

OFSAA GIRLS' FIELD HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP

The sole basis for the very existence of high school sport is the contribution it makes to the general educational experience of those students who participate.

PLAYING REGULATIONS

1. Date:

The OFSAA Girls' Field Hockey Championship shall be held on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of the first week in November unless extraordinary circumstances dictate a change.

2. Location:

The location of the Championship shall be decided not later than the OFSAA Annual Meeting held in April of the school year prior to the Championship.

3. Tournament Structure and Procedures:

- (a) The Championship Tournament shall consist of four (4) pools with four (4) teams in each pool. Each pool shall play a round robin series. The top two (2) teams in each pool shall advance to the playoffs.
- (b) Convenors, whenever possible, should ensure that all participating teams are rotated throughout all Championship sites during the preliminary rounds of competition.
- (c) Tie Breaking Procedures: Classification in each Pool
 - (i) The total number of points obtained by each team determines its order of finish within the pool. Points will be awarded as follows: Win = 3; Tie = 1; Loss or Default = 0.
 - (ii) The top two (2) teams in each pool will proceed to the quarter-finals.
- (d) Tie Breaking Procedures for Playoff Position

If in the same pool teams have the same number of points their ranking shall be decided as follows:

Note: In any game there shall be a maximum goal differential of five (5). The first time the goal differential reaches five (5), no further scoring shall be recorded and the game is over with respect to scoring. The actual game continues but no further scoring is recorded. The umpire shall be informed when the five-goal differential is reached and shall inform both coaches.

- (i) **Two (2) teams with the same number of points:**
 - the winner of the pool match between the two (2) teams shall be awarded the higher position;

- if the result of this match was a draw, the team having the better goal difference shall be placed higher. (A positive goal difference is always better than a negative goal difference);
 - in the event of an equal goal difference, the team having the higher goal average shall be placed higher. Goal average shall be determined by dividing (the number of "goals for") by (the number of "goals against" plus one);
 - in the event of an equal goal average, the team having the higher number of "goals for" shall be placed higher;
 - in the event of an equal number of "goals for", a series of penalty strokes under the same conditions as the play-offs shall be conducted until a winner is determined.
- (ii) **three (3) or more teams with the same number of points:**
- the last four (4) points above shall apply;
- (iii) **default:**
- if there is a tie in points in a pool which affects quarter-final qualifiers and if one (1) team won by default and one (1) team defeated the team which subsequently defaulted, the score for the defaulted game will be recorded as the same as the score of the game which actually took place (in favour of the team against whom the default occurred). In all other circumstances, where there is a default the score will be recorded as 1-0 in favour of the "winning" team.
- (e) A team shall play a maximum of two (2) games in one day and be entitled to a ninety (90) minute period between games. Under extenuating circumstances, this may have to be modified in consultation with the Chairperson of the Sport Advisory Committee or designate.
- (f) The following procedures shall take place at each game:
- (i) at the beginning of the game players and coaches shall be introduced if possible and shall line up along their respective sides of the mid-field line. They shall advance and shake hands with their opponents;
 - (ii) at the completion of the game players shall again shake hands with all opponents.

4. Seeding:

- (a) The top half of the field shall be seeded. The remaining unseeded teams shall be assigned a position by random draw.
- (b) Teams from the same Association shall **not** be placed in the same pool. An attempt shall also be made to ensure that an Association is not faced with the same opposition from year to year.
- (c) Seeds shall be determined by the Convening Committee in consultation with the OFSAA office, the Sport Advisory Committee Chairperson and the Umpiring Chairperson or designate of Field Hockey Ontario.

- (d) Seeding shall be based on past records, Association strengths and tournament results.

5. Entry:

- (a) Entries will be accepted from Association convenors or designates only.
- (b) The host Association may have an additional entry as determined by the Association.
- (c) **NO APPLICATION OF ENTRY RULES BELOW SHALL PROVIDE FOR MORE THAN TWO (2) ENTRIES FROM ANY ONE ASSOCIATION.** However, additional entries may be awarded to the host Association provided that the additional entries to the previous Association medallists have been exhausted.
- (d) To facilitate the draws, additional entries in the Championships shall be selected from:
 - (1) the gold medal Association of the previous year;
 - (2) the silver medal Association of the previous year;
 - (3) the bronze medal Association of the previous year;
 - (4) the antique bronze medal Association of the previous year.

