



Season 2026

Members Handbook and Rulebook

Incorporated in NSW as East Coast Superleague Inc. (INC9892297)
ABN 42 238 661 972

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A message from our Club President

I would like to extend a warm welcome to everyone involved in East Coast Super League and the broader hockey community. From the players to the volunteers who keep the league running, and to our loyal spectators and followers. Thank you for being a part of this fantastic league.

The East Coast Super League is New South Wales' premier full-contact ice hockey league. It operates as a separate grade within the Ice Hockey NSW competition. The league is open-age, catering for players from **2nd year U17** (formerly Midget) (17-year-old) upward.

The East Coast Super League comprises four Sydney-based teams plus one regional team from Newcastle. The Sydney-based teams are formed using a player draft system. The draft is used to ensure that all teams in the competition are of a similar strength, thus providing a more even competition. The Sydney based teams are not aligned with any of the IHNSW Junior Clubs.

The 5 teams for season 2024 are:



Bombers



Heat



Raptors



Rebels



Northstars

For the league's younger players, East Coast Super League is where they hone their skills before moving up into the Australian Ice Hockey League (AIHL). Each season a number of our ECSL players are selected for the AIHL.



Club President

Executive Committee

The East Coast Super League Executive Committee for season 2026 is:

President	Les Adams	president@ecsl.com.au
Vice-President		vice-president@ecsl.com.au
Secretary	Cathy Menzies	secretary@ecsl.com.au
Treasurer	Sharon Kelly	treasurer@ecsl.com.au

The East Coast Super League Committee off Management for season 2026 is:

- Erik Tilsted
- Matt Musumeci
- Sue Moncrieff
- Josh Adams

Social Media Committee

- Mark Bradford
- Jaidyn Bradford

Where can you find us?

www.ecslhockey.com	www.facebook.com/ECSLhockey
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Fees

East Coast Super League season fees cover:

- Game fees
- IHNSW fees (club affiliation, team registration and cost of on-ice officials)
- Player Membership and Club Administration

The Committee strives to keep fees as low as possible each season. The actual fees paid by each player will fluctuate slightly from season to season based on the cost of ice time charged by the rinks, as well as the number of teams and players participating in the ECSL competition.

Fees are broken down in the following player categories:

- **U17 (formerly Midget) – pay per game**
U17 players participating in the IHNSW U17 League as their top priority, and playing up in to ECSL when there are no clashes with their U17 games.
- **Standard – pay for season**
If you hold a roster position on an ECSL, then you are in the Standard fee category.

Details of the actual fees and due dates will be advised by the Club Treasurer when the length of the season and rink costs are confirmed.

Withdrawing from ECSL or Change of Circumstances

Players are responsible for all fees under their player category as soon as they take to the ice with ECSL (pre-season training, game, etc). If your circumstances change and you have to withdraw from the League, then you must advise the ECSL Committee in writing immediately (secretary@ecsl.com.au). Pro-rata adjustments to fees for withdrawal from the League are based on the date we receive your advice and the number of games your team has played up to this date.

Uniform Design Change Procedure

This procedure is to apply to all new ECSL teams being admitted to the ECSL competition, plus any existing teams wishing to change the design of their uniform.

A uniform design change covers jersey, socks, cover pants and any other items worn by players on-ice that includes team-identifying colours, wording or artwork.

Procedure: -

1. A colour mock-up of the proposed uniform needs to be submitted to the ECSL Committee by a recognised Team Manager/Official. Even if only one item of the uniform is changing (say sock design) a full uniform mock-up must be submitted. The request must include a reason for the change; a description of what is being changed (i.e., just logo, jersey colours, etc), and whether the mock-up covers the team's primary/secondary strip.
2. The ECSL Executive will review the design to ensure it meets ECSL and IHNSW standards - including use/position of IHNSW and ECSL logos, colour not clashing with any other teams, team logo and wording, sponsorship artwork etc.
 - Rejection: If the proposed design is rejected by the Committee, a reason for the rejection will be provided. The team may resubmit a revised uniform mock-up if desired.
 - Approval: The proposed design may be approved on a restricted-use basis (i.e. a secondary strip to be used against named teams only) or approved on an unrestricted basis for use in all games. If approval is granted, it will be conditional on the team providing logo artwork for use by the league for promotional and branding purposes. If the artwork is not provided, then approval for the uniform will be withdrawn.

