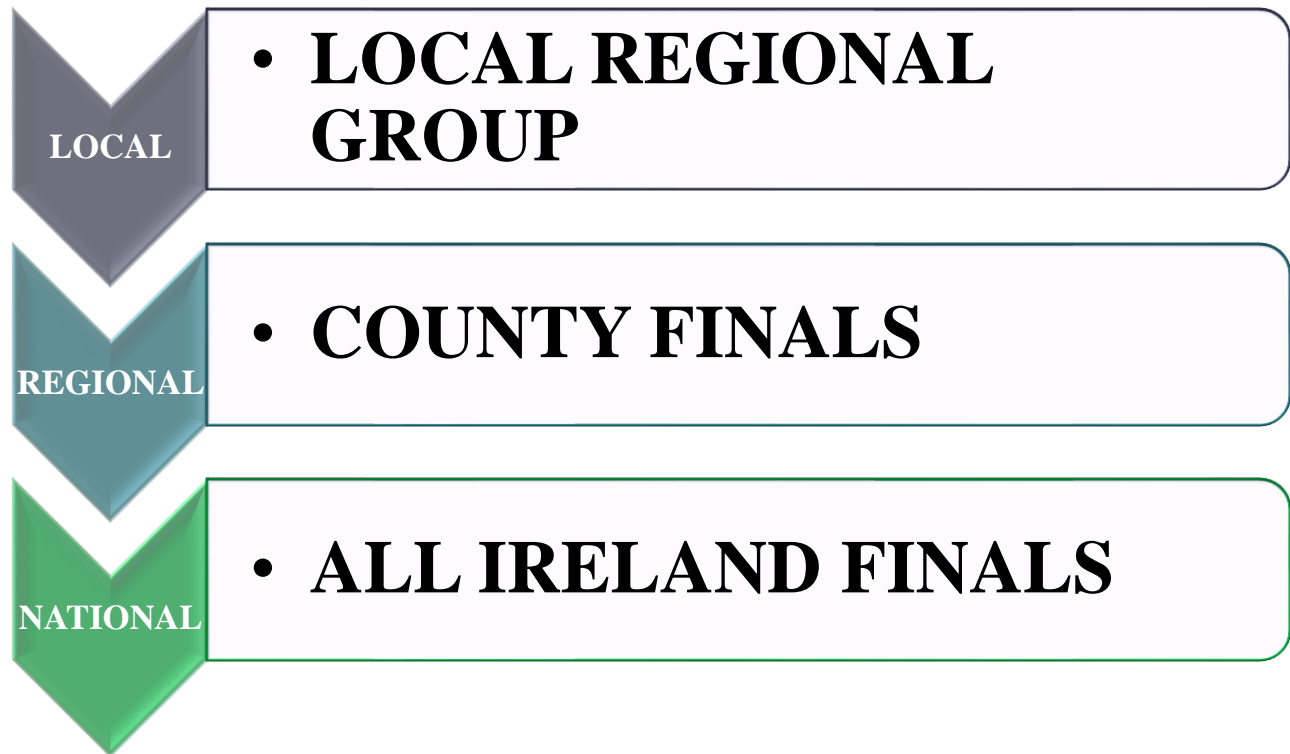
The IOHA is undergoing a period of transition from a fully amateur organisation to a more professional led approach with focus on key hiring personal and the establishment of partnerships that share the same passion and goals: the development of Olympic handball as a visible and vibrant national team sport played at all levels.

With those goals in mind, this specific regulation was elaborated to adhere to the rules that our partners in the EU have in place. With the appropriate considerations, given the reality in Ireland, it will be implemented all across our school competitions from this season onwards. Reviews and adjustments to this document will happen accordingly, with the objective to promote the sport to its higher level.

Its applicable to all age groups, with adaptations to the rule’s dependent on physical space conditions (hall sizes, indoor/outdoor), equipment (balls, goals), times retrain and human resources (referees volunteers, IOHA representants).

## 2. COMPETITION FORMAT

The school competition format will be divided in 3 phases – local, regional, and national.



### 2.1. LOCAL REGIONAL GROUP PHASES

The local group phases will be the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of our competition, where teams from each county will be allocated on a group based on their location/proximity.