To further facilitate the draws, entries may be awarded to the Association medalists from two years prior, provided that the additional entries to the previous year’s Association medalists have been exhausted. Additional entries in the Championships shall be selected from:

- (i) the gold medal Association of two years prior;
- (ii) the silver medal Association of two years prior;
- (iii) the bronze medal Association of two years prior;
- (iv) the antique bronze medal Association of two years prior;
- (e) A maximum of 16 entries will be accepted. No additional entries will be granted.
- (f) Any suspension or disciplinary actions in Association play shall be carried forward into OFSAA competition. The Association convenor shall be responsible for reporting such players and the nature of the disciplinary action on the OFSAA entry form.
- (g) For associations withdrawing a team(s) after the commitment deadline the minimum sanction imposed will be a fine equal to the entry fee. Further, if the withdrawal takes place at a time that impacts on the convener, financially or logistically, a further fine may be issued. This fine may encompass costs incurred by the convenor for entry fee, banquet meals, banners, etc. as reviewed and approved by OFSAA. The association and/or school may also be brought forward to the Board of Reference sanctions.

ENTRY DEADLINES

Championship Play Begins	Entry Deadline
Monday	The preceding Tuesday @ 11:59 pm
Tuesday	The preceding Wednesday @ 11:59 pm
Wednesday	The preceding Thursday @ 11:59 pm
Thursday	The preceding Saturday @ 11:59 pm
Friday	The preceding Monday @ 11:59 pm
Saturday	The preceding Tuesday @ 11:59 pm

6. Expenses:

An Entry Fee shall be charged which shall be sufficient to cover operating costs of the tournament. Any Association that does not meet its entry commitment after it has declared an entry into the Championship will be required to submit the entry fee and a report will be made to the Board of Reference - Sanctions.

Those schools having entries are responsible for arranging and financing their own travel, meals and accommodation for the event.

7. Eligibility:

(a) Team Eligibility

To be eligible to compete at the OFSAA Championship a school field hockey team must participate in a minimum of six (6) regulation length games and/or two (2) separate tournaments during a minimum four-week period under the supervision of the teacher-coach.

(b) Student Eligibility

To represent a school in any activity coordinated by the Federation a student **must:**

- (i) be eligible for competition under the Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules (Playing Regulations) of the Association to which her school belongs;
- (ii) be certified as eligible by the Principal of the school;
- (iii) meet the following age requirement: the individual's birth certificate indicates that she has not reached her 19th birthday by January 1st prior to the start of the school year in which the competition is held;
- (iv) be in Grades 9-12;
- (v) be eligible under the OFSAA Transfer Policy (By-Law 5, Section 4(f));
- (vi) be eligible for no more than five consecutive years from date of entry into Grade 9 (By-Law 5, Section (g));
- (vii) have signed the Rules of Behaviour signature form for the competition.
- (viii) Any athlete participating in an OFSAA Championship or an OFSAA qualifying event must have participated as a member of a bona fide high school program during the current season under the supervision of a teacher-coach as certified by the school principal.

8. Rules and Officials:

Revisions to rules governing play at the OFSAA Championship shall be reviewed by the Sport Advisory Committee and approved by the Board of Directors prior to implementation at any Championship. Any changes in the rules after January 1st shall be reviewed by the Sport Advisory Committee with recommendations forwarded to the OFSAA Committee for Girls' Activities.

The rules of the International Field Hockey Federation shall govern play at the OFSAA

Championship with the following **exceptions**:

- (a)
 - (i) Length of Game: two (2) thirty-minute halves with a five (5) minute intermission;
 - (ii) Substitution: the FIH interchange rule shall be in effect with the following proviso: "Players must leave and enter the field near the centre line on the same side as the team benches."
 - (iii) **Any penalty strokes not taken according to the rules, shall be counted as no goal (e.g., shooting prior to the whistle).**

- (b) Tied Games:
 - (i) tied games in pool play shall stand;
 - (ii) in the event of a tie at the end of regulation time in any playoff game;
 - two (2) seven and a half (7.5) minute overtime periods (**not sudden victory**) shall be played after a five (5) minute rest. Teams will toss for choice of ends prior to the start of the overtime period. Teams will change ends with no rest after the first seven and a half (7.5) minute period.
 - **if still tied** each team will select any five (5) players from those listed on the match sheet except a player who has received a red card or a temporary suspension at the end of the game. These five (5) players shall take penalty strokes alternately, the first team to shoot being decided by a coin toss. The winner shall be the team scoring the most goals;
 - if the score is still tied a "sudden victory" system will be used. Each team will alternately send one player to take a penalty stroke until the tie is broken. The order of stroking will change with each pair of penalty strokes. No player may take a second stroke in this series until any five (5) players listed on the match sheet (except any under permanent suspension or temporary suspension at the end of overtime) have taken one stroke.