Rulebook

The East Coast Super League (ECSL) operates under the banner of Ice Hockey NSW (IHNSW). ECSL is a separate club within the IHNSW competition.

Ice Hockey NSW's rules and regulations are documented in the IHNSW Members Handbook, the latest version of which can be found on the Forms & Rules (Playing Rules) page of the IHNSW website (www.ihnsw.com.au).

Within IHNSW's rules there is provision for special rules relating to particular grades. The special rules relating to East Coast Super League are included in this section of this handbook. All players and team officials associated with ECSL are to familiarise themselves with the IHNSW rules and the special rules for East Coast Super League.

Rules Addendum – This update (2026.v1) to the Special Rules for East Coast Super League was published (January 2026) and supersedes any previous version of Special Rules for East Coast Super League, including those appearing within the IHNSW Handbook itself.

Special Rules for East Coast Super League

This league is regarded as NSW premier full contact senior league.

Draft and non-draft teams

The League is comprised of two categories of team – draft teams and non-draft teams. Draft teams represent the greater Sydney metropolitan area and NSW Central Coast. These teams are formed via a player draft. Draft teams for season 2026 are **Bombers, Heat, Raptors and Rebels**.

Non-draft teams represent regional areas and therefore draw players from their local area rather than participating in the player draft. Non-draft teams for season 2026 are **Northstars**.

These rules generally apply equally to draft and non-draft teams. Where a rule applies only to one category of team it will be noted alongside the rule.

Player draft and team roster

**** Applies to Draft teams only ****

ECSL will hold try-outs before the start of each season. On completion of the try-outs a player draft will be held with each draft team taking a turn to select new players for vacant positions on their roster. The details of the rules of the draft are documented separately and distributed to each team prior to try-outs.

Changes to all team roster after Saturday 28th February 2026

*** Applies to both draft and non-draft teams ***

It is recommended that all teams have 20 players and 2 goalies in their starting roster and should not exceed 25 players.

On occasion a team may require a roster top-up early in the season due to factors outside the team's control such as players withdrawing from the league due to work/personal reasons; drafted players declining a draft offer etc.

A draft team requiring additional players for their full-time roster should notify the ECSL Committee via secretary@ecsl.com.au of their requirement. The Committee will attempt to identify a suitable player using the following steps:

1. Any players who were included in the player draft but were not selected by a team during the draft will be given priority placement. This priority exists for the first five weeks of the IHNSW season. On completion of IHNSW Week 7 the list of undrafted players will be considered expired.
2. If a team vacancy cannot be filled from the draft list (point 1) then the ECSL Committee will select from a list of players who have notified the league in writing that they wish to join the league. The Committee will select players off this list in the order that their written request to join the league was received.
3. If a team vacancy cannot be filled via either of the first two steps above, then the ECSL Committee may advertise for expressions of interest from players interested in joining the league. Players must advise the Committee in writing of their interest.

A non-draft team requiring additional players for their full-time roster should notify the ECSL Committee via secretary@ecsl.com.au to request approval for the addition of extra players. These players must be identified by name.

Roster freeze after IHNSW Week 7

After preseason team selection and up until IHNSW Week 7 in the current season, a team may make changes to their roster. The requested changes must be made in writing to the ECSL Committee. The Committee will vote on the changes and advise the team whether the changes are approved or not. If a roster change is not approved by the Committee, the team will be advised of the reason.

Penalty: Any ECSL team who breaches this rule will be regarded as playing an illegal or ineligible player and will be penalized. Refer to the section at the end of this rule book titled Penalties for Playing a Suspended, Illegal or Ineligible Player for the appropriate penalty.

Any other exception to this rule is subject to the approval of the ECSL executive.

Interclub transfers

New and/or returning players to ECSL must provide a clearance from their previous club as per the Clearances section of the IHNSW Handbook. Penalties apply for players who have not completed the appropriate paperwork.

Penalty: Refer to the IHNSW Handbook for the appropriate penalty.

Number and time periods of ECSL games

The objective of IHNSW is to provide a minimum of 20 competition games for each ECSL team (excluding playoffs / finals), subject to available ice time.

All ECSL games have a maximum duration of 60 minutes and are played in three timed periods as follows:

- First two periods: 17 minutes running time
- Third period: 15 minutes with 10 minutes running time and 5 minutes stop time, or the game limit of 60 minutes, whichever is first.
- There will be no ice cut after period 2.

