

Under-16 Player in Senior Handball

Version: 1

Adopted on:

Last reviewed on:

Next review date:

Introduction

Scottish Handball Association is the governing body for handball in Scotland and through its Board is responsible, among other things, for managing the game. This includes making and applying various policies and codes of practice. SHA, while seeking to develop and foster the game at all levels in Scotland, also wishes to ensure that this is done safely and recognises that issues arise in relation to players under the age of 16 who may wish to play in their club's games at senior level.

Scottish Handball Association, through the Board, has adopted the policy set out below for players under the jurisdiction of SHA.

Policy Statement

With effect from the commencement of the 2021 – 2022 season, players are only permitted to participate in senior handball if they are at least 16 years old at the date of 1st of October 2021.

Exception

In exceptional cases, a player's physical development, skill level, and experience may be such that the player may be allowed to participate in senior handball (except court players in the Senior Men's League) at an age younger than 16. Players younger than 16 are only permitted to participate in senior handball if each of the following conditions has been satisfied before participation:

1. Where the coach gathers and presents information on the players experience, injury history and indications the level of handball to be played.
2. Written approval is given on behalf of SHA.

How to Apply for Player Dispensation

*** Coach must be qualified to a minimum standard of UKCC Level 2 or equivalent. If a suitably qualified coach is not available at your club, please contact SHA in the first instance at office@scottishhandball.com.**

1. Coach completes an application form found here, with signatures from the player and club president or other relevant club office bearer and makes the player's parent/guardian aware of the application.
2. On receipt of the application form SHA will check that the form is complete and complies with the Under-16 Player in Senior Handball policy and acknowledge receipt via email to the coach.
 - a. Incomplete forms, or forms that do not comply with policy, will be returned to the coach.
 - b. Most senior Scottish Handball Association staff member will have the final decision on the application.
3. SHA contacts club, if required for further information on areas of concern.

Failure to comply - Failure to comply with this policy may result in disciplinary action being taken against the club, coach and player involved in accordance with Scottish Handball Association's Disciplinary Procedures.