



ONTARIO WOMEN'S HOCKEY
ASSOCIATION

NOWHL Championship Playoff Rules March 1st to 3rd, 2024

Northern Community Centre (NCC), 556 Goulais Ave., Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6C 5A7 is the Official Tournament Headquarters and location of all games for the NOWHL Playoffs. The NCC is a brand new twin pad arena.

The Tournament will be a 3-game round robin schedule, followed by Semi-Final (Bronze Medal) and Final game (Gold Medal).

1. All teams must register BEFORE their 1st game. All OWHA Pick Up Consent forms must be presented at Headquarters. The use of an official OWHA Pickup can only be accessed inside your teams RAMP account, paper copies are no longer accepted. Failure to do so may result in forfeiture of games.
2. To be eligible to participate in the NOWHL Playoffs, the participant's name must appear on the official OWHA team roster. Changes to the roster must be made in RAMP and will not be permitted after registration prior to the first game. OWHA "Pickup Consent" forms will be honoured and must be included where necessary per OWHA Rules and before the first game of the playoffs.
3. Hockey Canada and OWHA rules shall apply. The OWHA minimum suspension guidelines will be strictly enforced according to the current OWHA Constitution, By-laws, and Regulations & Rules.
4. The playoff schedule will be uploaded into RAMP; all game codes will be found on each teams respective RAMP login. If you are unsure how to locate/access RAMP, please ask your Association Registrar or Administrator for assistance.
5. All players and team officials must be signed in on the RAMP app by the team manager at least 30 minutes in advance of the scheduled game time.
6. All teams MUST be available to play up to **15 minutes** prior to the scheduled start time.
7. All Playoff games will consist of:
 - U11 Division - 3 stop time periods (10-10-12 minutes)
 - U13/U15 Division – 3 stop time periods (14-14-14 minutes).
8. There will be a timed 3 minute warm-up prior to each game. Teams to begin picking up warmup pucks with 1 minute left on the clock. Teams should be lined up and ready to play so puck can be dropped right at the end of the 3 minute warmup. Referees will have the option to call a delay of game penalty for teams that are not ready to play.
9. If the goal spread at any time of the third period reaches 7 goals, the clock will run until the spread is reduced to 3 goals, then stop time will resume. The clock may be stopped at the Referee's discretion for injury or for intentional delay of game.
10. One - 30 second timeout will be allowed for each team in all games. Overtime is NOT a new game.



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11. Teams will be awarded 2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie and zero (0) points for a loss.
12. Standings after the round robin will be calculated based on the points awarded as per rule #11. In the event of a tie, the following criteria will be used to break the tie:
 - a) Number of wins
 - b) Winner between the tied teams when they played head-to-head. (Applies to 2-way ties only, 3 or more teams tied start with tie breaker 12c.
 - c) Percentage as calculated by dividing team's total "Goals For" by the SUM of the team's "Goals For and Goals Against". $TGF / (GF+GA) = \%$ (See Chart on last page)
 - d) Fewest Goals Against.
 - e) Most Goals For.
 - f) Fewest Penalty Minutes.
 - g) Coin Toss.

Follow tie breaking rules in order. Once a tie breaking rule has been used or is not applicable, it cannot be used again.

13. For any misconduct, game misconduct or gross misconduct, ten (10) minutes will be utilized towards the PIMs for the particular game the offence occurred.
14. All 4 teams advance to semi-finals based on round robin play.
15. Semi-Final & Championship games are played to a winner. In the event of a tie at the end of regulation time, a sudden victory 5-minute overtime will commence. Teams will play 3 on 3 plus Goalies.

Players may be changed at any time. Goalies may be "pulled" at any time and a substitute player from the bench may be used. If still tied, a shoot out will occur.

16. Shootouts: Teams do not change ends for Overtime or Shoot Outs. Each team must designate 3 shooters (S1, S2, and S3) onto the shootout sheet provided by the Referee at the end of the 3rd period. Any player serving a penalty at the end of overtime will not be eligible to participate in the shootout and will remain in penalty box. All players except shooter and goalies will be on the bench. Once a player has shot, they will go to the penalty box.

Shooters from both teams will shoot separately starting at centre ice. The visiting team will shoot first. This is a best of 3 shootout. If still tied, each team will designate one shooter at a time until there is a winner (sudden victory). A player may not shoot for a second time until all players on the official game sheet (except goalies & players serving penalties) have shot.



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17. Home teams must wear light-coloured jerseys where possible. In the event of a conflict, the Home team must change their jerseys. Visiting teams will advise opposing team of any conflict 30 minutes prior to game.
18. There will be a Player of The Game awarded to one player on each team at the end of all games. The recipient will be chosen by the respective coach of the player.
19. Players will shake hands after each game with GLOVES ON.
20. Flooding of the ice will occur at the end of each game or between 2nd/3rd periods as required and may be deferred at the NOWHL Officials discretion.
21. It is the team's responsibility to ensure a clean dressing room is left upon completion of their game. All teams are requested to vacate the dressing room 30 minutes or less after their game is completed.
22. Any team who creates a disturbance either inside the rink or outside the rink, (i.e., Hotel) that is reported to NOWHL Officials, will be subject to disciplinary action. All teams are reminded that they are ambassadors in the community, representing not only their particular team but the NOWHL, their Home Association and Female Hockey in general.