During running time, the time clock will only stop when the referee calls time out.

In the event that a game exceeds or looks like exceeding the maximum game duration, or is running late due to a late start, the final decision on the game being played out or called off lies with the on-ice official. The on-ice official will liaise with the timekeeper to determine the end time of the game. The on-ice official will also follow the directions of rink management.

If a team has a rostered back-up goalie who dresses for an ECSL game but does not participate in the game (excluding warmup) – i.e. they sit on the bench for the entire game - they will be marked as “P” on the game sheet.

“P” – Present on bench. Not charged. Game will count to final game attendance tally.

ECSL team officials

Each ECSL team is expected to be self-sufficient for team officials and support personnel. The ECSL Committee will send a form to each team before the start of the season requiring them to demonstrate that they can provide:

- Accredited coach, team manager and bench officials for every game, and
- Separate scorekeeper, timekeeper and penalty box attendant for each home game

The ECSL Committee reserves the right to disband any team that fails to demonstrate that they can provide team officials for the season.

ECSL players, team belonging

*** Applies to Draft teams only ***

All ECSL players must pay their fees per the official structure of instalments issued. Failure to do so may lead to a player's roster position being made available to another player.

Once drafted, a player remains an asset of that team until such time as:

- I. The player, upon consultation with the team manager and written advice to the ECSL Committee, relinquishes their place on the team. If this option is taken the player cannot return to play in any other ECSL team until they have:
 - a. Attended the draft prior to the commencement of a new season or
 - b. Are assigned to a new team by vote of the full ECSL Committee
- II. Two consecutive seasons have passed without playing any games in the ECSL (calculated 2 years from the date of the last game played in the league) ie. Players can take 2 years off but must return in the 3rd year to retain their place in a team.
- III. The player re-enters the draft prior to commencement of the next season.

Temporary substitute goaltenders (goalies)

Each team's roster must include 2 goaltenders (goalies).

IIHF rules state that for a team to play a game it must be able to put on the ice at least five skaters and one goaltender at the beginning of the game.

To avoid the risk of teams having to forfeit games, ECSL rules provide for the use of a temporary substitute goalie if both team goalies are unable or unavailable to play.

If both of an ECSL team's goalies are unable or unavailable to play, the team manager must:

- I. Attain the services of a suitable ECSL-capable goalie from the Senior Division or U17 (formerly Midget) Division provided that;
 - a. The Senior Division or U17 Division goalie does not participate in the ECSL game over his own team's game commitments and;
 - b. The Senior Division goalie does not breach any of the rules specified in the IHNSW Handbook Special Rules for Senior Divisions such as playing-up limits.
- II. All substitutions are advised to the ECSL Committee within a reasonable time prior to the game being played and are subject to final approval of the Committee.

- III. If no ECSL-capable goalies can be secured under points (i) or (ii) above then the ECSL Committee may approve the use of a goalie from another League, providing that:
- a. The goalie is registered with IHNSW, and
 - b. The goalie has completed and submitted, where necessary, play-up paperwork, and

A temporary substitute goalie from Senior Division can only play a maximum of 5 games in ECSL, and only 2 games prior to 1 May each year. A temporary substitute goalie from U17 (formerly Midget) Division can play an unlimited number of games up into ECSL as long as it does not clash with their U17 game.

A team may apply to the ECSL Committee for special exemption to the 5-game rule if no other goalies are available. Note that Senior Division has their own play-up limits which may render the goalie unable to play back into Seniors. Any consideration for special exemption by the ECSL Committee should be carried out in parallel with a request to the Senior Committee for exemption from their play-up rule.

Unless stated otherwise, ECSL Committee approval to play a temporary substitute goalie is only valid for 1 game. If a temporary substitute goalie is required for multiple consecutive games, then this must be clearly stated in the team's request to the Committee, and in the Committee's approval back to the team.

Penalty: Any ECSL team who breaches this rule will be regarded as playing an illegal or ineligible player and will be penalised. Refer to the section at the end of this rule book titled Penalties for Playing a Suspended, Illegal or Ineligible Player for the appropriate penalty.

Generally, temporary substitute goalies are exempt from paying ECSL casual player fees. However, check the ECSL Fees Information Sheet for the current season for details on this season's fee structure.

Temporary Substitute Players

ECSL Teams may fill short-term vacancies in their roster through the use of temporary substitute players.

