



NIPISSING DISTRICT HOCKEY LEAGUE

Playoffs Rules & Regulations – Tournament Format

PLAYOFF PARTICIPANTS

- The participants will be those teams in good standing with the Nipissing District Hockey League (NDHL).
- NDHL teams that are scheduled to participate on the given playoff dates of their categories for the conference and NDHL Championships cannot participate in any conflicting tournaments.
- If a team avoids their playoff commitment for any reason after the last day of February, the team will still be responsible for their share of the total cost of the tournament and further action by the NDHL may be forthcoming.
- This event is not considered a tournament; therefore, NOHA tournament regulations do not apply to these playoffs.

TOURNAMENT HOSTS

- Any association wishing to host a League playoff tournament may do so on an annual basis by making an application at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the NDHL.
- All tournament hosts must submit a schedule to the NDHL schedulers and the Commissioner 5 days prior to the start of the playoffs.
- The schedules must be distributed to all participating teams 3 days prior to the start of their first game.
- Included, for your convenience, is the format for the medal presentation for NDHL playoffs.

SCHEDULING GAMES

- When teams or players are required to play three (3) tournament games in one day, there shall be a minimum of two (2) hours between the finish of one game and the start of the next game.
- Games that are being played on Saturday cannot begin prior to 8:00 a.m., **without prior approval from the NDHL board.**
- The last Novice game must be scheduled to finish by 8:00 p.m.
- The last Atom game must be scheduled to finish by 8:30 p.m.
- The last Pee Wee game must be scheduled to finish by 9:00 p.m.
- The last Bantam and Midget game must be scheduled to finish by 10:00 p.m.
- Schedulers must consider travelling distance when establishing schedule.
- The higher seeded team, based on regular season final standings, is always designated as the home team.



GAME FORMAT

- All house league and Novice Rep games will consist of three periods of 10 minutes stop time.
- All Atom Rep, Pee Wee Rep, Bantam Rep, and Midget Rep games will consist of three (3) periods of 14 minutes stop time.
- Rep Games:
 - Rep games played on weeknights should have a flood between the second and the third period. However, the referee may elect to skip the flood if the game is “running behind”.
 - Rep games played on Saturday and Sunday will have a flood every second period.
 - Novice rep games do not have floods during the game; the flood will occur before and after the game.
- NDHL District League Playoffs and Championships will be played under official CHA, NOHA, and NDHL rules except as provided elsewhere in these regulations.
- If any player or team official is ordered to the dressing room for the balance of the game, they shall be subject to further disciplinary action as deemed necessary by the NDHL.
- In the round robin series, teams will receive three (3) points for a win, two (2) points for a tie, and one (1) point for a loss. If a team forfeits a game they shall receive no points.
- There will be no overtime in any of the round robin series.

PLAYOFF TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURE

- If only **two** teams are tied, at the end of the round robin series, then:
 - i) The winner of the game between the two teams will take the higher standing.
 - ii) If two teams are still tied, the team with the most wins will take the higher standing
 - iii) If the teams are still tied, the team with the fewest goals allowed will take the higher standing.
 - iv) If the teams are still tied, the NOHA tie breaking formula will be used.
 - v) If the teams are still tied, a coin toss will determine the higher position.

- If **three or more** teams are tied, at the end of the round robin series, then:
 - i) The team with the most wins will take the higher standing, then if necessary go to step vi).
 - ii) **If all the teams are still tied**, then the team with the fewest goals allowed will take the higher standing, then if necessary go to step vi).
 - iii) **If all the teams are still tied**, then the NOHA tie breaking formula will be used, then if necessary go to step vi).
 - iv) **If all the teams are still tied**, then the team with the most goals scored will be used, then if necessary go to step vi).
 - v) **If all the teams are still tied**, a coin toss will determine the higher position, then if necessary go to step vi).
 - vi) As soon as the “Three or more teams tie breaker” results in teams separated into two way ties then go to step i) of the “Two way tie breaker”.

