

OFSAA BOYS' 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 Boys' "A/AA" and "AAA/AAAA" Hockey Championships shall be held on the Wednesday (if more than 16 teams), Thursday, Friday and Saturday of the week immediately following the designated Ministry March break unless extraordinary circumstances dictate a change.

2. Location:

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

3. Classifications:

There shall be two classifications of Championships - "A/AA" and "AAA/AAAA". Associations shall classify their school teams based on the criteria found in By-Law 5, Section 2(b).

4. Tournament Structure and Procedure:

(a) For a 16 team structure:

There shall be four (4) pools of four (4) teams and each pool shall play a round robin series within the pool. The two (2) finishers in each pool after round robin play shall advance to the playoffs.

(b) For a tournament with more than 16 teams:

There shall be four (4) pools, some pools with four (4) teams and some pools with five (5) teams. The top two (2) finishers in each pool after round robin play shall advance to the playoffs.

(c) Convenors, whenever possible, should ensure that all participating teams are rotated throughout all Championship sites during the preliminary rounds of competition.

(d) Playoffs:

- (i) **quarter-finals:** the winner of Pool A shall play the second place team in B (Game A); B1 shall play A2 (Game B); C1 shall play D2 (Game C); D1 shall play C2 (Game D). The winner of Game A shall play the winner of Game D and the winner of Game B shall play the Winner of Game C in the semi-finals;
- (ii) winners of semi-final games shall play to determine the OFSAA champion; losers of these games shall play for the bronze medallion.

- (e) All teams are guaranteed three (3) games.
- (f) No team or player shall play more than two (2) games in one day.
- (g) If a team is deemed to have withdrawn from the Championship tournament, all pool games will be cancelled and considered no games and if the withdrawal occurs during any of the Championship rounds the game shall be considered a forfeit.
 - The team is removed from the remainder of the tournament including medal rounds.
 - For suspension purposes, the game or games that involved the defaulted team would count as a game.
- (h) **Tie breaking procedure for standings in Pool:**

Note: A maximum of a five (5) goal spread, regardless of the score, will be used to determine goal differential.

- (i) if **two** (2) teams are tied for a playoff position:
 - (a) the team which won the game between the two (2) teams during pool play shall receive the position;
 - (b) if their pool game was a tie, then the team with the greater goal differential ("goals for" minus "goals against") during all pool games shall receive the position;
- (ii) if **three** (3) teams are tied for one (1) available playoff position:
 - (a) if one (1) team defeated the other two (2) teams during the round robin pool play, it shall receive the position;
 - (b) the team with the greater goal differential ("goals scored" minus "goals scored against") among the three (3) tied teams in pool play, involving the tied teams only, shall receive the position;
 - (c) if teams are still tied, positions shall be determined by dividing the "goals scored" by the "goals scored against" in the pool games involving the tied teams only;
 - (d) if two (2) teams are still tied after (c) above, the position shall be awarded to the team that won the game between the two (2) tied teams in pool play; (if the game deciding this position was a tie, then the team with the greater goal differential ("goals scored" minus "goals scored against") during all pool games shall receive the position);
- (iii) If three (3) teams are tied for two (2) available playoff positions:
 - (a) If one (1) team defeated the other two (2) teams during the round robin play, it shall receive the higher position, with the second position granted to the team that won the game between the remaining two (2) teams during pool play; (if the game deciding the second position was a tie, then the team with the greater goal differential ("goals scored" minus "goals against") during all pool games involving these two (2) teams shall receive the position).
 - (b) The two (2) teams with the best goal differential ("goals scored" minus "goals against" among the three (3) tied teams in pool play involving the tied teams only, shall receive the positions.
 - (c) If three (3) teams are still tied, the positions shall be determined by dividing the "goals scored" by the "goals scored against" in the pool games involving the tied

teams only; if two (2) teams are still tied for a second position, then the team that won the game between the remaining two (2) teams during pool play shall receive the position; (if the game deciding the second position was a tie, then the team with the greater goal differential ("goals scored" minus "goals scored against") during all pool games shall receive the position);