Eligible temporary substitute players include players that the ECSL Committee has deemed ECSL-capable and:

- Attended the draft and were listed as reserves by the ECSL Committee.
- Are Senior Division players that have been approved by the ECSL Committee.
- Are U17 (formerly Midget) Division players who turn 17 or older in the current year

Temporary players are permitted under the following circumstances:

- Teams who are left short due to injury and/or suspension.

If an ECSL team requires the use of temporary substitute players, then the team manager must:

- I. Identify any ECSL-capable U17 (formerly Midget) Division players who might be available to play, or if no U17 Division players are available.
- II. Identify ECSL-capable Senior Division players provided that;
 - a. The Senior Division player does not participate in the ECSL game over his own team's game commitments and,
 - b. The Senior Division player does not breach any of the rules specified in the IHNSW Handbook Special Rules for Senior Divisions such as playing-up limits.
- III. All substitutions are advised to the ECSL committee within a reasonable time prior to the game being played and are subject to final approval of the Committee.

Unless stated otherwise, ECSL Committee approval to play a temporary substitute player is only valid for 1 game. If a temporary substitute player is required for multiple consecutive games, then this must be clearly stated in the team's request to the Committee, and in the Committee's approval back to the team.

The ECSL Committee will not approve a temporary substitute player if:

- I. The player is not deemed to be ECSL-capable; or
- II. The player's skill level exceeds that of the player they are substituting for, thus "stacking" the team.

U17 (formerly Midget) players are required to have a completed playing-up form submitted to IHNSW before they can play up to ECSL. Please also refer to the section on Age Eligibility and League Priority following for other rules applying to U17 Division players.

A temporary substitute player from Senior Division can only play a maximum of 3 games in ECSL, and only 1 game prior to 1 May each year. A temporary substitute player from U17 (formerly Midget) Division League can play an unlimited number of games up into ECSL.

Temporary play-ups are not considered to be part of any team, either for the current season, or when it comes to that player participating in the draft in subsequent seasons.

Temporary play-up players can only be used in regular rounds. They cannot play in the ECSL Finals Series.

Penalty: Any ECSL team who breaches this rule will be regarded as playing an illegal or ineligible player and will be penalised. Refer to the section at the end of this rule book titled Penalties for Playing a Suspended, Illegal or Ineligible Player for the appropriate penalty.

Generally, Senior Division players and U17 (formerly Midget) Division temporary substitute players are exempt from paying ECSL casual player fees. Check the ECSL Fees Information Sheet for the current season for details on this season's fee structure.

Age Eligibility and League Priority

Minimum age for ECSL is players turning 17 in the current calendar year. ie, 2nd year U17 (formerly Midget) Division and up.

U17 (formerly Midget) Division players participating in both the U17 and ECSL leagues must play their U17 Division games as priority whenever there is a clash of game times between the 2 leagues. This rule regarding U17 Division players playing up in to ECSL takes precedence over the general playing-up rules documented in the IHNSW handbook.

Penalty: Any ECSL team who breaches this rule will be regarded as playing an illegal or ineligible player and will be penalised. Refer to the section at the end of this rule book titled Penalties for Playing a Suspended, Illegal or Ineligible Player for the appropriate penalty.

Team Officials

All ECSL teams with player(s) under the age of 18 must have a minimum of two non-playing officials on the bench at each game. Including:

- An accredited coach 18 years or older; plus
- An adult 18 years or older with at least NPO (non- playing official) registration.

ECSL teams where all players are 18 or over as at the date of the game are required to have a non-playing adult manager on the bench for each game. The team must also have an accredited coach, but in the case where there are no under 18-year-old players on the team the coach can also be a player as long as his first priority is to leave the ice in the case of an incident that requires assistance.

The designated coach and manager must be listed on the game sheet. Where a person is both a player and the coach, that person must be listed in both the players section and the coaching section of the team sheet.

Penalty: A team that fails to adhere to the rules regarding bench officials will be deducted 1 competition point, and a game forfeiture should the offending team be the winning team (ie score recorded as 5-0). Should a team fail to provide the above on 3 occasions throughout one season, it will automatically be referred to the Committee for review and determination on the suitability of their management structure

5.4 Rules Governing Player Uniforms & Equipment

All protective gear including shoulder, elbow and pants padding, shin guards, and neck guards must be worn by all players at all times when on the ice. No exceptions. If players are not wearing full protective gear at all times when on the ice, referees maybe liable.