Example #1:

- Team 1 has a record of 2 wins, 1 loss, 4 points, GF 16, GA 5
- Team 2 has a record of 2 wins, 1 loss, 4 points, GF 8, GA 2
- Team 3 has a record of 1 win, 2 ties, 4 points, GF 12, GA 6
- Team 4 has a record of 1 win, 2 ties, 4 points, GF 11, GA 6
- Team 1 tied Team 2 and Team 3 Tied Team 4

The “three or more tie breaker” would result in team 1 & 2 tied for first place and team 3 & 4 tied for third place.

Now, you would go to the “two way tie breaker” to determine first, second, third, & fourth place.

- Team 2 would finish in first place (Team 1 and 2 did not play each other in the round robin; therefore, the tie is broken by goals against - team 2 allowed fewer goals against than team 1).
- Team 1 would finish in second place (they had more wins than Team 3 and Team 4).
- Team 3 would finish in third place (in the head to head game team 3 and 4 finished in a tie; both teams allowed 6 goals against, however Team 3 had the better goals for/goals against ratio – see NOHA Tie Breaking Rule Chart).
- Team 4 would finish in fourth place.

Example #2:

- Team 1, 2, & 3 are tied and they have the same record described in example #1.
- Teams 1 & 2 have more wins than team 3 so they take the higher standing.
- Team 3 finishes in third place.
- Team 1 & 2 are still tied, therefore, go to two way tie breaker.
- This results in Team 2 finishing in first place (Team 1 and 2 did not play each other in the round robin; therefore, the tie is broken by goals against - team 2 allowed fewer goals against than team 1).

ROUND ROBIN FORMAT

THREE (3) TEAMS

- Teams will play a double round robin tournament format – this will require 6 round robin games.
 - The top two teams will play their championship game on Sunday.
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FOUR (4) TEAMS

- Teams will play a single round robin tournament format – this will require 6 round robin games.
 - The top two teams will play for the Gold and the third and fourth place teams will play for the bronze.
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FIVE (5) TEAMS

- Teams will play a single round robin tournament format – this will require 10 round robin games.
 - The top two teams will play for the Gold and the third and fourth place teams will play for the bronze.
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SIX (6) TEAMS

- Teams will be divided into two groups – this will require 9 round robin games.
 - The first group will consist of the 1st, 3rd, and 5th place teams.
 - The second group will consist of the 2nd, 4th, and 6th place teams.
 - The teams in the first group will play each team in the second group.
 - Schedule: 1 vs 2, 1 vs 4, 1 vs 6, 3 vs 2, 3 vs 4, 3 vs 6, 5 vs 2, 5 vs 4, and 5 vs 6.
 - The top four teams will advance to the semi-finals:
 - Semi Final 1: 1 vs 4
 - Semi Final 2: 2 vs 3
 - The two semi-final losers will play for Bronze.
 - The two semi-final winners will play for Gold.
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SEVEN (7) TEAMS

- Teams will be divided into two groups – this will require 12 round robin games.
- The first group (“A”) will consist of the 1st, 4th, & 7th place teams.
- The second group (“B”) will consist of the 2nd, 3rd, 5th, & 6th place teams.
- The teams in the “A” group will play a double round robin.
- The teams in the “B” group will play a single round robin.
- The top two teams in each group will advance to the semi finals:
 - 1st place “A” group vs 2nd place “B” group
 - 1st place “B” group vs 2nd place “A” group
- The two semi-final losers will play for Bronze.
- The two semi-final winners will play for Gold.

EIGHT (8) TEAMS

- Teams will be divided into two groups – this will require 12 round robin games.
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 - The second group (“B”) will consist of the 2nd, 4th, 6th, and 8th place teams.
 - The first group (“A”) will consist of the 1st, 4th, 5th, & 8th place teams.
 - The second group (“B”) will consist of 2nd, 3rd, 6th, & 7th place teams.
 - The teams in the “A” group will play a single round robin.
 - The teams in the “B” group will play a single round robin.
 - The top two teams in each group will advance to the semi finals:
 - 1st place “A” group vs 2nd place “B” group
 - 1st place “B” group vs 2nd place “A” group
 - The two semi-final losers will play for Bronze.
 - The two semi-final winners will play for Gold.
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NINE (9) TEAMS