Each group will be formed by a few schools that will compete for a top place to reach the regional county finals. The number of teams per group and how many teams will go through the next phase of the competition will be determined based on the number of teams registered in the competition.

This phase of the competition must be done in one of the following formats:

- **Round – Robin:** where teams in each group face each other once.
- **Home and away:** each team play twice against each other (home and away or in a venue that is agreed between both teams).
- **League system:** where teams can play as many matches as they wish, taking into consideration that each team must have the same number of matches against each other.

This phase will be organised and managed by teachers of the schools taking part in the competition, named Group Co-ordinators.

Regulation and training will be provided by the Irish Olympic Handball Association to all teachers and school staff interested in taking part on a date to be decided – online.

**Local Regional Group Phase deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of January 2023. All results need to be submitted to IOHA by email until COB.**

## **2.2. COUNTY FINALS**

The county finals will be played between the top teams of each group, decided by acquiring the greatest number of points in the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the competition (Local Regional Group Phase). The numbers of teams qualifying to this 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the competition will be determined by the number of registered teams. Adjustments to the finalist, if needed, will be made on needs base, and considering the points score during the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the competition.

This phase of the competition will be done on a **Knockout System** – winners go the next phase. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place matches will take place.

Matches draws will be done on the day of the event, in the presence of all teachers involved in the competition.

This phase of the competition will be organised by the Irish Olympic Handball Association with the collaboration of the teachers still involved in the competition. Volunteers from other schools (teachers and students are welcome to join the event on the capacity they were trained in – refereeing, table official or simply by helping to run the day).

## **2.3. NATIONAL FINALS**

The All Ireland finals will take place in a location to be decided – preferably a neutral court and in central position for all teams involved -, bringing together the county winners to the decision of a National Champion. Best 2<sup>nd</sup> place (based on points obtain in all competition) can be invited to take part in this phase if a team abdicate their spot in this phase or if we need to balance the competition matches.

This phase of the competition will be done on a **Knockout System** – winners go the next stage until we have a winner. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place matches will take place.

The All Ireland phase will be organised by the Irish Olympic Handball Association with the help of teachers still involved in the competition.

### 3. AGE GROUPS, COURT SIZE, BALL, GAME TIME AND ALTERNATIVES OF THE SPORT

The students that participate on the school competitions will be distribute by the following age groups, accordingly to the table below:

Age Group	Born Year
Under 11 (9/10/11 years old)	2011-2013
Under 13 (12/13 years old)	2009-2010
Under 15 (14/15 years old)	2007-2008
Under 18 (16/17/18 years old)	2004-2006
Under 21 (19/20/21 years old)	2001-2003

The alternatives for the different competitions and for the different age groups are as follow:

AGE GROUP	COURT SIZE	BALL SIZE	GAME TIME/BREAK TIME	NUMBER OF PLAYERS/TEAM
U11	20m x 18m (a)	# 1	2 x 12'30'' (4')	Handball 5
U13	20m x 18m (a)	# 1	2 x 12'30'' (4')	Handball 5
U15	40m x 20m	♂ # 2	2 x 15' (4')	Handball 5 or 7
	40m x 20m	♀ # 1	2 x 15' (4')	
U18	40m x 20m	♂ # 3	2 x 20' (4')	Handball 5 or 7
	40m x 20m	♀ # 2	2 x 20' (4')	
U21	40m x 20m	♂ #3	2 x 25' (5')	Handball 7
	40m x 20m	♀ # 2	2 x 25' (5')	

a) See technical-pedagogic rules

b) U15 & U18 competition – hall size will determine the team size (5 or 7 a side).

## 4. TEAMS

### 4.1. U11 & U13 (Handball 5):

- 4.1.1. 10 players minimum and 12 maximum per team.
- 4.1.2. 1 Teacher responsible for the Group/Team.
- 4.1.3. 1 Student/Teacher referee and 1 table official.

### 4.2. U15, U18 & U21 (Handball 7):

- 4.2.1. 10 players minimum and 14 maximum per team.
- 4.2.2. 1 Teacher responsible for the Team/Group.
- 4.2.3. 1 Student/Teacher referee and 1 table official.