If the referee inadvertently allows a player to play whilst failing to meet the uniform & equipment rules (such as face & neck guards), the opposing team captain must advise the referee, and the referee will enforce the appropriate IIHF Rules. If the player does not comply then the referee will suspend play until such time that either the player leaves the ice or abides by the ruling. The penalty of \$100 (No GST required), will be issued to the team via their club, for any player who continues to flaunt equipment rulings.

Players' helmets must be a type approved by the IIHF and must not be painted or bear any stickers or numbers. This ruling does not apply to goalies' helmets. Goalkeepers must wear approved helmets.

Players Under 17 (including ALL players registered in 17U Midget category) playing in ECSL must wear full-face protection (full-visor or cage), all Players must wear certified Neck and Throat Protection, and all Players must wear the ear-protection, attached to their helmets. Mouth Guards are NOT mandatory for players in these age grades.

Shoulder pads are compulsory for ALL grades.

Players 18 and over, competing in ECSL, must wear an approved half or full cage/or half or full visor, when on the ice.

Players are not permitted to wear a coloured or tinted visor or a coloured or tinted full face mask.

Concussion Course

Each ECSL team must have at least one official at every game who has completed the IHNSW Concussion Course. This person will be listed on the team sheet at each game.

<https://ihnsw.com.au/courses/concussion-course/>

Playoff Eligibility

Full-time rostered ECSL players and goalies must have played a minimum of 10 ECSL games to be eligible for playoffs.

Players and goalies who also participate in the U17 (formerly Midget) must have played a minimum of 7 games in their other league and a minimum of 5 games in ECSL to be eligible for playoffs.

Players and goalies who also participate in the AIHL league must have played a minimum of 7 games in ECSL to be eligible for playoffs.

The IHNSW website and AIHL website will be used as the information source for games played in other leagues.

Players who are unfinancial as at 5pm on the Friday prior to Finals will be ruled ineligible to play in the entire Finals series. Teams will be notified of unfinancial players by the Club Treasurer in the week leading up to Finals.

Team Standings for Finals Series

The top four teams in the ECSL point score proceed to the Finals Series.

Where teams are on equal points at the end of the regular season, a count back will be undertaken by ECSL in conjunction with IHNSW to determine the standings of those teams. The rules for the countback are described in the IHNSW Handbook under the section How Team Standings Are Determined.

Finals Format

The ECSL finals series consists of:

- I. A 2 game semi-finals series involving the top 4 teams (1st vs 4th, and 2nd vs 3rd). The scores from the first game carry over to the second game.
- II. A best-of-3-games grand finals series comprising the winner of the 1st vs 4th semi-final versus the winner of the 2nd vs 3rd semi-final.

All finals series games are played in three timed periods as follows;

- First two periods: 17 minutes running time.
- Third period: 15 minutes with 10 minutes running time and 5 minutes stop time.
- There will be NO ice-cuts.

Finals series games that are drawn at the end of regular time will be determined by **sudden death overtime**, not a penalty shoot out.

There will be a 5-minute warm-up time prior to the game. The clock will begin immediately counting down at the scheduled time as per IHNSW Guidelines.

Each team will be the home team for one game, and therefore responsible for game pucks, nets, scorekeepers, and timekeepers for that game.

During running time, the time clock will only stop when the referee calls time-out.

The ECSL semi-finals are a cumulative aggregate based series, where the scores that are recorded at the end of the first game carry over to the second game. The score from game 1 is put up on the scoreboard at the beginning of game 2. If at the end of game 2 the score is tied, then the game will go into sudden death overtime until a winner is declared. There is no overtime at the end of game 1.

Semi-finals handshake protocol: Even though the score carries over from game 1 to game 2, the end of game handshake with the officials and opposing team must be carried out after each game.

The ECSL grand final series is not aggregate but rather a best out of 3 game series. The first team to win 2 games will be declared ECSL Champions.

Each game in the grand final series must have a result, therefore a draw at the end of regular time will be decided by **sudden death overtime**, and not a penalty shootout.

Financial Status

Players who have not paid their fees in full by 31 July, and who do not have a signed payment plan agreement will be ineligible to play any further ECSL games until their fees are paid.

