



APMHA House League Tournament Rules

Presented by the Almonte Pakenham
Minor Hockey Association

GOVERNING RULES & AUTHORITY

1. All tournament games will be governed by the rules and regulations of Hockey Eastern Ontario (HEO), Hockey Canada, and other applicable governing bodies, except where specific tournament rules below apply.
2. All tournament divisions are non-checking. Body contact is not permitted.
3. Referee decisions regarding the application of the rules of the game are final and may not be appealed.
4. The APMHA Tournament Committee has final authority over matters relating to tournament administration and conduct. Where an issue falls outside these rules, the Tournament Committee will adjudicate the matter and its decision is final.

TOURNAMENT ELIGIBILITY & REGISTRATION

1. Applicant teams must be participants in a minor hockey association. All-star or select teams will not be accepted. If an ineligible all-star or select team is found to be participating, all games may be forfeited and the tournament registration fee will not be refunded.
2. Each team is guaranteed a minimum of three (3) games.
3. There will be no refunds of tournament registration fees.
4. One team representative must check in at the registration desk no less than one hour before the team's first scheduled game.
5. The team manager, coach, or designate must check in as required by the tournament committee and provide the team's required documentation.

PLAYER & TEAM ELIGIBILITY

1. Eligible players must be registered members of the team or properly affiliated players in accordance with HEO/Hockey Canada requirements.
2. Teams must bring their official branch-issued roster or player cards, proof of affiliation, and proof of age and identity for all players when required.
3. Prior to listing an affiliated player, the team must receive permission from the team to which the player is registered. Affiliated players may only participate in accordance with the applicable Hockey Canada and HEO affiliation regulations and any required approvals.
4. All players must participate in at least one round-robin game to be eligible to play in the semi-final or final, unless the player is serving a suspension.
5. If a team cannot substantiate its lineup to the satisfaction of the Tournament Committee, the team may be disqualified from the tournament without refund.
6. Each team must supply a qualified Trainer for each game.

EQUIPMENT

1. Players must be fully equipped in accordance with HEO/Hockey Canada requirements, including an approved throat/neck guard.
2. Chinstraps must be properly fastened to the helmet.

3. Any equipment exception related to an association's rules must be reviewed with the Director of Tournaments before the tournament begins.
4. The Home team will wear a light/white jersey and the Visiting team will wear a dark jersey. If there is insufficient colour contrast, the Home team may be required to change jerseys where possible.

GAME FORMAT & TIMING

1. Teams must be prepared to start their games at least 15 minutes before the scheduled start time. Scheduled game times are approximate, and the Tournament Committee may require a team to start up to 15 minutes early.
2. A two-minute warm-up will take place before each game. The curfew clock will begin once the referees are on the ice.
3. ROUND ROBIN – Games will consist of three (3) 10-minute stop-time periods, subject to a 50-minute ice-time curfew.
4. PLAYOFFS –Playoff games will consist of three (3) 10-minute stop-time periods, subject to the tournament schedule and ice-time availability. If a playoff game is tied at the end of regulation, the overtime procedure below will apply.
5. A five-goal lead at any time during the third period will result in the clock converting to running time. Stop time will resume if the goal differential is reduced to four goals or fewer.
6. Minor penalties will be assessed in accordance with the applicable Hockey Canada and HEO rules.
7. If an infraction occurs during running time, the clock will stop when the penalty is assessed and running time will resume when play restarts.
8. There will be no overtime or time-outs during round-robin games.
9. One (1) 30-second time-out is permitted in championship games only.
10. Delay-of-game penalties will be strictly enforced by the referees.

OVERTIME & SHOOTOUT

1. There will be no overtime in round-robin games.
2. For semi-final and championship games that are tied at the end of regulation, there will be one (1) five-minute stop-time sudden-death overtime period played 4-on-4.
3. If the game remains tied after overtime, a three-player shootout will be used to determine the winner, followed by sudden-death shootout rounds if necessary.
4. No player may shoot a second time until all eligible players on the team have had an opportunity to shoot.
5. Any penalties during overtime will be administered in accordance with the applicable Hockey Canada and HEO rules.

STANDINGS & TIEBREAKERS

1. Round-robin standings will be based on: Win – 2 points; Tie – 1 point; Loss – 0 points.
2. If teams are tied in points at the conclusion of round-robin play, the following tiebreakers will be applied in order:
 - a. Head-to-head result between the tied teams (two-team tie only).
 - b. Most wins.
 - c. Goal differential, with a maximum five-goal differential counted from each game.
 - d. Lowest number of goals against.
 - e. Most goals for.
 - f. Lowest number of penalty minutes accumulated during round-robin play.
 - g. Coin toss by the Director of Tournaments or designated representative.
3. In the event that three or more teams are tied, there will be no reverting back to a previous tiebreaking step once a seed has been determined.

TOURNAMENT CONDUCT & FACILITY RULES

1. APMHA maintains a ZERO TOLERANCE policy for taunting or berating players, officials, staff, tournament volunteers, or other participants. This applies to parents, players, team officials, and spectators.
2. The APMHA Tournament Committee reserves the right to eject any person it determines, in its sole discretion, to be acting improperly. APMHA accepts no liability in connection with such ejections.
3. Team officials are responsible for the conduct and supervision of their team's participants at all times.
4. No shooting, stickhandling, passing of objects, running, or mini-stick play is permitted anywhere in the facility other than on the ice surface.
5. No pets are permitted in arena facilities. Certified service animals are welcome.
6. Alcohol is not permitted in arena facilities. Players may not participate while under the influence of alcohol.
7. Teams may be ejected from tournament play, without refund or compensation, if they are responsible for damage to tournament facilities or unacceptable dressing-room conditions.
8. Following each game, teams will participate in a sportsmanlike glove-on fist bump/handshake.

PENALTIES & DISCIPLINE

1. Any player or team official receiving a game misconduct will be subject to the applicable HEO/Hockey Canada disciplinary requirements and any additional tournament consequences permitted under those rules.
2. Any player or team official receiving a penalty for fighting, attempt to injure, or other serious misconduct will be subject to the applicable Hockey Canada and HEO disciplinary rules. The Tournament Committee may impose additional tournament consequences where permitted by those rules.
3. The team is responsible for ensuring that all applicable suspensions are served.

TOURNAMENT ADMINISTRATION

1. Teams must bring game-sheet labels and the required official roster/documentation.
2. Upon check-in, teams must provide and affix their roster labels to the game sheet.
3. A team official is responsible for reviewing the game sheet following each game and promptly reporting any errors or discrepancies to the Tournament Committee.
4. One Player of the Game from each team will be selected by the opposing team's coaching staff for each game played.

PROTESTS & FINAL DECISIONS

1. No appeals will be entertained regarding referee decisions.
2. Any issue not addressed by these rules will be adjudicated by the APMHA Tournament Committee.
3. The decision of the Tournament Committee regarding tournament administration and conduct is final. No other person is authorized to approve or adjudicate matters arising from conflicts within the tournament.

PLAYOFF FORMAT

1. Top two teams in each pool advance to the semi-finals and cross over (1 vs. 2). For example:
 - a. Pool A #1 vs Pool B #2
 - b. Pool B #1 vs Pool A #2
 - c. Winners advance to the championship game.