

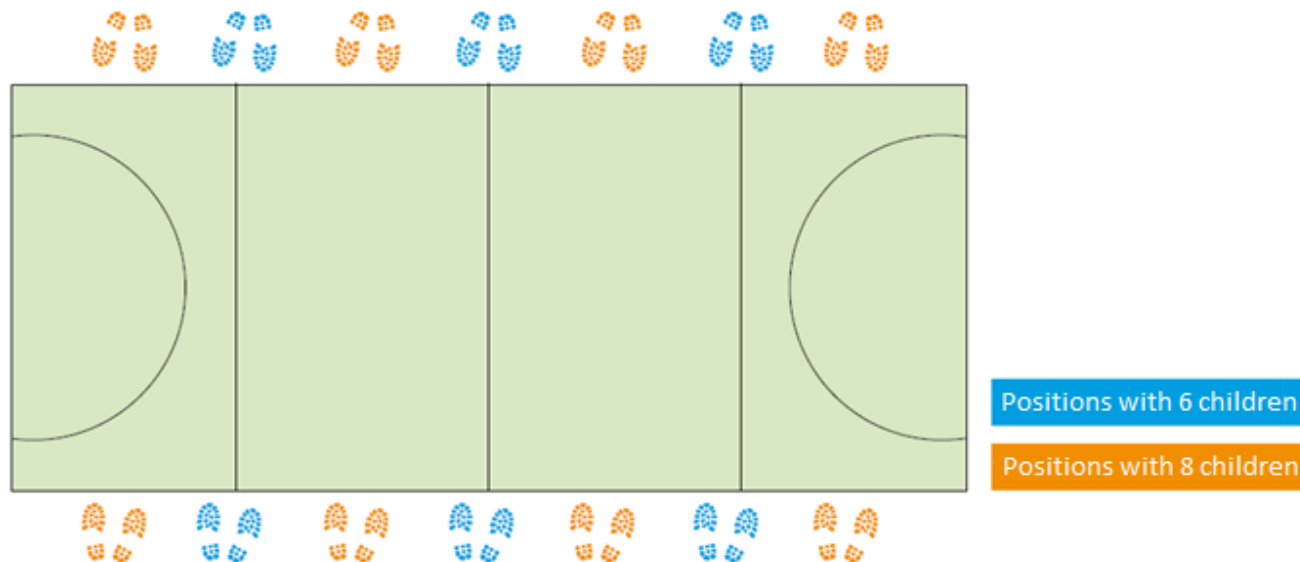
Manual ball patrol

Who

There are 6 - 8 ball patrol needed for a well-run hockey match. The preference is a minimum age of 13 - 16 years old. This age has the preference, because children younger than 13 may sometimes have difficulties with their concentration.

All ball patrol have at least 1 ball. The ball patrol who are standing at the side of the defending 23m have at least 2 balls.

Where



Instructions for Ball Patrol

- One of the most important things is to watch the movement of the umpire. By looking at what the umpire signals, the ball patrol can put the ball on the right place. Knowledge of the rules and umpires' signals is important.
- You only roll a ball onto the field of play when the other ball is not in place and off the field of play. Do not get influenced by players who are asking for a ball.
- If there are 2 (or more) balls on the field of play, it is the task of the players to remove them as normally the ball patrol does not enter the field of play.
- You only roll a ball on the field of play when the ball is off the field **on your side**.
- You place the balls for a sideline injection and penalty corner on the right spot on the line. A ball for a long corner should be rolled toward the correct spot on the 23m line.
- When you have a lot of balls in your hands and the person next to you has none, you roll a ball to that person when the game is not at your side anymore (do not throw the ball through the air, but roll it across the field).
- Do not speak to the audience, so you do not get distracted.
- Do not bring a hockey stick on the field of play and turn off your mobile phone. Preferable leave both (including wallet, keys, etc) with your ball patrol liaison.
- Do not lean against the advertising boards. When you stand straight, approx. one meter of the sideline (but not too close to the sideline), you see more of the match and the umpires' signals.
- Be aware that you stand between two advertising boards. When you stand in front of one, nobody can see what kind of sponsor is advertised. This is especially important when the match is covered by (local) TV.
- When a penalty corner is over, the 2 ball patrol closest to the goal keeper who defended the penalty corner, have to make sure that (when the game is going on towards the other side of the pitch) all equipment used for defending the penalty corner (masks, gloves, etc) should be collected behind the goal as soon as possible.
- In case of shoot-outs, make sure that 2 ball patrol are available (each located on the sideline) to put a ball on the 23m line after each shoot-out has been taken. However pay attention what the umpires or

goal keeper are doing with the ball when the previous shoot-out has been taken, because sometimes they throw the ball back to the 23m themselves.

Instructions for Ball Patrol liaison

- Make sure the ball patrol shirts, sweaters or (rain)coats are of a different colour than those of the 2 participating teams and umpires.
- Ideally all 6-8 ball patrol should wear the same shorts/skirts/pants and socks so they look like 1 team.
- Make sure that the ball patrol wear hockey shoes, shin guards and mouth guards.
- Make sure you as ball patrol liaison instruct them well before the start of the game. The ball patrol must have the feeling of being a team, with a real liaison.
- As ball patrol liaison you have to pay attention to the weather. If this changes during the course of the game and the ball patrol are only wearing a shirt, make sure to bring them sweaters or raincoats.
- When a ball gets across/over a fence and cannot be collected anymore, make sure to provide the ball patrol with a new ball.
- Provide the ball patrol with the Kookaburra balls just before the game and collect them right after the end of the game (including the match ball).
- You can use halftime for giving advice to the ball patrol.
- Provide all ball patrol with a drink (or snack) at halftime and after the match.
- It is always nice if the public announcer (beside announcing the teams and officials before the game) also announces the ball patrol, so make sure to arrange this.
- Ball patrol do not join the teams and umpires in the line-up. After the teams have shaken hands and are heading for their huddle, the ball patrol can run to their positions.