Players who have not fully paid all their ECSL fees by the end of the season will be declared unfinancial and ECSL will apply to IHNSW to have these players prevented from partaking in any IHA or IHNSW sanctioned activities until the outstanding amount is paid in full.

At the start of each season, players who have been deemed unfinancial will not be allowed to participate in any ECSL activities, including try-outs, draft, pre-season training, and the regular season competition until their outstanding fees are paid. For debts run up outside of the standard club structure, and hence not covered by the standard clearance form procedures (eg. AJIHL or State team representation) ECSL will rely on being notified in writing by IHNSW.

Penalty: Any ECSL team who breaches this rule will be regarded as playing an illegal or ineligible player and will be penalised. Refer to the section at the end of this rule book titled Penalties for Playing a Suspended, Illegal or Ineligible Player for the appropriate penalty.

Team/Player Fines

IHNSW rules provide for fines against teams and/or players for certain rule breaches. Under these circumstances IHNSW invoices the Club (ECSL in this case) directly.

East Coast Super League will re-invoice the team/player responsible for the rule breach for payment of the fine.

Failure of any player to pay the fine within 30 days of the offending game may result in the ECSL Committee declaring the player un-financial.

Failure of any team to pay the fine within 30 days of the offending game may result in the ECSL Committee declaring the team unfinancial and ineligible to accrue competition points until the fine is paid.

Rule Interpretation

Where there is doubt or uncertainty over the meaning of any rule under which ECSL operates, then the arbiter will be determined as follows.

1. Where the rule is one that applies broadly to all IHNSW leagues then the IHNSW Committee will be called upon to clarify the rule.
2. Where the rule is specific to ECSL then the current ECSL Executive Committee will provide clarification.

Penalties for Playing a Suspended, Illegal or Ineligible Player

IHNSW sets a range of penalties for teams who play an illegal player. ECSL supports those penalties and applies the same principle for ECSL-specific rules contained in this rule book. Definition (*sourced from IHNSW Handbook): An illegal or ineligible player is one that is:

- Suspended
- Playing Up without Approval
- Over-aged
- Unregistered or unfinancial
- Without clearance from previous Club/Association/State or Country
- An ineligible import
- In breach of any other playing restriction in this rulebook
- Does not have the appropriate IHNSW membership

Penalty: An automatic fine totalling \$200.00 (No GST) will be levied to any team playing any ineligible or suspended player. There will be an automatic forfeiture of any points and scoring statistics gained, deducted from every game an ineligible or suspended player participates in.

The offending player may be suspended for additional games, at the discretion of the ECSL Executive Committee.

The ECSL Club Secretary notifies the team in writing, and the fine is automatically payable by the team to ECSL within 30 days of each offending game.

Failure to pay the fine on time may result in an additional penalty at the discretion of the ECSL Committee.

A minimum winning score of 5 (five) goals will be recorded for the non-offending team. The offending team will have a score of 0 (zero). All penalties for both teams will stand.

Penalty for a Game Suspension

Ice Hockey Australia expects that suspensions that occur in a league in one Member Association (ie. IHNSW), be honoured in the other Member Association (ie. AIHL). Exactly in the same manner that suspensions in one country must be upheld in the other, in the case of International Transfers.

As such, all ECSL penalties result in a suspension from AIHL. However, it does not work in the reverse. A player suspended in AIHL cannot serve those penalties in ECSL. They must serve them in AIHL.

IHNSW have a very generous policy that players who have been suspended in a lower grade can serve that suspension in a higher grade. In this case, sitting out an AIHL game would be considered as a suitable punishment for the ECSL suspension.

Player Draft Rulebook

The East Coast Super League uses a draft system to allocate players to teams. The draft is used to ensure that all teams in the competition are of a similar strength, thus providing a more even competition.

Rules for ECSL Player Draft

About the ECSL Player Draft

The ECSL Player Draft is open to the Sydney-based ECSL teams - Bombers, Heat, Raptors and Rebels. The Northstars ECSL team does not participate in the draft.

The ECSL Player Draft consists of:

1. At least 2 pre-season on-ice try-out sessions; and
2. The Player Draft, which normally takes place on a weeknight in the week immediately following the last try-out.

Representative(s) from each Sydney-based ECSL team are expected to attend each try-out in order to assess the players and formulate a strategy for their draft picks.

Representative(s) from each Sydney-based ECSL team are expected to attend the Player Draft to participate in the player selection process.