- Teams will be divided into two groups – this will require 16 round robin games.
 - The first group (“A”) will consist of the 1st, 4th, 5th, 8th & 9th place teams.
 - The first group (“B”) will consist of the 2nd, 3rd, 6th, & 7th place teams
 - The teams in the “A” group will play a single round robin.
 - The teams in the “B” group will play a single round robin.
 - The top two teams in each group will advance to the semi finals:
 - 1st place “A” group vs 2nd place “B” group
 - 1st place “B” group vs 2nd place “A” group
 - The two semi-final losers will play for Bronze.
 - The two semi-final winners will play for Gold.
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TEN (10) TEAMS

- Teams will be divided into two groups – this will require 15 round robin games.
 - The first group (“A”) will consist of the 1st, 4th, 7th, and 10th place teams.
 - The second group (“B”) will be divided into two sub groups.
 - Group “B-1” will consist of the 2nd, 5th, and 8th place teams.
 - Group “B-2” will consist of the 3rd, 6th, and 9th place teams.
 - The teams in the “A” group will play a single round robin.
 - The teams in the “B-1” group will play each team in the “B-2” group, once.
 - “B” Group Schedule:
 - 2 vs 3, 2 vs 6, 2 vs 9, 5 vs 3, 5 vs 6, 5 vs 9, 8 vs 3, 8 vs 6, and 8 vs 9.
 - The top two teams in group “A” and the top two teams in group “B” will advance to the semi finals:
 - 1st place – “A” group vs 2nd place – “B” group
 - 1st place – “B” group vs 2nd place – “A” group
 - The two semi-final losers will play for Bronze.
 - The two semi-final winners will play for Gold.
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ELEVEN (11) TEAMS

- Teams will be divided into two groups – this will require 19 round robin games.
- The first group (“A”) will consist of the 1st, 3rd, 6th, 9th, and 11th place teams.
- The second group (“B”) will be divided into two sub groups.
- Group “B-1” will consist of the 2nd, 5th, and 8th place teams.
- Group “B-2” will consist of the 4th, 7th, and 10th place teams.
- The teams in the “A” group will play a single round robin.
- The teams in the “B-1” group will play each team in the “B-2” group, once.
- “B” Group Schedule:
 - 2 vs 4, 2 vs 7, 2 vs 10
 - 5 vs 4, 5 vs 7, 5 vs 10
 - 8 vs 4, 8 vs 7, 8 vs 10
- The top two teams in group “A” and the top two teams in group “B” will advance to the semi finals:
 - 1st place “A” group vs 2nd place “B” group
 - 1st place “B” group vs 2nd place “A” group
- The two semi-final losers will play for Bronze.
- The two semi-final winners will play for Gold.

TWELVE (12) TEAMS

- Teams will be divided into two groups – this will require 18 round robin games.
- The first group (“A”) will be divided into two sub groups:
 - Group “A-1” will consist of the 1st, 5th, and 9th place teams.
 - Group “A-2” will consist of the 4th, 8th, and 12th place teams.
- The second group (“B”) will be divided into two sub groups.
 - Group “B-1” will consist of the 2nd, 6th, and 10th place teams.
 - Group “B-2” will consist of the 3rd, 7th, and 11th place teams.
- The teams in the “A-1” group will play each team in the “A-2” group, once.
- The teams in the “B-1” group will play each team in the “B-2” group, once.
- “A” Group Schedule:
 - 1 vs 4, 1 vs 8, 1 vs 12
 - 5 vs 4, 5 vs 8, 5 vs 12
 - 9 vs 4, 9 vs 8, 9 vs 12
- “B” Group Schedule:
 - 2 vs 3, 2 vs 7, 2 vs 11
 - 6 vs 3, 6 vs 7, 6 vs 11
 - 10 vs 3, 10 vs 7, 10 vs 11
- The top two teams in group “A” and the top two teams in group “B” will advance to the semi finals:
 - 1st place – “A” group vs 2nd place – “B” group
 - 1st place – “B” group vs 2nd place – “A” group
- The two semi-final losers will play for Bronze.
- The two semi-final winners will play for Gold.

SEMI-FINAL and CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

- A three (3) hour lapse must be scheduled between the end of the semi-final games and the beginning of the championship games.