- (d) If three (3) teams are still tied, the positions shall be determined by dividing the "goals scored" by the "goals scored against" during all pool games (the two teams with the highest number will advance); if two (2) teams are still tied for a second position, then the team that won the game between the remaining two (2) teams during pool play will receive the position. If the game deciding the second position was a tie, then the team with the greater goal differential ("goals scored" minus "goals scored against") during all pool games shall receive the position.
- (iv) if **four** (4) teams are tied for a playoff position:
- (a) the team(s) with the greater goal differential ("goals scored" minus "goals scored against") among the four tied teams in pool games, involving the tied teams only, shall receive the position;
- (b) if any teams remain tied after (iv)(a) the next determination will be made by dividing "goals scored" by "goals scored against" in the pool games involving the tied teams only. The team with the highest number will advance.
- (c) if any teams remain tied after (iv)(a) & (b), the position shall be determined by considering the "head-to-head" game(s) involving the tied teams. The team which won this contest will be awarded the playoff position.
- (v) in the event that any of the preceding tie breaking procedures (i, ii, iii, iv) do not determine a winner, the following equation shall come into effect:

$$\frac{\text{goals for minus goals against}}{\text{goals for in the pool games involving the tied teams}}$$

the team with the higher number will advance;

- (vi) In the event that any of the preceding tie breaking procedures (i, ii, iii, iv, v) do not determine a winner, the following equation shall come into effect:

$$\frac{\text{goals for minus goals against}}{\text{goals for in all pool games}}$$

- (vii) if teams remain tied, the winner will be determined by the team with the least number of penalty minutes, involving the tied teams, throughout the tournament. If the teams have the same number of penalty minutes, the winner will be determined by the team with the least number of penalty minutes during all pool games.

5. Seeding:

All teams in the OFSAA Hockey Championships shall be seeded. Selections will be based on league record, tournament performance and Association success in past OFSAA competition. Seeding shall be done by the Tournament Committees in consultation with the OFSAA office and

the Chairman of the Hockey Sport Advisory Committee.

The following seeding chart will be used for all seeding purposes and scheduling for all OFSAA Boys Hockey Championships:-

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
# 1	# 2	# 3	# 4
# 7	# 8	# 5	# 6
# 12	# 11	# 10	# 9
# 13	# 14	# 15	# 16
# 20	# 19	# 18	# 17

Playoff Format

Quarter Finals

Game # 1 - 2nd B vs 1st A Game # 3 – 2nd D vs 1st C
 Game # 2 - 2nd A vs 1st B Game # 4 – 2nd C vs 1st D

Semi Finals

Game # 5 Winner Game #1 vs Winner Game # 4
 Game # 6 Winner Game # 2 vs Winner Game # 3

Home team in each semi final will be the team with the highest seeding

Final

Game # 7 – Bronze Medal Game – Loser Game # 5 vs Loser Game # 6
 Game # 8 – Gold/Silver Medal Game – Winner Game # 5 vs Winner Game # 6

Home team in each final will be the team with the highest seeding

6. Entry:

- (a) Entries will be accepted from Association Convenors or designates only.
- (b) Each Association may enter one (1) team in each Championship. 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 draw, additional entries in the Championships shall be selected from:
 - (i) the gold medal Association of the previous year;
 - (ii) the silver medal Association of the previous year;
 - (iii) the bronze medal Association of the previous year;
 - (iv) 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) Any suspensions 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.
- (f) 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

7. Expenses:

An Entry Fee shall be charged which shall be sufficient to cover the operating costs of the tournament. This fee shall be determined by the Convenor in consultation with the OFSAA office. 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.

8. Eligibility:

- (a) 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 his 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 he has not reached his 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 (5) consecutive years from date of entry into Grade 9 (By-Law 5, Section 4(g));
 - (vii) have signed the Rules of Behaviour signature form for the competition;
 - (viii) have executed the Federation's "Release of Liability" form.
 - (ix) 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.
- (b) No competitor is eligible for the OFSAA Hockey Championship whose name has appeared on a game sheet, and has dressed, after December 1st for a team in "A", "B", "C", "D", Major Junior, Junior, Intermediate, Senior or GMHL divisions in any National and/or International Association, or any league deemed equivalent to "A", "B", "C", or "D".
- (c) To be considered a team eligible for OFSAA Hockey Championship play, a team must play in an Association approved league and play a minimum of a six game schedule.

