

OFSSA GIRLS' 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 OFSSA Girls' Hockey Championships shall be held during the fourth week of March unless extraordinary circumstances dictate a change.

2. Location:

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

3. Classifications:

There shall be two classifications - "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:

Each of the two classifications shall be organized in a 16 team or 20 team, 4 day Championships according to Association entries. Convenors, in cooperation with OFSSA staff, will determine any additional entries to meet requirements in accordance with 6(d) of the Playing Regulations.

- (a) Convenors, whenever possible, should ensure that all participating teams are rotated throughout all Championship sites during the preliminary rounds of competition.
- (b) All teams are guaranteed three (3) games with a minimum of three hours between games.
- (c) Each team shall play two (2) games on the first day and at least one (1) game on the second with playoffs (quarters/semis/finals) to follow.
- (d) **Tie Breaking Procedures to Determine Standing in Pool Play:**

Note: A maximum of a five (5)-goal point spread, regardless of the score, will be used to determine goal differential. For example, if the final score is 11-3, it will be listed as 8-3."

- (i) If two teams are tied for a playoff position:
 - The team which won the game between the two tied teams during pool play shall receive the position
 - If their pool game was a tie, then the team with the greater goal differential ("goals for" minus "goals against") shall receive the position

- If still tied, the following equation shall come into effect:
"goals for" minus "goals against" divided by "goals against"
The team with the higher number shall advance.

(ii) If three (3) teams are tied for one playoff position:

- If one team defeated the other two teams during round robin pool play that team shall receive the playoff position
- The team with the greater goal differential ("goals for" minus "goals against") among the three tied teams in pool play, **in games involving the tied teams only** shall receive the position
- If still tied then the team with the greatest goal differential in **all pool games** shall receive the position
- If still tied, the following equation shall come into effect
"goals for" minus "goals against" divided by "goals against"

(iii) If three (3) teams are tied for more than one playoff position

- If one team defeated the other two teams during pool play, it shall receive the higher position
- If this is not the case, or to determine the remaining positions follow the last three steps as outlined in (ii) above

(iv) If more than three (3) teams are tied for a playoff position

- The team(s) with the greater goal differential ("goals for" minus "goals against") among the tied teams in pool games **involving those tied teams** shall receive the position(s)
- If ties still remain the team(s) with the greater goal differential **in all pool games** shall receive the position(s)
- If ties still remain the following equations shall come into effect:
"goals for" minus "goals against" divided by "goals against"

(v) In the event that any of the above do not break the tie for pool placement, the positions will be determined by the number of penalty minutes by the teams throughout the pool play and those teams with the least number of penalty minutes shall receive the position(s).

- (e) Points are awarded for pool play as follows:

$$\text{Win} = 2; \text{Tie} = 1; \text{Loss} = 0$$

5. Seeding:

All teams shall be seeded by the tournament committee. Seeding shall be done in consultation with the OFSAA office and the Chair of the Girls' Hockey Sport Advisory Committee.

6. 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 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 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 convener 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 convener 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.

Billets for competitors may be arranged at the discretion of the Convenor; when such billeting is requested players must accept billets as assigned as a condition of participation.

8. Eligibility:

(a) To represent a school in any activity coordinated by the Federation, a student must:

- be eligible for competition under the Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules (Playing Regulations) of the Association to which his school belongs;
- be certified as eligible by the Principal of the school;
- 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;
- be in Grades 9-12;
- be eligible under the OFSAA Transfer Policy; (By-Law 5, Section 4(f)).
- be eligible for no more than five (5) consecutive years from date of entry into Grade 9 (By-Law 5, Section 4(g));
- have signed the Rules of Behaviour signature form for the competition;
- have executed the Federation's "Release of Liability" form.

(b) No competitor is eligible for OFSAA-sanctioned events whose name has appeared on a game sheet, and has dressed, after **December 1st** for any Senior AAA teams of the CWHL, or who is a member of the National Junior Under 22, National Junior Under 18 or National Senior team.

(c) To be considered a team eligible for OFSAA Girls' Hockey Championship play, a team must play in an Association approved league and play a minimum of a six game schedule and/or participate in a minimum of six exhibition/tournament games.

