

NHA COMPETITIONS 2019-20

A season interrupted by Covid-19 with a numerous competitions curtailed or abandoned.

North Hockey League

The Women's Premier Division was completed with Didsbury Northern W1 finishing as Champions and promoted to the EHL North Conference. With no teams relegated from the EHL, only 1 team was relegated from both the Premier Division (Brooklands Poynton W2) and Division 1 (Wakefield W2). Harrogate W1 and Bowdon W2 are promoted to the Premier Division, whilst Halifax W1 and Garstang W1 are promoted to Division 1.

The Men's Premier Division saw Durham University M2 finish as Champions and are promoted to the EHL North Conference. With two teams (Wakefield W1 and Alderley Edge M1) relegated from the EHL, 3 teams were relegated from both the Premier Division (City of York M1, Chester M1 and Formby M1) and Division 1 (Preston M2, Doncaster M2 and Chapeltown M1). Chapeltown subsequently resigned from the NHL. Bowdon M2 and Wilmslow M1 are promoted to the Premier Division, whilst Brigg M1 and Brooklands MU3) are promoted to Division 1.

Where all of the fixtures in a division were not completed the NHLMC decided to determine league positions using an average points per game calculation. This led to 2 appeals from clubs, one against being relegated and one against being denied promotion. Both appeals were rejected and the average points per game calculation is now included in the EH Standard Hockey League Regulations Regarding Covid for next season.

North Indoor

After a false start, the North Indoor Qualifying Tournament was held on Sunday, 21 December 2019 at Brooksbank School, Elland. The event was organised by Anne Bryant, with Andy Pettigrew & Matthew Griffiths acting as Technical Officers. Lee Baron was the umpire manager with umpires appointed by NHUA. Deeside Ramblers, Sheffield Univ Bankers, Preston, Kingston-upon-Hull and West Derby took part in the men's event with Deeside Ramblers qualifying for EH National Indoor League Div 2 North. Liverpool Sefton and Fylde took part in the women's event with Fylde qualifying for EH National Indoor League Div 2 North.

North Women Competitions

(i) North Under 21 was held on 3 November 2019 and Organised by Rob Alty. Central Lancashire, Lancashire, Cheshire and Cumbria took part in the competition. The winners were Central Lancashire.

(ii) Cock O The North was scheduled for May 2020 but cancelled due to Covid-19.

There have also been a number of successes by North clubs/teams at all levels in various EH competitions, but none of these are included in this report as they are not in competitions organised by the North.

Anne Bryant and Peter Cocker (September 2020)