- (c) Teams must have a goal keeper.

- (d) Coaches and team personnel should remain within the vicinity of their bench and must remain between the 25-yard line and the half line at the end of the field where their bench is located.

- (e) The convenor shall be responsible for obtaining certified officials for the tournament.

- (f) **Number of Players:** Each team may register and dress a maximum of twenty (20) players. Only eligible players are permitted to attend the banquet.

9. Uniforms and Equipment:

- (a)
 - (i) all players must wear shin pads and mouth guards;
 - (ii) the removal of mandatory equipment by a player during a game shall result in the following penalties:
 - for the first offence the player must be removed from the field for a minimum of one (1) minute. The team has the option of substituting or of playing short-handed for that one (1) minute;

- for the second offence a player shall receive a five (5) minute temporary suspension (yellow card);
- for the third offence a player shall be expelled from the game (red card).
- (iii) Student-athletes must remain fully clothed in the appropriate team uniform in the competition area, AND use the designated locker room or change area to change to and from competition attire. Incidents of non-compliance shall be forwarded to the Competition Committee for resolution.
- (b) (i) Teams must have a fully dressed goal keeper with a CSA approved helmet. If a goal keeper is injured during the game, sufficient time must be allotted to dress a replacement goalie with a complete set of goalie equipment.
- (ii) the goalkeeper must wear a sweater of a different colour from her own and the opposing team. Any protective equipment must be underneath the sweater.
- (c) (i) skirts are preferred but other school uniforms are acceptable. The visible shirts/sweaters of all team members except the goalkeeper must be the same colour and a team's knee socks must be identical. All team members must be dressed in identical skirts or all team members must be dressed in identical shorts. If any additional clothing is worn under the skirts or shorts it must be identical for all team members;
- (ii) players must have a clearly visible number (6" high, maximum 2-digit) on the back of their outer clothing;
- (iii) Teams must bring a **contrasting colour of shirt or markers with numbers**. The team named first on the schedule will be required to wear a contrasting colour if there is a colour similarity.
- (d) All competitors are expected to dress in uniforms that are neat, clean and which maintain the integrity of the school's/Association's name, colours and logos. No sport club insignia on uniforms shall be permitted. A sport club is defined as a community, provincially or nationally based organization whose primary purpose is participation in organized competition in single or multi sport programs. Sponsorship recognition is permitted to be visible but must conform with the placement guidelines outlined in By-Law 6, Section 2(h).
- (e) Seamless plastic, coloured hockey balls, as approved by Field Hockey Ontario, shall be used throughout the Championship.
- (f) Equipment must conform to FHC regulations.

10. Awards:

Members of the Championship team shall receive gold OFSAA medallions (20). The school represented by the Championship team shall receive a banner to be retained by the school.

Members of the runner-up team shall receive silver OFSAA medallions (20).

Members of the winning team in the bronze medal match shall receive bronze OFSAA medallions (20).

Members of the losing team in the bronze medal match shall receive antique bronze OFSAA medallions (20).

OFSAA-ineligible athletes, who were permitted to compete at the local league or Association level, shall not receive OFSAA medals, either at the Championship or after the event.

OFSAA Participation Certificates may be provided by the tournament committee.

11. Supervision: (Reference By-Law 6, Section 1)

A teacher is defined as a member of the Ontario College of Teachers or a holder of an Ontario Teacher's Certificate or equivalent.

- (a) For team sports ("A team consists of all athletes from the same school who qualify for Federation competition as a unit..." {reference By-Law 5, Section 3}), a teacher from the same school, or a retired teacher, as approved by the principal of the school, must accompany and be responsible for the team.
- (b) For individual sports (those sports in which athletes from a school qualify for federation competition as individuals), the principal of the school may designate an adult who is not a teacher to accompany the athletes. In addition, a teacher, or a retired teacher, must be present and on site and designated by the principal to be responsible for the athlete(s).
- (c) For all sports, where the teacher, as indicated in (a) and (b) above, is not of the same sex as the athlete(s), and where the athlete(s) are required or might be required to stay overnight, a supervisory adult, as approved by the principal of the school, of the same sex as the athlete(s), must be present and available at the accommodation site for the duration of their stay in the accommodation.

12. Registration:

Registration materials will only be given to the teacher accompanying the team, upon receipt of a completed Rules of Behaviour signature form and photo forms.

