

RWAHA Tournament Rules and Regulations
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The **Tournament Director** or his/her designated representative will be in attendance throughout the entire tournament. In the event of a problem or dispute, the decision of the Tournament Director or his/her representative shall be final.

A **team representative or manager of each team** must supply the following information to the RWAHA Tournament Director 30 minutes before their first game of the tournament. The tournament director will verify all credentials:

1. Official Team Registration (USA, Canada (CAHA), etc.) electronic or hand written.
2. Official Team Roster (electronic or hand written) signed by team members and approved by USA Hockey Registrar.
3. Only coaches that are listed on the 2011 - 2012 Official Team Registration/Roster or Supplemental form, approved by the District Registrar, are allowed to be on the bench during any MH/USA Hockey sanctioned competition. Replacement coaches must be currently registered and rostered on a MH/USAH team and can use their current team roster for purposes of credential verification.
4. Twelve (12) labels of Team rosters for the scorebook

An Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) or Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC) will be present at each game. In the event of an injury, no team official will be allowed on the ice unless the EMT/ATC or Referee makes a specific request for a team official.

All games will be officiated by **USA Hockey Registered Officials.**

All games will be played under **USA Hockey Rules** as modified by Minnesota Hockey, with exceptions as listed below.

All players on U.S. teams will wear USA Hockey approved helmets and face masks whenever on the ice, in the penalty box, on in the player's box. All players must wear a colored mouth guard. Home teams, as indicated on the tournament schedule, will be home team and wear light colored jerseys.

All players on Canadian teams must wear CAHA required equipment.

Games:

Each team must be ready to go on the ice at least ten (10) minutes before their scheduled game time. This is to assure a timely and smooth running tournament. Your team will be allowed on the ice after the resurfacing is complete and when the rink attendant has closed the gates.

Resurfacing will be done after every game for Squirt, Peewee, Girls 10U & 12U games and after every two periods for Bantam games.

There will be a four (4) minute warm-up period at the start of each game, followed by an introduction of each team's starting lineup. Each team must supply a team roster and starting lineup to the scoring officials twenty (20) minutes before each game.

All **Squirt & Girls 10U level** games will consist of **three (3) twelve (12) minute stop time periods.** All **Peewee, Girls 12U, & Bantam games** will consist of **three (3) fifteen (15) minute stop time periods.** The clock will be stopped for all whistled play stoppages and restart when the puck is dropped by the game official for play to resume during stop time. **Running time** will be used if a team is ahead by **five (5) or more goals in the third period** until the goal difference is less than five (5). There will be **NO TIME-OUTS** during tournament play.

For games with periods of 15 minutes or less penalties will be one minute 30 seconds for a minor, five (5) minutes for a major, and ten (10) minutes for a game misconduct. A player who is assessed three (3) penalties in one game shall be disqualified for the remainder of the game.

For games with periods of over 15 minutes penalties will be two minutes for a minor, five (5) minutes for a major, and ten (10) minutes for a game misconduct. A player who is assessed three (3) penalties in one game shall be disqualified for the remainder of the game.

OVERTIME PROCEDURE: Bracketed Games

If there is a tie at the end of regulation time there will be a one (1) minute rest followed by a four on four, five (5) minute stop time overtime period. Teams will defend the same goal as in the third period.

Any overtime period shall be considered part of the game and all unexpired penalties shall remain in force. (Added for clarification purposes Jan 28th 2011.) This rule is copied from Rule 638 of the USA HOCKEY OFFICIAL RULES

If neither team scores in the overtime period, a shoot-out will determine the winner of the game. The shoot-out format is:

1. USA Hockey Penalty shot rules will govern the procedures for the shoot-out.
2. The goalies will remain in the same net as they were in at the end of the overtime period.
3. The first player from the visiting team will shoot first, followed by the first player on the home team.
4. The winner of the game shall be the team that scores the most goals out of five (5) shooters. In the event of a tie, an additional three (3) shooters from each team will participate in the same shoot-out format. In the event of a continued tie, one (1) shooter from each team will alternate shots with the winner of the game being the team that scores a goal while preventing the opposing team from scoring in that round.
5. All players must participate in the shoot-out before a teammate can attempt a second shot.
6. Any player serving a penalty when the overtime period ends will be ineligible to participate in the shoot-out.
7. During the shootout, all players and coaches need to remain on the bench.

Round Robin (Pool Play) Point System

There is no overtime in pool play.

The team with the most points based on Win/Loss/Tie record in each pool will advance to the Championship Game. Points are awarded in each game and accumulated over the three games played by each team during pool play. Points are awarded on the following basis.

- 2 points per win
- 1 point per tie
- 0 points per loss

If two or more teams in a pool are tied for the Win/Loss/Tie record, the winner will be determined by applying the following criteria in numerical order until a winner is declared.

1. Head to head records of the tying teams.
2. Most wins in pool play.
3. Goal differential
4. Fewest goals against
5. Most shutouts
6. Coin Toss

Trophies will be awarded following Sunday's games. Team trophies will be awarded for first, second, third and consolation.

Individual trophies will be awarded to players of the Championship and Runner-up teams.

Air horns, whistles, and bells are not allowed in the arena. **Good sportsmanship is expected** of all spectators, coaches, and players.

Harassment of officials by any spectator, coach or player will not be tolerated. Only the head coach is permitted to approach tournament officials, referees, or employees with complaints or protests. Tournament directors have the authority to issue a team forfeit of any game when parents break this rule or any zero tolerance rules. Coaches are responsible for their team's parental behavior. Coaches are required to inform all the team's parents prior to the start of the tournament of this rule and the consequences to the team for any individual breaking this rule.

Keys are available for the locker rooms for the Tournament Director or his/her designated representative. A set of car keys will be required as a deposit for the locker room key. Locker rooms need to be cleaned up by the team after their game and made ready for the next team. The RWAHA and the arena are not responsible for lost or stolen items.

The cost of entering this tournament includes the gate fee.

Thank you for participating in our tournament and good luck to all of the teams!!

The RWAHA Tournament Committee

Date: January 22, 2012

To: All Minnesota USA Hockey officials

Dear Fellow officials:

For years Minnesota Hockey and USA hockey with the support of coaches, officials and association leaders have been working to provide a safe environment for its players. However due to the recent accidents that have occurred, the Minnesota Board of Directors have passed some rule modifications for the remainder of this season.

The Minnesota Hockey Board of Directors voted unanimously at its winter board meeting to strengthen the severity of the penalty issued to players who are cited for boarding and checking-from-behind. **Effective Wednesday, January 25, 2012**, the penalty for boarding will be **a minimum of a five (5) minute major penalty**. There is still the option to assess a 5 minute major and a game misconduct as well. The penalty for check from behind is now increased to **a minimum of a 5 minute major and a 10 minute misconduct**. There is still the option to call a 5 minute major and a game misconduct. These hits that occur from boarding and checking from behind need to stop in order to help prevent the risk of concussion and other serious injury. It is imperative that boarding infractions are assessed as such. It is important to provide a safe environment to play. If a player is checked from behind, **regardless of location on the ice**, a checking from behind penalty must be assessed. It is not our job to interpret neither the "intent" of the hit nor the severity of the hit based on outcome but to enforce the rules that are in the rule book. We must be consistent in the calling of these penalties We cannot allow aggressive hits or retaliation hits in this game anymore. We must also focus on respect for opponents. Any contact to the head must continue to be enforced.

I want to thank all of you for doing your part in making the game of hockey safe for all participants.

Eric Olson

MHOA President and MN Hockey Director of Officiating