#### NOTE:

- All players must have numbers on the front and/or back of their shirts, which are clearly visible. Numbered bibs are acceptable.
- Outfield Players must have uniform colours across the team.
- Goalkeepers must be in a separate colour to outfield players.

## 5. TECHNICAL-PEDAGOGIC REGULATION

### 5.1. U11 & U13 (Handball 5)

On the U11 & U13 Team/Groups it is accepted that the Team/Groups are constituted by elements of the male and female gender. \*

\*The Team/Groups registered as with mix player will compete in the male group<sup>1</sup>.

#### 5.1.1. TEAM BUILDING

Per game, each team can have a minimum of 10 players and a maximum of 12 players.

5.1.2. **IT IS MANDATORY**, that all athletes are registered in the match sheet.

#### 5.1.3. **SUBSTITUTIONS:**

5.1.3.1. Substitutions are permitted only when the team has possession of the ball.

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<sup>1</sup> In the spirit of fair play and inclusivity, IOHA reserves the right to review this matter on individual cases, if necessary.



- 5.1.3.2.** Players in the court needs to leave the court before the substitute player can go in.
- 5.1.3.3.** Substitution needs to be made in the designated area – near to the table official.
- 5.1.4.** In the case of disciplinary sanction (1-minute exclusion), the team in question may carry out a **PEDAGOGICAL SUBSTITUTION**.
- 5.1.4.1. PEDAGOGIC SUBSTITUTION** – in case of a disciplinary sanction to a player (1-minute exclusion), another player from his team can replace him during that period, meaning the team will never be in numerical inferiority.
- 5.1.5.** **Ball reposition** is done by the goalkeeper, on the 4 meters line, after the referee's whistle.
- 5.1.6.** The goalkeeper (GK) must not cross the midfield line, except if GK is going to score a "7 meters" (penalty). In case of breach of this rule, the team will be sanctioned with a free throw marked at the place where the GK commit the offense.
- 5.1.7.** **ITS MANDATORY** to use an individual defense (1x1) for the 1<sup>st</sup> period of the game and any type of defense can be used on the 2<sup>nd</sup> period of the match - one line defense ("wall-type" defenses) aren't allowed at any point.
- 5.1.8.** **Playing field** – the recommended size of the playing field is 20x18m, however it can go to up to 40x20m.
- 5.1.9.** **Goal** – it is suggested to use adapted goals (2.40x1.60m) or the regulatory measures (3.00x2.00m) if they are safely installed.
- 5.1.10.** **Goal Area** – a semicircle of 6m radius with the center in the middle of the goal line. On the U11 this are area can be reduced to a semicircle of 5m radius.
- 5.1.11. Sanctions:**
- 5.1.11.1.** The exclusion time is 1 (one) minute.
- 5.1.11.2.** After the 3<sup>rd</sup> exclusion – inclusive - from any player in the team, it will not be possible to replace the excluded player, so the team will play in numerical inferiority during the time of exclusion.
- 5.1.12.** The team that presents itself with less than 10 players will have to play the game if it has at least 5 players.
- The offending team will be awarded an Administrative Foul/Defeat (1 point), with the result to be considered 15-0.

## **5.2. U15 (Handball 5 or 7)**

### **5.2.1. TEAM BUILDING**

Per game, each team can use a minimum of 10 players and a maximum of 14 players.

**5.2.2. IT IS MANDATORY**, that all athletes are registered in the match sheet.

### **5.2.3. SUBSTITUTIONS:**

**5.2.3.1.** Substitutions are permitted only when the team has possession of the ball.

**5.2.3.2.** Players in the court need to leave the court before the substitute player can go in.

**5.2.3.3.** Substitution needs to be made in the designated area – near to the table official.

**5.2.4. Ball reposition** is done in middle line after the referee's whistle.

**5.2.5. ITS MANDATORY** to use an individual defense (1x1) in half of the court (teams can opt for 1x1 in the entire court) in the 1<sup>st</sup> period and a defense in two lines (e.g. 4: 2, 3: 3, 5:1) in the 2<sup>nd</sup> period. Mixed defenses (any defense system and 1x1) and “wall-type” defenses (6: 0) aren't allowed.