9. Rules and Officials:

Revisions to rulebooks 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.

All players must wear ear flaps and throat guards. For goalies, a plastic throat protector (bib) attached to a mask is strongly recommended. The plastic throat protector does not replace a mandatory throat guard. Goalkeepers must wear a neck guard. Mouth guards are strongly recommended for all players, both skaters and goalies, as per OPHEA guidelines.

CAHA rules shall govern play in the OFSAA Championship with the following exceptions:

- (a) The maximum number of players permitted to dress for a game is twenty (20), eighteen (18) plus two (2) goalies.
- (b) The red line shall be eliminated with regard to the off-side and thus the following special rule applies:

- (i) the legal number of players must be on the ice for each face off (to prevent gaining positional advantage after drop of puck).
- (c) If a player receives a **major penalty**, his team will play shorthanded for five (5) minutes and that player is ineligible to play in the remainder of that game and in his team's next game. (See exception in (d) **major for fighting**).
- (d) If a player receives a **match penalty** or a **major penalty for fighting** his team will play shorthanded for five (5) minutes and that player is ineligible to play in the remainder of that game and in any further tournament games.
- (e) if a player receives a **game misconduct penalty**, that player is ineligible to play in the remainder of that game and his team's next game.
- (f) If a player receives a **gross misconduct penalty**, that player is ineligible to play in the remainder of that game and his team's next game. The disciplinary review committee will review the offense and may assign a further suspension.
- (g) If a player is assessed a two minute checking from behind penalty with a game misconduct, that player is ineligible to play in the remainder of that game. A player who is assessed a five minute "**checking from behind**" penalty will be ejected for the remainder of that game and his teams' next game.
- (h) All games, including the Championship game, shall consist of three (3) fifteen-minute stop-time periods with a minimum rest of five (5) minutes between periods.
- (i) Tie games shall stand in pool play.
- (j) In the event of a tie game at the end regulation time in the playoffs, the following format will be used
 - i) Overtime period is stop time
 - ii) Overtime is sudden victory except in a first phase of shootout
 - iii) One ten (10) minute overtime - (5 on 5)
 - iv) If still tied, a penalty shot system will be used
 - a) 5 player pool from each team - total goals from five players will determine winner
 - b) If still tied, the remaining players will take alternating shots until a winner is determined.

Every player on the bench must be used before a player gets a second opportunity to shoot

Exception:

 - (a) Goalie does not participate in the shootout unless designated
 - (b) A player who has been assessed any penalty and has not fully served the penalty prior to the shootout is ineligible for the shootout process.

The home team will have the choice to shoot first or second in the shoot out.
- (k) The Convenor shall be responsible for obtaining competent officials for the Championship.

- (l) The Convenor shall arrange for a three man system for all games in the tournament. In an extraordinary situation (official injury/no show) a two man system could be used in the interim.

10. Uniforms:

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). This criteria must be met both on and in the immediate vicinity of the competitive area and during the awards ceremonies.

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.

Teams should provide a second set of school sweaters in case two (2) opponents have uniforms of a similar colour. A coin toss shall decide which team will change.

11. Awards:

Members of the Championship team shall receive gold OFSAA medallions (25). 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 (25).

Members of the winning team in the bronze medal match shall receive bronze OFSAA medallions (25).

Members of the losing team in the bronze medal match shall receive antique bronze OFSAA medallions (25).

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.

12. 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.

13. Registration:

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

14. 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 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.

15. 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;
- boys shall wear dress pants, a dress shirt and a tie;
- 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.

16. 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.

17. Jury of Appeal:

The Jury of Appeal shall consist of three (3) individuals: the chairperson of the OFSAA Hockey Sport Advisory Committee or designate, a tournament committee member and one (1) other member appointed by the Championship Convenor. 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.

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, except as provided within specific sport governing regulations, 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.

18. 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 Hockey Sport Advisory Committee, or designate. The Competition Committee shall handle disputes regarding:

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| (i) Eligibility; | (iv) Social; |
| (ii) Deportment; | (v) Medical personnel; |
| (iii) Supervision and registration; | (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 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.