ECSL Committee Responsibility

Prior to the start of each season the ECSL Committee will;

- Book ice time for at least 2 pre-season try-out sessions. Each team will be notified of these dates. The general hockey community will also be notified via the ECSL website, ECSL Facebook page(s) and the IHNSW website. Every effort will be made to avoid clashes with scheduled AJIHL games involving Sydney teams, and other hockey events involving players of the same demographic as ECSL. Some clashes may be unavoidable.
- Book a venue (meeting room etc) suitable to convene the Player Draft. Every effort will be made to hold the Draft on a weeknight during the week immediately following the last try-out. Each team will be notified of the date, time, and location of the Player Draft.

Prior to the Player Draft the ECSL Club Secretary will distribute a spreadsheet to team representatives listing all players eligible for the draft.

Player Eligibility for the Draft

A player is eligible for the draft if they meet any of the following criteria:

1. They attended at least one of the ECSL pre- season try-out skating sessions.
2. They were not able to make any of the ECSL pre-season try-out skating sessions due to being overseas, work commitments, illness/injury etc, and they advised the Committee in writing prior to completion of Try-outs.
3. They are currently on a team roster (having played at least 1 game for their rostered team in the past 2 consecutive seasons) but have advised both their Team Manager and the ECSL Committee in writing of their intention to re-enter the draft. The player is also expected to satisfy point (1) or (2) above.

Important information

1. Players must attend the try-outs unless they have sent their apologies in writing.
2. Players who are overseas must register their expression of interest before the try-out dates.
3. All registrations for either attendance at try-outs or expressions of interest, must be received by the 5:00pm on the Friday before the first try-out.
4. Players wishing to be released by a team must do so before the try-outs.

If a player is released back into the draft by a team, that player must inform the Committee whether they are a) willing to be picked up by the same team or b) they do not wish to be selected by the same team.

If a player chooses to enter the draft, that player must inform the Committee whether they are a) willing to be picked up by the same team or b) they do not wish to be selected by the same team.

How the Player Draft is conducted

- The ECSL Executive Committee and representatives of the Sydney-based teams meet at the designated location approximately 15 minutes prior to the scheduled draft start time.
- The President delivers opening remarks.
- Questions regarding the try-out/draft are answered.
- The ECSL Secretary provides the teams with any changes to the draftee names i.e., players who have withdrawn or been added at the last minute who were not present at the try-outs and have a valid excuse.
- The draft proceeds in the reverse order based on how the teams finished the regular season prior. For example, if the previous regular season concluded;

1st: Northstars
2nd: Bombers
3rd: Rebels
4th: Raptors
5th: Heat

The draft for the current 2026 season is conducted in the following order:

1. Heat (1st pick)
2. Raptors (2nd pick)
3. Rebels (3rd pick)
4. Bombers (4th pick)
5. Northstars (NIL)

- Each team takes turns selecting or “picking” draftees from the list. Each team is given a maximum of five (5) minutes to choose their pick, this is sufficient time to contact the player if required or any doubt that he might be absent etc.
- Once the list has been exhausted OR the team/s have filled their quota they can withdraw their pick at any time and exit the draft. However, they are entitled to re-join the draft at any stage resuming the order if they feel as though they would like to add an additional player at a later stage. Once the draft has concluded

Players not on the list or documented prior to 3pm the day of the draft are NOT eligible to be drafted.

If a player already plays on an ECSL team and their sibling enters the draft the team that has the existing player on their roster is able to pull that sibling into the same team however it was agreed in 2017 that it should be the 2nd round pick that is used for this rule. If not stated at the outset, then they are subject to being picked up by any team.

This rule can only be used once for the players in question.

If a team has multiple siblings and wants to choose them all, that would be their 2nd, 3rd and possibly 4th fourth round picks, depending on how many siblings. The rule would be – if you choose 1 sibling you use the 2nd round for the sibling, if you choose 2 siblings you use the 2nd and 3rd rounds for the siblings. And so on.

If a sibling is drafted by a team different from their siblings, they may reject the selection but will not be eligible to play ECSL for that year and the year following.

If a sibling has already played and chooses to enter the draft, they do not have to be picked up by the team with their sibling. That player must inform the Committee whether they are a)



willing to be picked up by the same team or b) they do not wish to be selected by the same team.

Trading of rostered players

Trading of players between teams is not allowed.

Trading Draft Picks

Trading of draft picks between teams is not allowed.

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