(d) 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.

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.

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

- (a) CSA approved facemasks and BNQ approved throat protectors must be worn by all participants including goalies. Mouth guards are strongly recommended but not mandatory for OFSAA Championships.
- (b) The maximum number of players permitted to dress for a game is twenty (20), eighteen (18) plus two (2) goalies. A team must have a minimum of nine (9) players, eight (8) skaters and one (1) goalie to start a game. Otherwise the game is forfeited.
- (c) The red line shall be eliminated with regard to the off-side and thus the following special rule applies:
 - The legal number of players must be on the ice for each face-off (to prevent gaining positional advantage after drop of puck).
- (d) If a player receives four (4) minor penalties or three (3) stick penalties in one game, she is ejected for the remainder of the game.
- (e) If a player receives a major penalty, her team will play shorthanded for five (5) minutes and that player is ineligible to play in the remainder of that game (automatic game ejection) and her team's next game (See exception in 9(h) major for fighting).
- (f) If a player receives a game misconduct penalty, that player is ineligible to play in the remainder of that game and her team's next game.
- (g) If a player receives a gross misconduct penalty, that player is ineligible to play in the remainder of that game and her team's next game. If the penalty is assessed in the last ten minutes of regular time, or any time in overtime, or at the conclusion of the game prior to the player entering her dressing room, she is ineligible to play in her team's next two (2) games.
- (h) If a player receives a match penalty or a major penalty for fighting, her 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.
- (i) All games, including the Championship game, shall consist of three (3) twelve-minute stop-time periods with a five (5) minute warm-up directly before the start of the game and a three (3) minute rest time between periods. The warm-up and rest time between periods will be put

up on the game clock. If there is a spread of five (5) or more goals the final period shall be straight time. If the point spread returns to a three-goal spread, it returns to stop time.

- (j) No team timeouts are allowed in round robin play. In playoffs each team is allowed one (1) timeout per game.
- (k) Tie games shall stand in pool play.
- (l) In the event of a tie game at the end of regulation time in playoffs, the following will apply:
 - (i) one ten-minute sudden victory overtime period using a three-on-three system shall be played until a winner is declared;
 - (ii) in the event that one team is serving a penalty at the end of regulation time, it shall be four-on-three until the first whistle after the penalty has expired. At the expiration of the penalty the penalized player shall return to the ice and the teams shall play four-on-four until the first whistle at which time the teams shall revert to three-on-three.
 - (iii) if the game is still tied, a three (3) girl simultaneous shootout will take place. Shooters and one alternate must be declared on the game sheet **prior to the start of the game**. Substitution for an injured or penalized player is allowed. Penalized players may not participate in a shootout;
 - (iv) if the game is still tied, a one (1) girl simultaneous sudden victory shootout shall take place using the same players in the same order as above.
- (m) The Convenor shall be responsible for obtaining qualified officials for the Championship. Whenever possible, officials with a minimum HCOP (level 2) certification shall be used.
- (n) Failure to comply with Regulation 9, Uniforms, will result in a two-minute penalty each time the infracting player(s) steps on the ice from the bench.
- (o) All players of each team must wear the same identically coloured hockey socks on both legs, goalies excepted.

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. The first violation will result in a verbal warning from the Championship Convenor. The action to be taken if there is a second violation will be left up to the discretion of the Championship Convenor and the Competition Committee.

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:

- (a) Members of the Championship teams (“AAA/AAAA” and “A/AA”) shall receive gold OFSAA medallions (25). The schools represented by the Championship teams shall receive banners to be retained by their schools.
- (b) Members of the runner-up teams shall each receive silver OFSAA medallions (25).
- (c) Members of the winning teams in the bronze medal matches shall each receive bronze OFSAA medallions (25).
- (d) Members of the losing teams in the bronze medal matches shall each receive antique bronze OFSAA medallions (25).
- (e) OFSAA-ineligible athletes, who were permitted to compete at the local league or Association level, shall not receive awards, either at the Championship or after the event.
- (f) 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 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 signed 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;
- 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.

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:
- (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 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.