SEMI-FINAL and CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES (ONLY) – OVERTIME

- At the end of regulation time, the teams will play a sudden victory overtime format.
- There will be no flood between the end of regulation play and the start of the overtime period.
- Any overtime period shall be considered part of the game and all un-expired penalties shall remain in force.
- Teams will **not** change ends during any of the overtime period(s).
- Time outs are not permitted in the overtime period.
- The teams will play one **sudden-victory overtime period**.
- The overtime period will be **five (5) minutes, stop time**.
- The teams will play with three (3) skaters plus a goaltender (a.k.a. 3-on-3). Substitutions are permitted.
- If the game is still tied, at the end of the overtime period, then the game will be decided by a shootout.

3 SHOT SHOOTOUT

- In the first round, each team will take three shots each.
- The teams will shoot at the same time.
- Each team must use 3 different players to take the shots.
- If at the end of the 3 shot shoot out, the teams are still tied, then the teams will take one shot each until a winner is decided.

1 SHOT SHOOTOUT

- The teams will shoot at the same time.
- Each team must use different players to take the shots. They cannot repeat shooters until they have used the entire line up.
- Rounds will continue until a winner is declared.

OVERTIME PENALTIES

- A team cannot play with less than three (3) skaters on the ice.
- Where a penalty, or penalties, would result in one team having less than three (3) skaters, the penalized team shall play with three (3) skaters and the other team shall add one (1) or two (2) players for the duration of the penalty.
- At the end of the penalty time, the player(s) would return to the ice until the first stoppage in play. Then, the number of players would return to the designated format.

For example, while playing 3-on-3 a penalty was assessed against Team A. Since Team A cannot play with less than 3 players on the ice, Team B placed an extra skater on the ice. This resulted in the teams playing 4-on-3.

The penalty ended, without a team scoring, the penalized player would return to the ice, therefore, the teams would be playing 4-on-4.

At the first stoppage in play, after the penalty expired, the teams would return to the 3-on-3 format.

GAME OFFICIALS

- All associations shall appoint a person to be in charge of the officials for the NDHL Championships, preferably your association's scheduler or Referee-In-Chief
- The system for officiating shall be set by the NOHA.
- Regular book rates (as per regulation) for all games.

MEDALS

- The NDHL will provide Bronze, Silver, and Gold Medallions for presentation at the conclusion championships. Medal presentation format will be used for the presentation of the medals at the conclusion of the final games.
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NIIPISSING DISTRICT HOCKEY LEAGUE

Medal presentation format

The purpose of this motion is to have ALL Associations in the NDHL making playoff presentations consistently. It should be viewed as a minimum format and expanded on as the host Association feels fit.

- On completion of medal winning games the teams should shake hands at centre ice then line up at their respective blue lines for the presentation of the medals. Players should remove helmets in preparation to receive their medal.
- When a microphone is available instructions to this affect can be given over the address system. This is the ideal condition.
- Medals should always be presented on the ice and if possible be presented by a member of the host Association's executive. If a member from the opposing teams executive is present they could also be involved.
- A three member presentation team is suggested. One to announce each players name over the microphone as they receive their medal, another to make the presentations of the medals around the neck of the player and another to hold the medals on a hanger or stick ready for presentation. The score sheet will provide a list of player's names. Time keepers can often be used to hold medals or announce the names when necessary.
- Each team should be recognized for participation in the series even if no medals are presented to the team. This should take place prior to the presentation of the bronze medal.
- In championship games, the silver medals should be presented first, then the gold medals. The plaque should then be presented to the championship team's captains. If there is time pictures can be taken.
- Medals should be kept ready so that when it is definite that a winner will be determined, they are available for quick presentation on completion of the game.
- Referees should be made aware that the game is a championship game where medals will be awarded. They will also need to be informed if overtime will be called and if so, what format will be played. This should be done prior to the game.

Each Association should appoint someone at the beginning of the playoff season to assure that the medals are at ALL games where a Champion could be determined. This person is responsible to get the medals to the next venue should the Championship not be won. The name of this contact person for each Association should be submitted to the secretary along with their phone number prior to playoffs.