13. Deportment: (Reference By-Law 6, Section 2)

- (a) A team is defined as, "All participants representing the same school at an OFSAA Championship event".
- (b) A participant is defined as, "Anyone who has been granted proper authorization to enter a restricted area." "Restricted area" includes "those areas occupied by athletes and to which access by the general public is restricted or prohibited."
- (c) All participants are expected to abide by the, "Rules of Behaviour for Participants to OFSAA Championships". (see Appendix to By-Laws)
- (d) Supervising adults are responsible for the behaviour of participants for the duration of the Championships.
- (e) Teams are open to censure for failure of its participants to abide by the "Rules of Behaviour".
- (f)
 - (i) All coaches are expected to adhere to the Code of Ethics for Coaches to OFSAA Championships. (See Appendix II)
 - (ii) School personnel and coaches are expected to adhere to the Statement of Principle on

- on Recruiting. (See Appendix IV)
- (iii) Spectators are expected to adhere to the Code of Behaviour for Spectators. (See Appendix III)
- (iv) All coaches are expected to adhere to the "Return to Play Guidelines". (See Appendix VI)
- (v) School personnel and coaches are expected to adhere to the Policy on dispensing drugs, medication and food supplements. (See Appendix IX)
- (g) All schools entering a Federation Championship shall, by signature of the school principal on the Championship Entry Form, acknowledge responsibility for making restitution for damage resulting from misconduct by their participants.
- (h) No artificial noisemakers are permitted at OFSAA Championship events.

14. Social:

If a special event is arranged, all team members and coaches must attend. At this event each coach and captain shall be introduced.

Dress Code for Banquets:

- no person shall wear jeans, shorts or a hat;
- girls shall wear dress pants or skirt with a dress top;
- if a themed event is planned by the convenor, then the convenor must apply to the OFSAA office for permission to vacate these rules;
- should there be an instance of improper attire, the Competition Committee shall deal with the matter and forward a report to the OFSAA Board of Reference - Sanctions.

15. Medical:

Provision shall be made by the Convenor to have a medical doctor in attendance or readily available and to follow appropriate hygienic precautions with regard to bodily fluids and communicable diseases. (See Appendix IV to the By-Laws.) Qualified first-aid personnel and equipment shall be available at the Championship site(s). Coaches shall provide all consumable medical supplies (e.g. tape, bandaids) for their athletes.

16. Jury of Appeal:

The Jury of Appeal shall consist of three (3) individuals: the chairperson of the OFSAA Girls' Field Hockey Sport Advisory Committee or designate, a tournament committee member and the Head Official or designate. The Jury of Appeal shall handle disputes which fall within the realm of:

- (a) Tournament Structure and Procedure;
- (b) Rules and Officials;
- (c) Uniforms and Equipment;
- (d) Scoring.

Tournament structure and procedure concerns shall be addressed no later than the end of the coaches' meeting.

Within five (5) minutes of the conclusion of the game, the coach of a team wishing to lodge a protest, must notify the head official and the opposing coach of their intent to appeal.

A dispute must be submitted in writing to the Convenor or Designate together with a \$50.00 fee (refundable if dispute is upheld) within thirty (30) minutes of the conclusion of the game in which the incident under dispute occurred. Decisions of the Jury of Appeal shall be final.

A report of the Jury of Appeal decisions shall be forwarded to the Board of Reference - Sanctions.

17. Competition Committee:

- (a) The Competition Committee shall consist of three (3) individuals: the Championship Convenor, or designate; an OFSAA staff or Executive Committee Member, or designate; and the Chairperson of the OFSAA Girls' Field Hockey Sport Advisory Committee, or designate. The Competition Committee shall handle disputes regarding:

- (i) Eligibility;
- (ii) Department;
- (iii) Supervision and registration;
- (iv) Social;
- (v) Medical personnel;
- (vi) Awards.

If a dispute cannot be resolved by the Competition Committee within a reasonable period of time, the event will continue and the dispute may be referred to a Board of Reference - General. (Please note that eligibility under the OFSAA Transfer Policy cannot be addressed at OFSAA events (By-Law 5, Section 4 (f)).

Disputes which fall within the jurisdiction of the Competition Committee must be received in writing to the Convenor or designate, together with a \$50.00 fee (refundable if dispute is upheld) within a reasonable time frame.

Appeals to the decisions of the Competition Committee shall be addressed to the Board of Reference - General.

A report of the decisions of the Competition Committee shall be forwarded to the Board of Reference - Sanctions.

- (b) The Competition Committee shall be the body empowered to delay/cancel or modify an event(s) due to unforeseen circumstances at the site(s).

***All Federation Championships are non-smoking events.
This includes the use of all tobacco related products.***

Participants must obey the Ministry of Education's Code of Conduct.