### **5.2.6. Sanctions:**

**5.2.6.1.** The exclusion time is 2 (two) minutes (pedagogical substitution is not allowed).

**5.2.6.2.** In the event of disqualification from the game (red card), the team in question, after the completion of the 2 minutes of exclusion, may replace the disqualified player.

**5.2.7.** The team that presents itself with less than 10 athletes will have to play the game if it has at least 7 players at the beginning of the match. To the offending team, an Administrative Fault/Defeat (1 point) will be recorded, and the result will be 15-0.

## **5.3. U18 & U21 (Handball 5 or 7)**

Regulated by the official rules of the sport, except for the “time-out”.

It is allowed to request one (1) “time out” - of sixty seconds (60'') for each period of the game (when in possession of the ball).

### **5.3.1. TEAM BUILDING**

Per game, each team can have a minimum of 10 players and a maximum of 14 players.

**5.3.2.** The team that presents itself with less than 10 players will have to play the game if it has at least 7 players.

The offending team will be awarded an Administrative Foul/Defeat (1 point), with the result to be considered 15-0.

## **6. CLASSIFICATION, SCORING AND TIE-DOWN**

**6.1.** The classification of teams in the various phases of the Competitive Framework is determined by the sum of the score obtained in the total of games played, according to the following criteria:

- VICTORY 3 POINTS
- TIE 2 POINTS 2 POINTS
- ADMINISTRATIVE FOUL or DEFEAT 1 POINTS
- NO SHOW 0 POINTS

**6.2.** Final classification will be established in decreasing order of the points obtained; ranking 1<sup>st</sup> place the team with the highest number of points.

**6.3.** In the event of a **no-show**, a 15-0 loss is attributed to the team that did not attend the game.

**6.4.** In the event of an **administrative foul** (the team attended the game but did not comply with the competition rules - e.g. did not present the minimum number of players, but played the game) will be attributed 1 (one) point for the defeat with result of 15-0.

**6.5.** In the event of a tie in points in any competition, the tiebreaker will be made as follows:

- a. By the number of points obtained in the games between them.
- b. The team that has the highest goal difference between goals scored and conceded in games between tied teams.
- c. Biggest difference between goals scored and conceded in total games carried out between all teams.
- d. For the highest number of goals scored in the respective phase of the competition.
- e. The lowest number of goals conceded in the respective phase of the competition.
- f. The team with the least number of disciplinary infractions recorded during the competition:
  - Yellow card ----- 1 point

- Exclusion ----- 2 points
- Direct red card ----- 8 points

g. In the event that a tie still exists, it is up to the organization to determine the tiebreaker to be made.

**NOTE:**

- To the responsible of the teams, any sanction is counted with the double of the above-mentioned points.
- When a team, for whatever reason, is eliminated from the competition, all games played by/against them do not count towards the final ranking.

**6.6. County Finals & All Ireland Finals** – at all age groups, at the end of the regular time in the knockout games, if any game ends in a draw, the rule of "penalties" will apply with the following conditions:

- Each team will nominate 5 field players and 1 goalkeeper who are not excluded or disqualified. Each player may only execute 1 shot.
- The referee and the team captains, by draw, determine which team starts the “penalties”. The winning team chooses the field or possession of the ball.
- The winning team will be the one with the highest number of goals scored after the 5 shots. If the draw persists, it will continue until a team gains an advantage by the same number of attempts.
- In the execution of the action above, it will not be allowed, under any circumstances, repetitions of executing player, until all field players, registered in the score sheet have performed it (except for the excluded or disqualified players).

**7. REFEREEING**

7.1. The games are directed by 2 referees and 2 table officials.

7.2. According to this regulation, it is upon the teacher responsible for the Group/Team the basic training of their most direct collaborators (referee, table official and delegate/officer). Irish

Olympic Handball Association will provide training to the group coordinators and all teachers responsible for a Group/Team (date to be schedule).

## **8. OMITTED CASES**

**8.1.** Omissions in this Specific Regulation are analysed by the Irish Olympic Handball Association (by the Director of Operations and the Technical Coordinator). In the event of any omissions during an event where immediate action/decision needs to be made, the group coordinator in conjunction with the teachers involved on the day, will take a decision based on fairness, fair play and wellbeing of all involved. Where an IOHA representant is present, it will be in the last instances the final deliberate of a decision over the matter in question - not subject to appeal.